



Eugene City Council

101 W 10th Ave., Suite 203
Eugene, OR 97401
541-682-5010 • 541-682-5414 Fax
www.eugene-or.gov

EUGENE CITY COUNCIL AGENDA

February 14, 2024

12:00 p.m. CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION

City Council Wednesday work sessions are held using virtual meeting technology. Information about online or other options for access and participation will be available at <https://www.eugene-or.gov/3360/Webcasts-and-Meeting-Materials>

Meeting of February 14, 2024; Her Honor Mayor Lucy Vinis Presiding

Councilors

Matt Keating, President
Greg Evans
Emily Semple
Alan Zelenka

Randy Groves, Vice President
Mike Clark
Lyndsie Leech
Jennifer Yeh

12:00 p.m. CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION

- 1. WORK SESSION and ACTION: Right of Way Jurisdictional Transfer Requests of Annexed County Roads to the City of Eugene**
- 2. WORK SESSION: Eugene Public Library – Year 2 Levy Report**

The Eugene City Council welcomes your interest in these agenda items. This meeting location is wheelchair-accessible. For the hearing impaired, an interpreter can be provided with 48 hours' notice prior to the meeting. Spanish-language interpretation will also be provided with 48 hours' notice. To arrange for these services, contact the receptionist at 541-682-5010. City Council meetings are telecast live on Metro Television, Comcast channel 21, and rebroadcast later in the week.

El consejo de la Ciudad de Eugene agradece su interés en estos asuntos de la agenda. El lugar de la reunión tiene acceso para sillas de ruedas. Se puede proveer a un intérprete para las personas con discapacidad auditiva si avisa con 48 horas de anticipación. También se puede proveer interpretación para español si avisa con 48 horas de anticipación. Para reservar estos servicios llame al 541-682-5010. Las reuniones del consejo de la ciudad se transmiten en vivo por Metro Television, Canal 21 de Comcast y son retransmitidas durante la semana.

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February 14, 2024 Work Session

EUGENE CITY COUNCIL

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY



Work Session and Action: Right of Way Jurisdictional Transfer Requests of Annexed County Roads to the City of Eugene

Meeting Date: February 14, 2024
Department: Public Works
www.eugene-or.gov

Agenda Item Number: 1
Staff Contact: Jenifer Willer
Contact Telephone Number: 541-682-6036

ISSUE STATEMENT

At this work session, the City Council will consider the Jurisdictional Transfer to the City of previously annexed Lane County roads.

Annexation (sometimes also called “incorporation”) is the legal process by which land in the Urban Growth Boundary becomes part of a city and may include properties and/or public right-of-way. Transferring the streets within the right-of-way from the County to the City is a two-step process described in ORS 373.270. Annexation transfers the right-of-way from the County to the City but not the public infrastructure such as the streets and other public improvements. Once annexation is complete, a jurisdictional transfer of the public infrastructure may be proposed by the County or requested by the City. Transfer of the county road and the public infrastructure will give the City authority for the street and other infrastructure within the public right-of-way.

At this work session, staff will present their evaluation of several annexed county roads that are recommended for jurisdictional transfer.

Jurisdictional transfer of streets from the County to the City does not change the annexation status of private properties.

BACKGROUND

Historically, staff would regularly bring groups of annexed county roads for jurisdictional transfer for City Council approval. At the last session in 2013 when a group of streets was brought to City Council for jurisdictional transfer, the City Council voiced concerns over accepting unimproved streets due to the cost and resource burden on the City to maintain such streets and on property owners to pay for street upgrades. While the streets in that group were generally improved, the practice of bringing streets to City Council for jurisdictional transfer was paused since most streets proposed for transfer do not meet the historic definition of an improved street for the entire length.

With the adoption of updated City policies related to transportation, sustainability, and housing, staff from Eugene and Lane County began to coordinate and clarify procedures and processes regarding annexation and jurisdictional transfer of streets.

Updated Policies

An evaluation of the characteristics of a city street, such as what should be the considerations for whether a street is improved or not and what are the impacts of streets not being fully upgraded, was an important part of this coordination between the City and County. The 2035 Transportation System Plan (TSP) includes multiple references to the need to update the City's Design Standards and Guidelines for Eugene Streets, Sidewalks, Bikeways & Accessways (Street Design Standards) (Resolution 4608) to implement a "complete streets policy". Further, the Climate Action Plan 2.0 (CAP 2.0) which supports the Climate Recovery Ordinance (Ordinance No. 20567), also calls for the adoption of updated Complete Street Design Standards.

