

ROUGHLY EDITED TRANSCRIPT

CITY OF EUGENE
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MARCH 13, 2026
7:30 P.M.

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>> Councilor Leech: Welcome to the April 13, Eugene city council meeting. Anyone wishing to access the meeting remotely, can do so by watching the live stream on our website. The broadcast on Comcast channel 21. Or by following the instructions on the city's public web cast. Tonight's meeting will include a public comment period. We'll accept request forms until 7:35 p.m. These forms will be used to generate speakers time. The maximum number of speakers will be heard, for those joining the meeting remotely, you're welcome to email your comments to city council. Conduct applies to all attendees, 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, you are welcome to wave your hands in silent support. We encourage those who are ill to join our meetings remotely, rather than in person. In case of a medical emergency, an automated external defibrillator is located behind staff at the back of the room. The double doors near the back and front of the room and the double doors at the patio may be used as needed. With that, I call the Eugene city council to order. 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 DECENDANTS ARE CITIZENS OF THE CONFEDERATED TRIBES OF GRAND RONDE COMMUNITY OF OREGON AND CON FEDERATED TRIBES OF GRAND RONDE COMMUNITY OF OREGON, AND THE CON FEDERATED 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 is ceremonial items. I believe our mayor is joining us remotely to make a proclamation about these items.

>> Mayor Knudson: Thank you, council President leech. It's wonderful to join us remotely this evening. As you all know, our mayoral proclamation, we have the opportunity to share at our first regular meeting each month, and this month, we have several designated that we would like, I'd like to share with you, these are available on the city of Eugene's website, will also be shared through different channels and into the community and with organizations who also have reached out and advocated for this opportunity to bring awareness to knees concerns. On March 29, 2026, we are marking education and sharing day in the city of Eugene. On April 1st, we have three proclamations, one to acknowledge as child abuse prevention month, April 1st will also be the beginning of dark sky month within the city of eye gene. And is also the month we celebrate fair housing month, and this year is no different. On April 22nd, we'll celebrate earth day, and on the weekend of April 24th through the 26th, the Eugene Marathon will be in Eugene and around the Eugene Springfield area, we hope our community will be engaged and participate in that event that draws so many people to our community. And is out on the streets for people to enjoy. On April 28th, we have the celebration of ARBOR day, and April 30th, Vietnamese remembrance day. We hope you'll join me in marking these events. And thank you council President for a few moments to share them tonight.

>> Councilor Leech: Thank you, mayor. Our second item on tonight's 00 agenda is community reports and items of interest. I know our city manager has some remarks to make.

>> Thank you, council President, I wanted to share a high level update on implementation of resolution 54-74. Earlier today I emailed you, all of you an update on our progress on 54-74, which passed February 9th, related to declaring a humanitarian

crisis regarding federal immigration enforcement. Staff continued to work on language and community partnerships, we committed to providing you updates on its implementation, because this is the first update, I have quite a bit to share, and we'll summarize some of it here so the public can hear about it too. Our office of equity and community engagement, continues to work for the immigrant coalition for community coordination, a weekly immigrant newsletter is available for council to support on going education, and we will plan to send that too. Trauma informed governance continues through proclamations, equity consulting, and training of staff and first responders. The language access program remains available to all departments where Spanish is the primary supported language. Resources include consultations, bilingual staff report. And an upcoming Facebook page. I don't know if we need to adjust volume, I'm pretty close on the mic here. Staff will have a language access program and supplemented by translation services where needed. Including the sanctuary promise act. City staff provide assistance to community groups that access city resources and the human rights continuing to support events in the Puget communities. Participation when appropriate and we're monitoring through those opportunities. And we'll continue to provide periodic updates on this work. You passed a motion to dedicate funding to local agencies, as DIRECTED BY council, the office of equity and community engagement, establishes a special grant process, to distribute the allocated \$50,000. The streamlined application with launch, focused on organizational capacity, serving immigrant families and overhead. Five organizations have applied, and HRCC committee is actively reviewing applications with others expects as early as this week.

>> Councilor Leech: Thank you so much, city manager. Does anyone else have any items of interest, I'm going to put myself in the cue, if not. I'm not seeing any. I wanted to share, and then I do have a motion to make. In our last council meeting on Wednesday April 8, we had a work session on economic development and long range financial planning, something we have been working on for a long time, we have a lot of work sessions on. And good work that we are doing as a body. However, in the previous work session, we were presented with an option to move forward with \$800,000 of staff positions in economic development to our supplemental budgeting process. I among -- so our -- the way that our vote was decided was 3-3 with a tie breaker from the mayor, because two of our councilors were not able to be present for that vote. I think adding such a large piece to our budget, such an amount to our budget needs to be decided by more than three members of this council. So I am making a motion so that we can come back to this topic and discuss it further, get a little bit more information. And put it next to other things that we are considering to place into our budget. This budget does not change the motion that was made on Wednesday. It just gives us an ability to have more information presented to us at a later date. With that, I move to direct the city manager to include in council's June 8th work session on unfunded needs, information and an opportunity to discuss the three economic development staff positions, costing \$800,000 a year.

>> Second.

>> Councilor Leech: Councilor Clark?

>> Councilor Clark: Thank you, I don't know if you can tell me a summary of the June 8th meeting. Would you say this would likely be included, if not, for the impact of the motion that the council has already passed would be discussed in that meeting already?

>> Councilor Clark, I think we would include mention of those positions throughout the long range financial planning process. If council wishes to make a motion to be explicit about that, that is fine.

>> Councilor Clark: I'm unclear what our motion makes different than would be the case either way, could you help me understand that?

>> Councilor Leech: Sure. My intention is that we have dedicated time to look at these three positions, paired with all of the other unfunded needs we'll be looking at in our budget. We know that these positions currently are unfunded, and they will have to come with costs, right? And opportunity costs or cutting something else out of our budget. When we were presented this information on this past Wednesday, we were not given information about what might be cut or what we may have to give up in order to place these positions into our staff. I think it is a conversation that needs more than 15 minutes of discussion, and more than three votes on this council to move forward. I think that we need a dedicated time for that.

>> Councilor Clark: I'm always happy to hear my colleagues opinions on especially budget related items, so it will be fine to do, but it sounds to me like at least some manner of reconsideration is involved, and I'm not interested in reconsideration, I'll probably vote no. We cut it too close to reconsideration, when in my opinion, what we did in our last action, was critically important to the future of our city, if we don't do it, we'd be in real trouble. I'm hopeful we don't go through a process of reconsideration, if in fact this motion passes, thank you.

>> Thank you, councilor Clark, are there any other councilors that have questions or discussion? With that, I will call a vote.

>> Councilor Leech: Can staff look at councilor Keatings -- perfect, thank you. The motion passes 5-3. Thank you staff, and thank you councilors for entertaining that motion. The third item is approval of consent calendar one. If there are no questions, I turn to the council vice president for a motion.

>> Councilor Kashinsky: I move to approve the items on consent calendar one.

>> Second.

>> Councilor Leech: Any discussion from council? Seeing none, I will now take a vote for this motion.

>> Councilor Leech: Excellent, that motion is approved 8-0. The next item is public comment. The public comment period is an opportunity for individuals to speak to the city council, and any city related issues except for those items that have already been heard by a hearing's official. Public comment period will be limited to 90 minutes or conclude by 9:50 p.m., whichever occurs first. Staff, can you please share the list and number of speakers that signed up to speak by 7:35 and announce the speakers?

>> Thank you, we have 35 speakers signed UP TONIGHT. I will announce two speakers names at a time, when you are called to speak, please state your name and ward or neighborhood, if known before beginning your comments. When you are announced as the next speaker, please move to the front row. When it is your turn, you may come to the podium. Please leave any bags you may have with you at your seat, if you have documents to give council, place them in the basket near the PODIUM, you will have 2.5 minutes to speak. The timer will flash red when you have is a -- 15 seconds to speak. Your microphone will be muted when your time is up. Profanity is prohibited.

>> My name is Lin Wood rich, I'm the co-chair of the active Bethel community. I live in ward 8, I'm speaking today on behalf of our board, at the state of the city address, mayor Knudson said, I think we need to be thinking differently about highway 99, it's future as a safer, Greener, multimodal boulevard. We can bring a new spirit of collaboration to this work. For Bethel this vision would be a dream come true, today, highway 99 is an eyesore and a dangerous corridor for residents navigating near homeless services. We're eager to begin this reimagining and collaboration. We have a work session on April 22nd that we're looking forward to. Bethel needs a police substation on highway 99, it doesn't need to be fancy. The city created a downtown response to create cleanliness downtown. I want to urge your support for public health standards, which is the planning staff's choice, scheduled to have a public hearing on April 20th. This is the first step. Without the applicant participating in the application process, we risk approving projects that threaten air and water quality, reduce property values and erode neighborhood liveability. The proposed USD clean fuels distribution center in the train song neighborhood are clear examples. These facilities are already located in a residential area near Bethel drive. They should be moved further north with established industrial zones and away from zones. In the event of an explosion, it could cripple nearby emergency services and public works. Public health standards must be incorporated into our comprehensive plan, so land use decisions generally protect people in neighborhoods, not just meet minimum technical requirements. The LUBA response must be waited for our new city manager to be in place by April 15th. Eugene can grow while still protecting its people, we can ensure development that's both responsible and resilient, and worthy of the communities we serve. Thank you.

>> First of all, I'd like to thank you for declaring April dark sky month. I hope some day to see the milky way in our city. The proposed fence around the federal building will be imperative for dozen of our community members. The federal building is the last thing they see before being dragged away. This is our last chance to get legal aid for our friends and family. The proposed fence would kneecap these efforts, preventing

documentation by legal servers, blocking attempts to aid victims, and slowing the community's response to ice violence. This fence will give ice a wall to hide behind as they brutalize neighbors. Allowing violent federal agents to dictate where and when the public is able to express their discontent. The plaza is the exact same plaza where three months ago, agents were deployed in broad daylight to suppress a trans woman who has been protesting there since July. The Federal Government thinks control is when they can suppress dissent. When weapons are deployed now, protesters can expand along the sidewalks. Flowing around the building. If protesters are meant to pack in to sidewalks, it will cause more harm. If a right-of-way permit is filed for, it must be denied. Not because of who the applicant is, because issuing it would endanger your constituents, allowing ice to escalate the humanitarian crisis you allowed. Your public condemnation of the proposed fence would protect the immigrants under your care.

>> Thank you, Robert parish, followed by Conner Neil.

>> Robert parish, ward 7. A year, as of this month, the people of Eugene have been without cahoots for a year now. Sadly, they must wait longer. I've many thoughts and feelings about this RFP. I can speak clearly and very quickly, 2.5 minutes is scant time for such content. We lost our famous, cherished, alternative response program that took 20,000 calls off the emergency and 911 system per year, made mental health WEAKER and medic free to the public. Perhaps with the rest of my time, I'll survey the people gathered here. Raise your hands if you benefited from having cahoots in your city. Raise your hands if you ever met someone not from Eugene who knew about cahoots. Raise your hands if you want a service to replace cahoots that's as similar as possible to what we lost. I so appreciate that support from the community and I will end with this. You really need to reinvent the wheel here.

>> Thank you, Robert. Conner Neil, followed by Jackson Smith.

>> Hi, I signed up for this last minute because I wanted to point out that it's nearly impossible to get here as a disabled person. If you're taking LTD, the closest bus is about 6 minutes away, and the late time of this is perfect for work schedules, but the bus schedule makes it a little bit rough. I probably should have brought LTD with us. Also, cahoots, dark sky, I ran out of thoughts, I'm running away now, peace.

>> Thank you, Conner, our next speakers are Jackson Smith followed by Ty Warren.

>> Hello, my name is Jackson Smith, I'm a student at the university of Oregon, I've attended a number of peaceful protests at the Eugene federal building. In the past few months, and eventually, I found myself at the January 28th protest, I was among the protesters tear gassed at the peaceful assembly, culminating my need for medical assistance. It was DHS that first charged protesters, it was DHS that brutally captured a peaceful protester. They threw out a flash bang and began unleashing chemical weapons against us. All levels of escalation are on behalf of rogue government agents.

I urge this council not to protect these agents. And to protect this community and deny any permits to build fences at the federal building. Thank you.

>> Our reminder to speakers to introduce your first, last name and ward or neighborhood if known. Our next speakers are Ty Warren followed by Jacob true.

>> Hi, I'm Ty Warren, I'm in ward 7. I want to thank you for mentioning the \$50,000 grant process for declaring that the immigration enforcement issue is a humanitarian crisis. Thank you for that. On -- on top of that, I want to talk about the federal building, the proposed fence. You're probably going to hear from a few people this evening about that, and talking about the problems that the fence proposes, the fence will bring up, which is access, sidewalk access, potentially, there's disabled access, it will also limit the ability of legal observers to watch the activity in the building. It limits the ability of protesters to watch what's happening in the building, and who's leaving and who's being kidnapped, because our neighbors are being kidnapped out of that building, as someone said earlier. The federal building is often the last thing people in our community see. Only people that that fence will protect is ICE and DHS. And if you as a council have decided that immigration enforcement is a humanitarian crisis, then you need to be very vocal about your -- what's the word I'm looking for -- standing against it, right? So it's not a matter of not issuing permits, that's not what I'm looking for. I need you to be vocal about standing against this. It needs to be an attitude, it needs to be a way of presenting yourself to this community. It's about not complying in advance. If you ever wondered, and I know we ask ourselves this question a lot. If you ever wondered what would happen if a fascist government is taking over, what you would be doing, you're doing it right now. Think about that, and be -- not just don't issue permits on city property for this, but also, be very vocal and against this and condemn the fence entirely. Thank you.

>> Thank you, Ty. Our next speakers are Jacob true followed by Michael Wallace.

>> Council, my name is Jacob true, I'm from ward 1, I'm here to talk about public safety. I was here once year ago when we lost community response, when we lost cahoots. Very busy time of year for me, I'm a forensic and tax accountant and we're coming up on the tax due date here this week. It's a bit of a struggle here. I was also here about five years ago, trying to advocate for increasing the contract to white bird for cahoots when they were saying, hey, prices for wages weren't competitive. I've spoken with just about every one of you here on the council, and every single time, all of you have said that you love cahoots, cahoots is something that was really special here in Eugene, community response, model for the country, fantastic program, and it's breaking my heart that through all this, we're still not getting anything back like what we wanted. So yeah, I do want to say that when the RFP process went through, WBCC took you at your word what you wanted was return to services like what we had a year ago. Response that WBCC put forward was designed so they could scale outwards into a real community response, like what it was we lost. In the evaluation, and the responses, they were docked points because they were angling to be able to expand out to the kind of response you wanted to see here, and you all indicated in

conversations with you. And all your public comments too. Just last week at the city club of Eugene, Mike Clark, you said you wanted cahoots back, councilor Evans, you said you wanted cahoots back. All your opponents said, yeah, we want cahoots back, we love cahoots. Here we are, we were given a chance, and it didn't go that way. Ideal option, PLLC, out of state limited liability company are the folks who got the RFP. They do good work in the NALOXONE clinics. We don't get coverage for all the city, we just get a couple areas. The vans are sitting there.

>> Thank you, Jacob.

>> Our next speakers are Michael Wallace, followed by Anna.

>> Hello. I am Michael Wallace, I live in Southeast Eugene, ward 2. Last July, the climate friendly landscape committee of the Eugene sustainability commission sent a memo on policy options for gas powered leaf blowers to the mayor, city council and city manager. In response to community input and in alignment with Eugene's climate goals, it is important for the city council to address the impact of gas powered leaf blowers, the practices in other jurisdictions such as Portland can inform the development of an equitable and effective path forward for Eugene. End quote. Portland's seasonal ban started in January. It's full of ban takes effect in 2028. No longer are gas leaf blowers used seasonally to blow fallen leaves. They are confronted year round by loud gas powered machines, fouling our air and assaulting our ears. There are better ways to manage leaves. Electric blowers are a great option. Batteries are not more difficult or expensive than gasoline. Rakes are reliable, raking is relaxing. I call on city council to ban gas powered leaf blowers, start with seasonal restrictions, with a complete ban going into effect in a few years, giving current users time to switch to electric machines or other alternatives. The time to act is now. Thank you.