The evolution of national and international street design principles since the 1999 adoption the City's Street Design Standards, the guidance in the 2035 TSP and the CAP 2.0, led to a development of a draft update of the "Design Standards and Guidelines for Eugene Streets, Sidewalks, Bikeways and Accessways: Eugene's Complete Street Design Standards". This draft document proposes some changes to the elements of an improved street considering the context of the adjacent land use. The draft of this document has been posted on the City [website](#) since 2020 for public review, comment, and even use as guidance where appropriate and allowed. Staff are in the process of updating the draft document based on feedback, performing additional public engagement, and scheduling presentations to City Council with the goal of adoption in 2024.

Additionally, with the approval of the City's Housing Implementation Pipeline (HIP) and the 2023-2026 Strategic Plan, Public Works and Planning staff have been reviewing practices and policies to support housing development, including providing public infrastructure within the Urban Growth Boundary. During this review, staff identified opportunities for the annexation of right-of-way and jurisdictional transfer of streets as a path to facilitate infrastructure development and housing.

Streets Proposed for Jurisdictional Transfer

The following road segments have been previously annexed by the City and are proposed for a Jurisdictional Transfer from Lane County to the City of Eugene:

- Bailey Hill Road: South Bertelsen Road to the Urban Growth Boundary
- Greenhill Road: Railroad tracks to Barger Drive
- Marion Lane: River Road to Hoover Lane
- Cornwall Avenue: Northwest Expressway to North Park Avenue
- Byron Street: Both North and South of Irvington Drive
- River Road: Horn Lane/Arbor Drive to Merry Lane, Maynard Avenue to West Rosewood Drive and Wedgewood Drive to the UGB at Beacon Drive
- Irvington Drive: River Road to approximately 500 west of River Road

Some of the streets in the current proposal are fully improved to urban conditions, including an

engineered pavement structure, curb and gutter, and storm drainage facilities. Other streets in this proposal do not meet this traditional urban condition. Historically, the presence of sidewalk has not been a condition for the street to be considered “improved” to urban standards. While the status of urban “improvements” is an important consideration, staff propose that this concern be balanced with the need to support housing, the consistent delivery of services, consistent infrastructure planning, and the contextual guidance for street design has evolved over the last 25 years.

This current proposal of annexed county roads for jurisdictional transfer includes county road segments that are generally consistent with surrounding city streets and/or the updated draft Street Design Standards. Having the continued length of the subject road segments under one jurisdiction will allow for consistent services and infrastructure planning, as provided in the Eugene-Springfield Metropolitan Area General Plan.

Next Steps

With the City and County coordination, an intentional list of street segments is being created that will be proposed to City Council for jurisdictional transfer over the next several years. Some of these requests will be related to the expansion of City services as part of a capital project, such as the Crow Road wastewater extension and the Howard Safe Routes to School projects. Some requests will be related to City-County partnerships to improve streets, such as Gilham Road and Hunsaker. Other requests will be for streets annexed through private development.

As described above, staff are in the process of updating the draft “Design Standards and Guidelines for Eugene Streets, Sidewalks, Bikeways and Accessways: Eugene’s Complete Street Design Standards” based on feedback, performing additional public engagement, and scheduling presentations to City Council with the goal of adoption in 2024.

RELATED CITY POLICIES

This topic is related to the Strategic Plan Focus Areas of Urgent Community Needs and the Strategic Goal to stabilize the cost of housing as this request supports more consistent delivery of services and infrastructure planning for housing and development.

This topic supports the Cost Effectiveness and Financial Policies in the 2035 Transportation System Plan, specifically, the policy “In collaboration with ODOT and Lane County, develop criteria that trigger logical phased jurisdictional transfer of streets and highways.”

One of the Housing Implementation Pipeline High Priority Policies and Programs is to prioritize infrastructure planning and prioritization to areas within the Urban Growth Boundary (UGB). In order to effectively plan, construct and manage this infrastructure, the right of way is annexed and jurisdiction is transferred to the City.

COUNCIL OPTIONS

Jurisdictional transfer of previously annexed road segments options:

- A. Adopt the resolution at Attachment A to this AIS, to request that Lane County transfer to the

City jurisdiction over portions of County Road Nos. 1297, 465, 1256, 1551, 1891, 2146, 200, and 540.

- B. Adopt the Resolution at Attachment A to this AIS with modifications as determined by the City Council.
- C. Direct the City Manager to schedule another work session on the proposed resolution.
- D. Take no action.