>> Thank you, Michael. Our next speakers are Anna, followed by Jan.

>> My name is Anna, my pronouns are she/her, I'm an organizer with trans alliance from Lane County. You will be hearing from a lot of people, why you should not be colluding with the feds to build this fence. Lost in this is the detention system, the kidnapping system, we all know the names, Alex PRETTI and Renee good. We don't know the names of the dozens of Black and Brown people who have died in this last year. I'm going to name now 17 of those names, the 16 that we know of that have died in detention, as well as one who died shortly after release, because that is why you need to deny anything associated with this fence, and why when you look back on this time, you can ask yourself, what did I do to protect these people. Geraldo LUNOS Campos. FARRIDAL law, Sanchez Dominguez. Victor Manuel Diaz. Laura Sims. JAIRO Hernandez. Alberto Gutierrez Reyes. Emmanuel Clifford DAMAS. HASHMAN CARSHENAS. Mohammed NAZIR. Perez Jimenez. Jose Guadalupe Ramos Solano. Alejandro Cabrera Clemente. I understand that some of you may have opinions about the protesters in Eugene. You may have disagreements about tactics, you may have disagreements about things that happened. And I invite you to come talk

to protesters about that, don't deny the fence permits for them, but for these 17 people and others that are dying in ice facilities due to deliberate medical neglect.

>> Thank you, Anna, our next speakers are Jan, followed by NAFTALi Renshaw.

>> Hello, on February 9, Eugene city council declared a humanitarian crisis. The city council affirms its commitment to human rights, due process, even human dignity, and condemns actions that result in deportation without meaningful access to legal protections. A letter from the governor with 30 other Oregon city mayors, the letter demanded an immediate halt to federal immigration enforcement. After hearing the statements, you would think the city of Eugene would want nothing to do with correcting a fence around the federal building. A fence will make it more difficult to be safe during ice office check-ins, and easier for ice to hide the fact that they're kidnapping our neighbors at all. The city has been exchanging emails with the feds starting February 19th, discussing construction of the fence. Just 10 days after it declared a humanitarian crisis. The department will be part of the fencing process, and the city of Eugene is shutting down streets and handling any unnecessary permits. The Federal Government can do whatever it wants with federal property. It doesn't need permission from the city. If the city cares about its immigrant constituents, it would at the very least publicly condemn this fence. Others have said that blocking the streets and providing permits is what the city would do for any mortgage owner. I argue, if a regular business tried to construct such a fence like this, the city wouldn't give them back door channels for communicating with city officials. They would have to deal with permits and city codes. Because it's the Federal Government, the city wants to keep things comfortable for themselves. We're living under a fascist regime. This being one of the reasons why humanitarian crisis was declared by this council. The city has decided to work behind closed doors, for the sake of transparency. Essentially acting as a blockade to any transparency. Thank you.

>> Thank you, Jan.

>> Our next speakers are NAFTILI Renshaw.

>> Thank you for listening to us tonight. My name is NAFTILI, I'm a local pastor, nonprofit director, I'm on the leadership teams of a number of local organizations, nonprofit, I was tear gassed in January, and I have been on site for five and a half hours after DHS tackled a 15-year-old and drug them into the federal building. I want to speak to friends here. Dear friends, I know why you are here. You are here because you believe that public leaders should be held accountable for the promises we make to our citizens. You believe that sanctuary is more than a string of empty words, it is a sacred commitment to not concede or collaborate or included with those who prey upon our neighbors. You're here because our neighbors are counting on us to act as though we bent our promise. You recognize that violence is a thread that weaves itself around the world. Palestine, Tacoma and Iran, and it starts here with what we allow here in our neighborhoods, in our communities. We don't concede or collaborate with masked men who prey upon our neighbors. Don't build walls. I've heard it said that we

cannot deny permits based on who asks for them. Yet Multnomah County recently amended their sanctuary law, to prohibit ice access to all county property. I strongly encourage the city of Eugene to pursue similar answer and courageously, vocally and actionably condemn ice's presence and predatory behavior and violence in our community. Paraphrase the theologian, we must do more than bandage wounds, we must drive spokes into the wheels of injustice.

>> Thank you. Our next speakers are Emily BEADE, followed by Debbie Williamson.

>> Hi, my name is Emily BEADE, I'm a member of the graduate teachers federation, at the university of Oregon, where I'm a fifth year Ph.D. student. I've been a bike commuter in Eugene for the last five years, and for four years before that in Philadelphia. I've come to urge the city to take urgent if not immediate action, that ensures the safety of our whole community. I don't feel inclined to make a poetic argument about why this matters. Recently our union lost a member, Eric, to traffic violence. He was hit by a car, found by other GE's of the university of Oregon, and I've heard waited far too long for emergency services to located him, and he tragically passed away, far from his family in Kenya. So again, I've come to urge you all to take immediate action. We're welcoming people from all across the world to study and live in Eugene, but we fail to create the infrastructure necessary to keep them safe. Every day as pedestrians and bikers, we have to predict how drivers will act, if they'll let us pass, begin us enough room to get to work or home safely. Or whether they'll blatantly disregard the law and put our lives at risk. All we ask from the city is to utilize their leadership, and access to other bodies of power, including the university of Oregon to make our streets safe. This isn't something to be solved overnight, of course. There are things that take minimal effort to achieve, hiring a crossing guard, painting a crosswalk or installing a stop sign. There are experts in our community ready and willing to help you all. Thank you.

>> Thank you, Emily. Our next speakers are Debbie Williamson followed by Justin burns much.

>> Hello again, city council, thank you for letting me be here tonight. I live in Jefferson west side, and I represent ward one, I'm here as a private citizen to oppose any support for the fence around the federal building. We're now at the point of history, where as children, we ask ourselves, why didn't people do anything as we read the diary of Anne frank. And although it may feel few tile, we can do things, and we can use our voices, and we can speak out against the brutal attacks that DHS, VORTAC and ice are make against our citizens. A fence is going to make it harder for our immigrant neighbors to be safer. A fence will make it harder for legal observers to document kidnappings, if you do not believe people are being kidnapped, please come hang out with me at the old federal building, and we can witness it together. A fence will end the legacy of free speech that has existed at the building since construction. You will say we have no control over the fence because it is federal property, we have control over what we do as citizens of Eugene. We can deny permits, provide the documents from EPT to the CLDC. We can protect our neighbors from kidnapping, and

use our voices to protest the fence and oppose the violent action as of the people that are employed there. Thank you.

>> Thank you, Debbie. Our next speakers are Justin burns followed by Andromeda Cowan.

>> I'm Justin burns, ward 8. Yeah, so everybody's pretty much stated most of the facts of why you guys should not collude with -- [Inaudible] -- but build a fence. People at the ice facility documenting ice kidnappings, and ice on goings has helped stop and prevent a lot of kidnappings. Putting a fence up is going to help DHS. You know, like a year ago, I started protesting and I -- you've seen me here several times. Before that, I haven't protested before. Why? Because I saw that our leaders, and I'm talking about mostly the Federal Government, I saw our leaders failing us. I know that there's not that many heroes that are being shined. So I told myself, I need to try to be the hero I want to see in the world. It's not easy, it's something that I wish I could try harder at, but you guys are our leaders, as far as the city goes, I would love to see you guys stand, make a stand against ice against building a fence. You know, right now is the time to stand up in the wake of a possible war in -- well, there is a war in Iran. Trump's blocking the strait. It's insane. So I mean, basically, do you guys want to be looked at in history and be seen to be on the same side as DHS and Trump? Those are awful people, and I hope you guys are -- wouldn't taint yourselves and be on their side. Please stand up, make a statement, stop helping with the fence. Do what's right.

>> Thank you, Justin. Our next speakers are Andromeda Cowan, followed by Jacob Schmidt.

>> I'm a dark sky Oregon advocate. Human beings are naturally, instinctively drawn to lights. As a result, light makes us feel safe and secure. The best way to be safe at night is to have lots of lights. Decades of studies show lights make us feel safe. A study concluded we can have very little confidence that improved lighting prevents crime. Poor or too much lighting can have the opposite effect. The nature of my job means I am often working outdoors and commuting outdoors in inadequate light. If you are like me, the glare is all the more worse if you have an astigmatism. Go to dark sky Oregon to find out more about that. Think about this, when you're riding down the road, how disturbing high beams can be. I asked the city of Eugene, in pedestrians areas especially, to have speed timers. We want safer and more effective lighting. Also on the matter, this fence will do no good for the community, and actively cause people to go into harm. Having clogged walked ways during areas of panic will have people panicked and harmed, especially with the only choice to spill out into traffic. We need to get ice out of our community, do the best to stop the Amazon warehouse, and we definitely need to help our neighbors. Thank you.

>> Thank you, Andromeda.

>> Jacob Schmidt, followed by Scott Lambert.

>> Good evening, everyone, I live in ward 7 in the east Blair housing co-op. The vice president of the external teaching federation. I'm also a cyclist and historian, but enough about me, back in January, a beloved member of our union was killed by a speeding driver on Patterson street at the corner of Patterson and 22nd. In the wake of this, members of our union, particularly international students here on student Visas, reached out to us as their union to ask what can we do? And so we did what we could, we organized and we got -- you've seen big outpourings of support, huge memorial services, memorial marches, Op Eds and newspapers, flowers, ghost bikes, murals, we've had meetings, community forums, meetings with the mayor and the city manager, but we haven't seen yet is any physical change at the intersection in which Eric was killed. We know that physically changing street layouts is the only effective way to prevent traffic violence and deaths. I'm here to act quickly, to make the physical layout of 22nd and Patterson street, and many other intersections around town, safer for those across them daily. The objection to these kinds of actions tends to be the cost. Anyone who knew Eric or anyone killed by traffic violence, knows the status quo is infinitely higher than paint or bollards. Street designs that have been proven effective the world over. The city of Hoboken New Jersey has had no pedestrians deaths in the last eight years. We call on the city to reexamine policies that require death or serious injury to do anything. We know the city that we want to live in we should be pursuing a positive vision of building a livable walkable city. A city where students from around the world, where people -- countries around the world can send their best and brightest to live here, be full members of our community and return home alive.

>> Thank you, Jacob. Scott Lambert, followed by Shane Novak.

>> Good evening council, good evening mayor, my name is Scott Lambert. I'm a ranking member at the university of Oregon, and a physics Ph.D. candidate at the U of O. I used to run with Eric, he was among the most joyful people very ever met, it was a devastating loss when he passed. Today after picking up Jacob from the airport, I saw a scenario on pearl street identical to the one that killed Eric. Luckily in this case, no one was killed. I saw a car slow down in front of me, two cars slow down in front of me, a pedestrians started to cross the road, and the car who was second in line swerved to go around the car that had slowed down. So I'm here to talk about -- to echo all of the recommended improvements that Jacob said, physical curb bump outs, or physical changes that not only -- that physically require cars to slow down. I think the city can afford to make that investment knowing the lives it will save. I want to talk about, improvements to public transit to make it more attractive to more people, and reduce the number of people driving in the first place. If I want to get groceries at WINCO right now, public transit takes two to three times longer. Public traffic is safer and less environmentally destructive than small vehicle, transportation. I also wanted to note that Eric was biking when he was killed. Bikers take on the risks of navigating traffic and benefit the city by reducing carbon emissions. Cyclists should be regarded as performing a service to the city, and prioritized in the construction of our physical transit infrastructure as such. Finally, we do not want more cops or cameras, those will not solve the problem of traffic safety. We do not want a fence to protect ice.

>> Thank you, Scott. Our next speakers are Shane Novak, followed by Dillon tweet.

>> Council, my name is Shane Novak, I'm a student at the university of Oregon, I'm here tonight to protest the plan to build the fence around the Eugene federal building. I'm going to start off with what you've done so far to protect this community, on January 17th, mayor Knudson issued a statement condemning ice, stating they are violating rights everyone using reckless actions toward communities nationwide, and later signed on to a letter demanding ice's operation in the state. I'm seeing a lot of words, no action there. The city council declared a humanitarian crisis on February 9. A step in the right direction, through offering direct assistance to immigrant community through multilingual web resources, but not nearly enough. Through all of this, the fence project has proceeded without any kind of public notice or vote by this council. The Eugene police department is blocking transparency by quoting annex or tant fee for public records request on this fence. And the proposed fence is planning to block the pedestrians right-of-way along 7th avenue. This proposed fence is in direct opposition to the declared humanitarian crisis, and all the statements issued by our mayor, protecting federal immigration officers and making it much easier for federal agents to use violent tactics and chemical munitions against protesters with a literal wall between them and the community. By building a fence around the federal building, year not only eliminating the community to fight against this protest, you are also building a fortress for ice to operate out of right in downtown. This community has proven to everyone including the President of the United States that we will not back down to infringements on our civil rights and liberties. If you approve this fence, I guarantee you this community will respond. This community is willing to do a lot to keep their neighbors safe. Thank you.

>> Thank you, Shane. Our next speakers are Dillon, followed by Annabel.

>> I'm here as a representative for Max's tavern on 13th. I'm here for a selfish reason, I don't care about human rights, I want the buses to run later. I get off work at 11:00 p.m., and there's nothing I can do outside of get drunk. Here's the thing, I think the time of the last bus should be tied to 20 minutes after last call. If you really want to get people riding the buses, and gas prices are going insane, now is the time to really make a difference, get people riding these buses. Get these dumb dumbs out of cars. As a city, we're too nice to be trusted with vehicles. The number one thing that would make a difference is buses running later. Here is the problem, you would have to pay me a lot of money to drive the bus at 2:00 in the morning. I think if we pay that person \$50 an hour, to be the LTD2:00 a.m. drunk bus driver that would be your greatest return on investment for the people of Eugene. The other thing I would like to talk about, public housing, we do have nonprofit house building stuff that's going on, and I love that, I would love it if we could use the language and be like, let's be more like Norway and have public housing. I'm trying to wait for a developer, let's be honest, small business owners have to be crazy people to want to do all that. The same group of people are going to do the labor of putting buildings up. Why can't we skip the middleman and say, we want these many units that will rent for this much, and are going to have laundry, because we're not skimping on everything. I would love to see

public housing talked about as a real option. We have a lot of people behind us that would love to see something crazy, something different. There's only so much we can do, that's what I would do if I had your time, thank you.

>> Thank you, Dillon. Our next speakers are Annabel, followed by Jasmine.

>> My name is Annabel, ward 3. I'm a grad student at the university of Oregon, and a member of the university's graduate teaching fellows federation. Some of my GTF members spoke earlier today. My statement is an urge to the council to improve safety to our streets for bikers and pedestrians. I commute daily by bike, and every day I navigate the one way couplets surrounding the university streets like Patterson and Hilliard that are two lane one way streets. And these have been extremely difficult to cross, not just for cyclists, but for anyone on foot. I've experienced the same situation that led to the tragic death of Eric, a fellow GTFF member earlier this year, wherein one car stops for a pedestrian, while the car in the ADJACENT LANE races through. In these moments crossing the street, becomes a negotiation with traffic and it shouldn't be crossing the street, no one should risk their life to cross a street. This is not about the individual behavior of drivers, this is about street design. So we know from research that STREET design shapes risk for accidents. One way couplets like Patterson and Hilliard, encourage speeding and reduce visibility, and that creates dangerous conditions. But we can fix that quite easily. We can make travel safer for everyone by converting one way couplets into two way traffic or one lane traffic. This could calm speeds and allow for protected bike lanes. We also need safety improvements, at key crossings at 20th and Patterson, like curb bump outs and warning lights. These are researched backed and have been proven to save lives. For me, this is really personal, I'm low income, and I don't own a car. When our streets are unsafe, it disproportionately affects people like me who rely on walking, biking or transit. Street space is public space and it should be designed for people of all kinds, not just people in cars. I urge the council to take steps toward creating safer streets for everyone.

>> Our next speakers are Jasmine, followed by Pete goldlist.

>> Hello, my name is Jasmine hatmaker, I live in ward five, I was born here in Eugene. There's a lot going on locally and nationally, and it's nice to see so many communities members to speak about the matters that matter most. I'm here to talk about road safety, as an adult, I lived in Southern California, southern Florida, Arizona, and downtown Waikiki which all have very dangerous driving. And you see a lot of accidents. When I decided to move back home, one of the things that it might surprise you to know, I look forward to being back here with safer driving. And so it was really disappointing to find out how dangerous driving has gotten here. I know there are budget concerns that the city is currently going through, as well as the state, but we need to do more to prioritize road safety, especially if our goal is to have safe walkable and bikable neighborhoods that are transient oriented. 8% of our problem streets in intersections are responsible for 72% of fatal and serious injury crashes. There are low cost changes that would increase safety now, like reducing on street parking in areas

that block the line of view for drivers and pedestrians where crossing takes place. Please do more now before more of our community members are injured or killed. Thank you.

>> Thank you, Jasmine. Our next speakers are Pete goldlist, followed by Noah Burnell.

>> Ward one, as a member of the city of Eugene's public art community, I'm deeply appreciative of a city initiative like the across the bridge monument, recognizing historic wrongs done to people of color in Eugene in the past. By telling these stories publicly, we hope to inform ourselves and children about the dangers of committing such racist stupidities and cruelties in the future. We create these monuments because it's important to remember our past failures and hold ourselves to a higher standard and do better here and now and in the future. At the same time we prepare an acknowledgement of previous wrongs, the city is considering a permit for the illegal and deeply racist activities against our community. The city is fully within its ability to deny any NEW BARRIER on city property, that would prevent constitutional protective protest, and obstruct legal observers from monitoring ice's activities. The city's failure to stand firmly against the racist injustices under your watch would be a shameful hypocrisy. Mayor, council, city manager, follow-up question, what do you think all those protesters will do, when the city allows ice to cut off public access around the fed building. You must realize that by allowing such a permit, the city would be declaring unmistakable shift to preventing ice collaborators in our own city government. City hall would be a much more comfortable location to protest at. There's shade, there's seating, there's parking access. If elected officials want to be confronted every day of the week by the rage of the protesters who are now focused on the federal building, accepting a fence on city property, would be a perfect way to do that. If our incoming city manager is planning to allow her offices passive support of ice to establish city hall as a focus of local protest, even before she arrives for her first day of work, that would be a HELL of a first decision to make. Good luck.

>> Thank you, Pete. Our next speakers are Noah Burnell, followed by KenZIE Channing.

>> Hi, I'm Noah Burnell, I live in ward one, in downtown. Last time I was here, I recited the number 50, that's around the number of people killed in the last three years by traffic violence on the streets of Eugene. I'm not going to try to repeat what other people have been here, from GTFF. We've had -- heard some city staffers talk about, well, we have a data driven approach to responding to -- they don't use the word traffic violence, because they're allergic to that. Traffic accidents maybe, it's not really data driven to say, well, we wait until someone dies on this particular street. We know what kinds of streets are unsafe. There are cities all over the country and all over the world doing good work on improving the safety. So we don't have to reinvent the wheel, we don't have to die. We don't have to be the worst. And you guys have the ability to -- [Inaudible] It's already Oregon State law that street corners are supposed to be daylighted for 20 feet. Not seeming to following that law, in terms of how they mark up parking spots. I'm just asking you to direct your staff to look into, what do we need to

do to make our streets safer. And I'll say part of that is pedestrians infrastructure, which means you should not be permitting fences that block off sidewalks. That's another issue.

>> Thank you, Noah. Our next speakers are KENZIE Channing followed by Emma Serena Lavin.

>> My name is KENZIE Channing, I live in ward 2 at Spencer view apartments. My husband is the Ph.D. student, I happen to serve as the executive director of our community bike shop. On the day of January 25th, these seemingly separate worlds overlapped with Eric's death at Patterson and 22nd because of traffic violence. It was and still is a terrible act of violence that affects the daily lives of my neighbors as they cross the street to get to school. And impacts who I'm seeing in the bike shop, and who's willing to ride a bike these days. The city committed to a zero vision policy over a decade ago. There's still vulnerable road users on bikes, walking with strollers, using mobility devices, trying to cross the road that have been killed. Since August, we've lost three community members that have been on bicycles, the same way that Eric was with the double threat of two lanes of traffic moving in the same direction, and one car stops and the other doesn't. That doesn't align with the city's zero initiative, I am asking for a policy to prevent the deaths of my neighbors, my friends, and vulnerable road users. My kids are also starting to ride bikes. This one stays on a trike on the sidewalk. We have so many community members that don't have the option of using a car, and we need to create a safe environment for everyone. For every member of our community, no matter what their transportation mode is. We commit so much space to cars, we're committing less to building community. If we could have a street mural, a parklet, more trees in a lane, instead of cars moving in front of our apartment, that would promote the safety and community that we should all have a right to living in this town. Thank you.

>> Thank you, KENZIE.

>> Our next speakers are Erin Serena Lavin followed by --

>> Hi, everybody, I'm going to start with a couple questions for our audience. How many people in this audience believe that if they were able to and no one stopped them, this administration, this federal administration would build actual death camps. And how many people in this audience believe that they themselves would be likely to end up in one of those death camps. So my question for you is, is that something that you want to be associated with, in anyway shape or form? The next question I have too is, well, they seem to care nothing, as a matter of fact know, they care nothing for political procedure. So why do we pretend that they do? Does it give us the advantage to pretend that they do or give them the advantage. Walls are actually not symbols of strength, but of weakness. How many people think that would happen behind ice's big beautiful wall would actually be acts of random doom -- random acts of kindness so tell ice to take its wall and shove it where the sun doesn't shine.

>> I would like to remind the audience it's wonderful to raise our fingers in silent support, please keep it silent to be respectful to all of the speakers.

>> Thank you, our next speakers are Meredith Jacobson, followed by Josh Easterland.

>> My name is Meredith Jacobson. I am here also as a member of the graduate teaching fellows federation, I'm a Ph.D. candidate in environmental studies, I live in ward 7. And I'm also a new mom. I'm here among my peers who have already spoken about -- to ask the city council to prevent more senseless deaths on Patterson street by prioritizing immediate infrastructure changes to promote pedestrian and bicycle safety. My family and I live in the WHIT, my one-year-old attends day care at the Spencer view apartments. I didn't know Eric personally, I share my community's devastation at this tragic, senseless and preventable death due to the speeding motorists and unsafe city planning that leads to these deaths. My husband and I transport our daughter frequently in a bike TRAILER. We bike, because we want to Bork toward a livable future for our daughter. We bike because we want her to imagine a world that isn't reliant on cars. We don't want to pay skyrocketing gas prices. We want streets that are safe for all who need them. And we bike because it is joyful. Trying to bike across Patterson already felt treacherous before Eric's passing, now it feels terrifying, I feel like I have to make impossible choices between living the life I believe in and protecting her from immediate danger. Meanwhile, when I do drive and come across pedestrians seeking to cross, I worry if I stop, I may INADVERTENTLY cause the situation by Eric by a car speeding around me and ignoring the person trying to cross. The only viable solution is to make the road one lane. A crosswalk and other traffic calming measures should be put in immediately in the meantime, I ask that you prioritize this as much as you can, as one insufficient and important way to honor Eric's life.

>> Our next speakers are Josh Easterland followed by Janet Wright.

>> I'm Josh Easterland, ward 8. We are currently in the midst of a mental health crisis. Millions struggle with severe PTSD and end of life anxiety. For decades, our approach have been dictated by fear rather than evidence. It's time to end the criminalization of FUNGI, the war on drugs has for over 50 years treated users of these struggles. It has prevented scientific research, it's irrational to arrest adults for possessing substances that have been used for thousands of years. Research from esteemed institutions, including John's Hopkins and Harvard, shows that psychedelics can treat depression. Veterans and patients are sharing stories, demanding we shift from stigma to science. It's important to understand what we're talking about. Decriminalization does not mean a free for all, it means making the personal possession, cultivation and use of these substances the lowest law enforcement priority. It means stopping the practice of shattering lives through criminal records. We've already seen success in the approaches taken in cities like Denver and Oakland that have moved to decriminalize these models. Acknowledging that individuals can make decisions about their own consciousness and health. The criminalization of psychedelics was based on political

control. To continue this prohibition is to deny your constituents a chance at healing, and deny ourselves a deeper understanding of the human mind. It's time to decriminalize, explore and heal. I look forward to chatting with you all more in person if you have more interest. I have a new baby at home, so I have to go to bed.

>> Our next speakers are Janet Wright, followed by Charmaine landing.

>> My name is Janet Wright, I live in ward 4, I want to commend the city council and mayor for making statements and declarations about the practices of ice and DHS. The time to do more is now. It's important to protect the first amendment rights of people in Springfield and Eugene to come to the federal building to protest what is happening by DHS and ice. I've been there numerous times, it's already kind of scary, you have the traffic on 7th avenue going by very quickly. And a fence is going to restrict where people can stand and protest, and exercise their first amendment rights. I urge you to do all you can to prevent this fence from happening. I don't think it's really going to cause them to be any more safe, and it's definitely going to be risky for those who need to be here to exercise their first amendment rights. As you heard this evening, legal observers are there to watch the activity going in and out of the federal building, the deportations, the detention. It's important we be able to watch what they're doing, not allow them to hide behind a fence. Please consider keeping the ability for people to protest peacefully there in front of the federal building, and refuse to allow this fence to go forward, thank you.

>> Thank you, Janet. Our next speakers are Charmaine landing, followed by Winn man sell.

>> I'm here again, because I feel it's my obligation to speak up, as I believe allowing Amazon's distribution center will prove to be a regrettable mistake, it's in direct opposition to Eugene's vision. Maybe because most of you were probably not on the council at the time, it's vision isn't carrying the protective weight that was intended. You may have grown tired about hearing about the negative impacts this center will have. A man said to me, you only say negative stuff. Why don't you say something positive. All I came up with, is low wage nonunion jobs, being replaced by robotics, and a property tax of 300,000, which is a small portion of Eugene's budget. Saying no won't harm your constituents. It may only harm Amazon's bottom line. That's why I'm appealing to you, Eugene is a beautiful and desirable place, in its wisdom it laid out a very doable vision for industrial development. Our values around climate change, local food systems and natural resources, such businesses do exist, it's not wishful thinking or pie in the sky to hold out for industries that pay a living wage and want to be good community partners. I understand Eugene now has \$11 million for infrastructure for this zone. With these monies, Eugene has more to offer and attractive desirable industry. Please work for a future that provides the community with sustainable loaning term benefits. We rely on you as our leaders to stand between us and those that would exploit us. As I was finishing writing this just before I came, I received disturbing nose. A worker died at the trout field Oregon Amazon warehouse. As his body laid on the floor for an hour,

production in that area was not stopped. Workers were told not to look, but to keep working. This affirms why I am here.

>> Our next speakers after Winn Manziel, Steve Taylor.

>> Winn man sell, ward 7, I'm going to start off by asking, do we know -- [Inaudible] And if we don't know yet, what is the city's plan to hold them to account to get an answer on that. I'm going to keep answer that, because I care a lot about transparency, we've all been here many nights for probably over a year now about what started with flock about the city conducting its business transparently in terms of the mass surveillance of our citizens. With the way technology is going, many of the vendors that we are working with, all of us here, either city business or personal business or enterprise business are increasing data to affect mass surveillance on everybody involved. I think it's imperative that we examine our relationships with those vendors and ourselves, personally with an ethical frame in mind and be willing to not do business with vendors that would come to us saying, we have a new ALPR solution for you, we have a great AI solution for you. Or to enroll in relationships we no longer find to be ethically appropriate. And I think transparency is -- transparency in conducting those self-reflections is important, so we're doing important things for ourselves and citizens. That transparency should really extend to the way business is being done related to this fence. The fence is completely inappropriate for our community. Giving ice the ability to hide behind a wall to conduct their evils without transparency on them, will only embolden them, and at some point, all of us, many of us in this room -- I hope the city steps up in doing the simple act of saying no to this evil. Really, the first thing you have to go when you're faced with fascism, do not comply, say no.

>> Thank you, Winn. Our next speakers are Stan Taylor, followed by David EIGELL.

>> My name is Stan Taylor, I'm in ward one, and I represent indivisible Eugene/Springfield. As I thought about what to say tonight, that I haven't already said before, I realized I wanted to convey to you, I understand how difficult your position can be, that the difference between vision and reality meaning revenue, makes for very hard work for you, trying to figure out how to provide services as your budget goes up in terms of what the demands on the budget are, and your revenue doesn't cover it. I want you too know, I've experienced that in my own life, in the sense that earlier in the life, I was an attorney that actively practiced chapter 11 bankruptcy law for family businesses. And that's the reorganization of businesses to keep them afloat, because they're revenue can't meet their debts. Also experienced lane community college's bargaining chair for the FACULTY UNION, when the higher education price index exceeded the consumer price index, and it was harder to meet obligations. I understand the difficulty, but I also understand that growing your way out, assuming you can grow your way out of these problems is not the correct answer. Not all development is equal. A bunch of the development we see in our community winds up good for the developers, and good for construction workers for a short period of time, but overall increases the inequality in our community. Not good. When we were looking at Amazon, we're looking at a development that provides short term games, but long

term losses. In the form of poor jobs, in the form of surveillance of employees, long term losses in terms of health care for employees. When we look at Amazon it is not the right type of development to help us with our revenue problems and meet our needs.

>> Thank you, Stan. Our next speakers are Dan EIGELL followed by Dan O.

>> Dave EIGELL. Mayor Knudson, I'm disappointed I received no response to the fraud perpetrated on our community. In 1945 there was an extremely acute housing shortage in Eugene and across the nation, a group of individuals approached the Lane County government and asked for help, help was given, they were given permission to squat on a rent free basis on the land the county had purchased for a future site of the ferry street bridge. They would have to vacate when it was time for the bridge to be built. Squatting was allowed in 1949 when the bridge construction was to begin. A fraudulent distopian claims, the residents were Black, they were living there because of their race, they were not allowed to live in Eugene. Three, Eugene was a sundown town. The county employed eminent domain to force them off their land. Five, had they been allowed to remain, they would have been allowed to claim the land under federal homestead law. One, the residents were racially mixed, the majority Black, a third white. They were living there because of the housing shortage, not because of their race or they weren't allowed to live in Eugene. Eugene has had Black residents for over 135 years. Eugene was never a sundown town. And the county had no reason to imply eminent domain, it was county land, it was not subject to federal homesteading, which evaporated in the lower 38 states by the 1930s, in any event. It's not -- as far as eminent domain is concerned, it's county land, they do not have to take eminent domain to take possession of their own land. Hundreds of thousands of dollars have been defrauded from our community by this group, please take action.

>> Thank you David, our next speakers are Glenn O, followed by Shellie divine.

>> Hi, my name is Glenn, and I'm here to talk about the fence that's going to be put around the federal building. Before I start about the fence, I'd like to mention that we have been at that building since July, June of last year, and continue to go there even after January 30th. And the absurdity of putting a fence around that building while also declaring a humanitarian crisis is baffling to me. I can't help but think about the egregious things we've seen happen at that building, and the fact that the only two days that had any violence to it, was not caused by us, was caused by the Federal Government who reacted very poorly to us not liking the execution of people in the city streets of Minnesota. I think that we know better. And when you comply to keep the peace, to sit there and say, if we just give them this, maybe things will stop. That's not how things work, and we know that. If it doesn't stop at the fence, what's next? Are you going to let them put up a guard tower, maybe a couple flood lights to spot us while we're using their designated place for free speech? The fact that the courtyard is being left open in a small little bubble is absurd to me, the people of the city have the right to let them know that they're wrong, and that we don't condone what we do. You have the responsibility to represent us. And although you may not be able to decline those

permits because of who's applying for, there's a time where you have to make a choice between what is right and what is easy. The right thing to do is to condemn that fence, ensure the safety of us. And just do what you can, you know? I think that the \$11,000 that EPD quoted is egregious. I'm not surprised by it, I don't trust them a whole bunch, but at the same time this facilitating thing is getting delivered to the building, it's not going to stop, people are still going to go to that building. People are going to attend there and protest, because --

>> Thank you, Glenn. Our next speakers are Shellie divine followed by misty strawberry bean.

>> Hi, everyone, Shellie divine. Ward 3. International workers day is coming up on may 1st, so there's no school, no work, no shopping, this is a nationwide general strike. Here in Eugene there will be a rally and march at noon, at 799 oak street. If anyone wants to learn more, there's additional info at maydaystrong.org. No one wants a flocking fence. I think the theme here tonight is people, like this community, we care about each other. I'm on signal chat with a lot of you guys, we've gotten to know each other on a first name basis by participating in local politics and being a part of this process with you guys. And we want to work collaboratively, we're motivated and determined to continue to put people first, that's people over profits. And is it Cheyenne that was saying about the worker that died that story is coming out on April 13th, and this person's death took place on April 6th, this is a company that actively works to hide the deaths of employees, and keep the damage and deaths secret. I can't imagine that's something we want to get behind. I know Mr. Keating, I think I like you a lot. I'm still figuring it out, but you said when you were kind of -- it felt like cheerleading for Amazon, well, 75% of the country uses Amazon. That might be true, but just because a lot of people use something, doesn't mean it's not really harmful. And Amazon operates kind of like a drug addiction for a lot of people. People are mindlessly just ordering, even in bed at night. People can't stop themselves, it doesn't mean we want to roll out the red carpet for this. Fascist collaborating death company. Okay.

>> Thank you, Shelly.

>> Our next speakers are misty strawberry Bowman, followed by Erica lion.

>> My name is misty strawberry Bowman. I want to read from a book, Virginia Woolf had the thought of reinventing English, heroism is defined as botulism. I now propose the bottle as hero, not just a bottle of gin or wine, but an older container in general. A sack, a bottle, a pot, a container, a holder, a recipient. The first cultural device was probably a recipient. No, this cannot be, where is that big long hard thing, a bone, I think, that the ape man bashed someone to death. Throwing up in the air, thrusting its way into Cosmo. I don't know, I don't even care. We all heard about the sticks and swords, we have not heard about the things to put things in. A container for the things contained. That is a news story, that is news, and yet old. So long as culture and being human was explained, in originating from, and elaborating on. Long hard objects, that's

what it took to make a weapon and kill with it, I was either a woman or not human at all. Be quiet while we go on telling the story of the ascent of man the hero. If it's human to put something beautiful, edible in a basket, taking it home with you for people and then later take it out and share it, to do that is Human, I am a human being for the first time and still there are seeds to be gathered and room in the bag of stars, there's room in Eugene's carrier bag for stars, not for walls, ice.

>> Thank you, our next and final speaker is Erica Lion.

>> Erica Lion, ward 8, so there's been plenty of discussion tonight building safer streets for bicyclists, I couldn't be more encouraged as a bicyclist myself however, there's been some reluctance to call traffic violence. Not only because of how our streets are designed, but because of how drivers behave. One example is just last Thursday, when I was at a signs of fascism protest. A white truck driver came within a couple inches of jumping a curb. He was seeing how close he could come to us without causing any harm. It was aggression. And not only that, pretty much at every single protest I've been to, there's been one truck driver that's coal rolled us, it's where they spew all this Black smoke into our faces, harming our health and the planet, and I see this regularly, from truck drivers, not only at protests, I've been coal rolled while I was biking down the street, minding my own business, I've been coal rolled, that's not to mention the number of drivers that are revving their engines at all hours of the day and night, including when I'm trying to sleep. And actually, I had the privilege of being in Germany last summer, I learned that there it's illegal to cause undue noise like that, because it's disrespectful to the peace of people around you. We should have something similar here, to even make motorcycles to be quiet, and become so you can't rev the engine loudly and abnoxiously, let's please also design better city streets and smart design, also the behavior of the drivers also needs to be addressed.

>> Thank you. Council President, that was our final speaker.

>> Councilor Leech: Thank you, I now close the public comment period. Are there any comments from council? Councilor Keating?

>> Councilor Keating: Thank you, council president. A special heartfelt thank you to GTFF and friends of Eric who joined us this evening, advocating for increased investments in traffic calm, bicycle and pedestrians safety I join you in your strong advocacy. Thank you. The intersection or at least the street of Pearl was mentioned tonight, I believe by Scott. Pearl and 6th, I believe, is where the Stark to the north of the fifth street pedestrians mall the pedestrians mall between 5th and 6th, and just to the South happens to be the old federal building, between 6th and 7th between Pearl and High, a friend of mine mentioned today, waxing nostalgic about the pedestrians mall that used to exist in downtown Eugene. We got to thinking, that if the feds can build up on their property, what can Eugene do to embrace a pedestrians mall on our property? If it's going to create an unsafe situation for protesters, when I say it, I mean the erection of a wall that's largely out of our control, and I'll city staff to better define that, please, what is in our control I believe are the perimeter, or is the perimeter of the

city streets around said federal building, where I've only had the distinct honor of joining the community once in these past 90 days or so, at the O & A Alex PRETTI memorial. There are community members that have been out there day in and day out, and I thank you for the advocacy. I wonder, city manager, and city attorney, if we can comment or better articulate for the community that our role is in regards to federal property. And I think I know the answer. And then what steps there might be for this body to explore for safer streets and safer protests, all the way up a block even, near the existing pedestrians mall, wherein we could encourage commerce. We could encourage safer protests, and we could do our small part to combat the overreach, the egregious overreach of our federal administration.

>> Thank you, councilor Keating. Councilor Zelenka?

>> Councilor Keating: There was a question there too to city staff.

>> Councilor Leech: I'm sorry.

>> You are correct the city does not have authority to regulate the Federal Government. There has been communication between the general services administration about the potential to apply for a temporary right-of-way use permit in order to deliver materials into potentially -- I don't know the detail on this, but potentially to be used as a temporary space for construction. But that would be the limit of the city permit that would be applied for related to this, we have not received a permit application

>> Councilor Keating: Clarification, please?

>> To clarify, there are no permits for fencing that the city offers, and the only permit you're alluding to is a temporary right-of-way use permit.

>> Fencing on private property, on county property, on city property, is regulated. But we cannot regulate the property owned by the Federal Government, just to clarify that. And the type of permit that has been discussed to apply for, would be a temporary use of the right-of-way, so we're talking days, not years, to temporarily close a portion of the right-of-way to deliver raw materials or help enable construction, but that is not -- we have not received an application at this time.

>> Councilor Keating: Thank you, a final up if I may?

>> At least that's my understanding.

>> Councilor Keating: I appreciate the opportunity to ask these questions, and thank you for the follow-up time. Does the city council have any authority or say in the use of our streets, whether they are pedestrians streets, pedestrians malls or vehicular streets?

>> Yes, to the extent that you have code that you've adopted that you currently have adopted in chapter 5. Giving authority to a traffic engineer to make administrative decisions regarding whether the street is open to vehicular traffic, closed to vehicular traffic, that is all currently written in the code as delegated to the traffic engineer, your code is your code, you can change your code, and if you want to become the decision manager on that, that would be something where a decision was made to delegate that.

>> Councilor Keating: Thank you. Thank you, councilor President.

>> Councilor Leech: Thank you councilor Keating. Now I can turn to councilor Keating.

>> Councilor Keating: For those interested, our work session on Wednesday will be on excessive noise, it's already illegal, the problem is our lack of ability to enforce it. I hate those cars that go crazy. With regard to the proposed fence around the federal building, I get that you don't like what ICE is doing. Many of us have expressed our opinions. There are few if any forums that allow you to speak about and against ICE other than this one, and I wish that the council had all the powers that people think that we have, or think that we should have. We'd be an incredibly powerful entity. That's not the case. The reality is, we have pretty limited and very specific powers. While many of us don't like the proposed fence around the federal building and think it's a bad idea, it seems to be an end to democracy, freedom of speech, and freedom of protest, it seems to be par for the course for Trump. While I totally support your right to come here and tell us your opinion. Please do a little bit of homework on who we can and cannot do. If you don't know, find out. Like what Jackson Smith did today, who spoke earlier. He apparently had done that, thank you for your comments. When you propose things that we cannot do, and you should know we can't do, your testimony loses credibility. To be clear, we don't allow or disallow, nor do we permit fences on anybody's property. We have no role in determining whether anyone can be allowed to build a fence. Even the feds, there are safety rules and things like that that need to be adhered to. Answering questions and making sure that no sidewalks are blocked is not collusion, we are going to make sure we can all walk safely all around that building, and be there whenever we want to. More importantly, the council doesn't get to apply laws. Or make up laws that don't matter. For that matter, that are based on whether or not we don't like you, or that you don't like what we -- we don't like what you say. Nor should you want us to. Be careful what you ask for, because some other council can use that against you in the future.

>> Councilor Leech: I will ask the crowd to please keep silent even in disagreement. Councilor Yeh?

>> Councilor Yeh: Thank you. Public forums can be hard, but they are more inspiring than difficult. Tonight we talked about many subjects, including housing, public transportation, the city budget. I probably missed some. And this is why we're here, to hear from all of you, and what's important to you. I appreciate you guys taking out your time to be here today. I wanted to make -- I don't know -- I know we've lost a few people, maybe Dillon and Conner have already left. As someone who spends 60% of

my transportation time on a bus, I totally agree with some of the things you suggested. And I hope if you're watching this, you will contact LTD and share your thoughts. The folks over at LTD really do care, and it can be helpful to them to hear real world scenarios and how their system acts and helps, and also supports and sometimes doesn't support the needs for the folks in our community. I also really appreciate everyone who used traffic violence instead of traffic accidents. These are not accidents. There are lots of intentional decisions behind how different immediates of transportation cannot work together in a way that is safe. So I appreciate everyone coming out and talking about that. And just lastly, Matt, this may not be a question you can answer tonight, but I would really appreciate understanding a little more about what our options are for this temporary use for the right-of-way permit. There are lots of things we cannot do, I see no reason we should not be helpful, if there are ways we cannot be helpful in helping this fence. Which is obviously ridiculous for all the reasons folks have shared tonight. And I think that's all I've got tonight. Thank you, chair.

>> Councilor Leech: Thank you, councilor Yeh, councilor Groves?

>> Councilor Groves: Thank you. I want to say on the traffic violence thing, I am very sympathetic to that, in my former life as a firefighter, I've been on far too many fatal accidents and serious injury accidents over the years, especially when pedestrians and bicyclists are in travel lanes and they don't fare well when a vehicle hits them. And so anything we can do to make our community safer, I fully support. I did like the idea of the drunk bus, but that's for LTD. The city council doesn't get to make that decision. I think it's a spot on idea. And I also want to thank councilor Zelenka for speaking up. I find it interesting when people want us to listen to all of you, and we do week after week politely. When it's our turn to talk, and usually we don't say much, because it's our chance to listen to you, but when we do speak, it would be nice if people extended that same respect to us, we're all up here trying to do the best we can. We have -- as one gentleman said tonight, difficult decisions we try to make, we try to find balance. And the other thing to remember, how what appears to be a majority that shows up in this room and speaks, does not represent the full community. There are people with vastly different views, and we hear them all the time, it's just not always in these public meetings. That doesn't mean your voice is not important, but it also doesn't discount the voices that aren't here, that do speak up. We're always trying to find, where is that balancing point, where is that reasonableness that we can apply to make our community better. And although I sometimes disagree with some of my colleagues, I can say I've been here long enough to know that air one of them is doing what they think is best for this community, and they care deeply about what happens in this community. And that I do thank my colleagues, and I do respect them for that. And then the last comment I wanted to make was, I picked up where councilor Keating was going with the streets. My understanding, although we can certainly control pearl street and high street, west 6th and west 7th are part of the state highway system, so that's correct, city manager?

>> I believe they have highway designations, but they are our right-of-ways, so those were jurisdictionally transferred.

>> We could just shut them down?

>> I believe we would have to work with ODOT and any impediment using those streets.

>> I'm sure we'd deal with ODOT. They're pretty protective of what they consider theirs. That's been my experience. Thank you, that's all I have.

>> Councilor Leech: Thank you, councilor groves, and thank you all for coming and caring enough to be here. What I've heard from my fellow councilors here, is that we love free speech. And all of its varieties. Again, thank you, and thank you those who stayed. I am -- the public comment period is closed, but we have one more agenda item. And that is to approve our consent calendar 2, which is our resolutions annexing some land. So if there are no questions from council on these items, I will turn to the vice president to put a motion forward.

>> Councilor Kashinsky: I move to approve the items on consent calendar 2.

>> Second.

>> Councilor Leech: Any discussion?

>> State law just advanced something councilor Clark has been advocating for for years, and I wonder if this is how those voluntary annexations will look like in the future, this is the -- I see head nods from my colleagues, but I just wanted to ask staff that as those are rolled out, how many do we predict. Again, that's what this is, let me pause there. Will those voluntary annexations mirror what's in front of us today?

>> Are you talking about the spot annexations? That was passed? The annexations before you, I believe are -- follow our normal requirements, so they're contiguous, and meet all the requirements. The new state law allows, in certain circumstances, for properties that aren't directly connected to existing, to come into the -- that's my understanding of the high level.

>> Are you just asking formulawise the way you expect to see it? Yeah, I would expect so, but we want to make sure, we don't have to check any additional boxes and all that. We would want to streamline it, also if you want an opportunity to talk about it, I would expect it to look similar, but I can't. We'll know it when the first one comes through, and then you'll see it.

>> Thank you.

>> Thank you, councilor Keating, I hope the bill will allow us to see many more pages full of voluntary annexations. And so with that, I will now take a vote on this motion. I'm so sorry, councilor Evans, I did not see you in the cue.

>> Councilor Evans: I wanted to mention this, because our city manager responded to councilor groves about highway 99, 6th and 7th street, my understanding about five years ago, is when department of transportation at the state level turned over basically everything South of beltline which was 6th and 7th over to the city of Eugene's jurisdiction, and so we have jurisdiction over all of that property going all the way down highway 99 and 6th and 7th, and so we have the regulatory power over that section of roadway that is no longer in the jurisdictional cannon of the state. Is that the correct -- we did? Oh, my bad, my bad. I'll make my comment after we vote on the motion.

>> Councilor Leech: Okay, thank you, councilors for clarifying. With that, I will call the vote.

>> Councilor Leech: That passes 8-0. We have a few minutes if we would like to answer councilor Evans questions. And we still have councilor groves in the cue. Councilor Evans?

>> Councilor Evans: I was wanting the city manager to clarify where our jurisdictional issues cross or don't cross. Because of what we did with state department of transportation with ODOT.

>> You are correct, there were two jurisdictional transfers that occurred that transferred ownership of highway 99 coming down in the 6th and 7th going on Broadway, then frankly, all the way near I-5, so it's just South of beltline to just west of I-5, and the city jurisdiction I shared with councilor groves, there's still some oversight with ODOT, because it is a state highway, but it is within our jurisdiction.

>> Councilor Leech: Councilor groves?

>> Councilor Groves: Thank you, council President. I'll try to make this quick. This is going back not only as my time as fire chief, I serve on MPC, I have for six years now, my understanding was, when we took over responsibility, we took over responsibility for maintenance, and our street design standard, but the state still kept jurisdiction over how the highway is used, and we cannot block it off. Could we find out for sure on that?

>> Yeah, I -- I believe you are correct, we cannot block it off. Again, there's oversight on it being used for state highway function, but it does allow us to use our design standards, that was well said.

>> We can use our design standards, one of the things I'm hoping to accomplish is make safer pedestrian crossings on 6th and 7th. We have the right to do that, we can't stop the flow of traffic. Thank you.

>> Councilor Keating?

>> On 6th and 7th?

>> 6th and 7th, highway 99 north. It's that whole --

>> Not high and pearl?

>> No, high and pearl we can do whatever we want is my understanding.

>> Councilor Leech: Councilors, we're a bit out of order. I'm going to close the April 13th, 2026 city council meeting, we are adjourned.