CITY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION

The City Manager recommends adoption of the resolution a Attachment A to this AIS, to request that Lane County transfer to the City jurisdiction over portions of County Road Nos. 1297, 465, 1256, 1551, 1891, 2146, 200, and 540.

SUGGESTED MOTION

Move to adopt the Resolution at Attachment A to this AIS entitled "a resolution requesting that jurisdiction over portions of County Road Nos. 1297, 465, 1256, 1551, 1891, 2146, 200, and 540 be transferred to the City of Eugene."

ATTACHMENTS

- A. Resolution including legal descriptions and maps of:
 - Rd 1297 Bailey Hill Road: South Bertelsen to the Urban Growth Boundary
 - Rd 465 Greenhill Road: Railroad tracks to Barger Drive
 - Rd 1265 Marion Lane: River Road to Hoover Lane
 - Rd 1551 Cornwall Avenue: Northwest Expressway to North Park Avenue
 - Rds 1891 & 2146 Byron Street: Both North and South of Irvington Drive
 - Rd 200 River Road: Horn/Arbor to Merry Lane; Maynard Avenue to West Rosewood Drive; Wedgewood Drive to the UGB at Beacon Drive
 - Rd 540 Irvington Drive: River Road to approximately 500 west of River Road

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Staff Contact: Jenifer Willer, City Engineer
Telephone: 541-682-6036
Staff E-Mail: JWiller@eugene-or.gov

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION REQUESTING THAT JURISDICTION OVER PORTIONS OF COUNTY ROAD NOS. 1297, 465, 1256, 1551, 1891, 2146, 200, AND 540 BE TRANSFERRED TO THE CITY OF EUGENE.

The City Council of the City of Eugene finds that:

A. The City Council finds it expedient and in the best interests of the City to acquire jurisdiction over portions of the following county roads as particularly described in Exhibit A attached to this Resolution and incorporated herein by reference, all of which lie within the corporate limits of the City of Eugene: County Road Nos. 1297 (Bailey Hill Road), 465 (Greenhill Road), 1256 (Marion Lane), 1551 (Cornwall Avenue), 1891 and 2146 (Byron Street), 200 (River Road), and 540 (Irvington Drive).

B. The Board of County Commissioners of Lane County, Oregon has authority under provisions of ORS 373.270 to release jurisdiction over county roads within the limits of the City of Eugene and should be requested to do so.

NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EUGENE, a Municipal Corporation of the State of Oregon, as follows:

Section 1. In accordance with ORS 373.270(6), the City of Eugene hereby requests that Lane County take action in accordance with ORS 373.270 to surrender jurisdiction to the City of Eugene the portions of the following county roads that are described in Exhibit A attached to this Resolution, all of which lie within the corporate limits of the City of Eugene: County Road Nos. 1297, 465, 1256, 1551, 1891, 2146, 200, and 540.

Section 2. Upon its passage, the City Manager shall forward a copy of this Resolution to the Lane County Administrator for consideration by the Lane County Board of County Commissioners, seeking final Board action in response to this request.

Section 3. Upon adoption of an order of the Board of County Commissioners of Lane County surrendering jurisdiction of any or all of the above described portions of county road, the full and absolute jurisdiction over that portion of road for all purposes of repair, construction, improvement, and the levying and collection of assessments therefor, shall vest in the City of Eugene and the City shall have the same jurisdiction over the road or portion thereof as by its charter, and the laws of the state are given or granted it over any of the public streets and alleys of the City.

The foregoing Resolution adopted the ____ day of _____, 2024.

City Recorder

Right of Way Jurisdiction Transfer Requests of Annexed County Roads to the City of Eugene January 14, 2024

<u>LEGAL DESCRIPTIONS</u>	<u>MILEAGE</u>
BAILEY HILL ROAD (County Road Number 1297, also known as Bailey Hill Cutoff) from the southerly end of that portion of Bertelsen Road surrendered to the City of Eugene in Lane County Board of Commissioners Final Order of Surrender Number 87-12-16-1, thence extending southwesterly for approximately 4,500 feet, more or less to the Urban Growth Boundary as located in 2023, all in Sections 3, 9, and 10, Township 18 South, Range 4 West, Willamette Meridian.	0.85
GREENHILL ROAD (County Road Number 465) from the southerly right of way line of the Coos Bay Rail Line of that portion of Greenhill Road surrendered to the City of Eugene in Lane County Board of Commissioners Final Order of Surrender Number 87-12-16-1, thence extending northerly for approximately 11,900 feet, more or less to the Urban Growth Boundary as located in 2023, all in Sections 19, 20, 29, and 30, Township 17 South, Range 4 West, Willamette Meridian.	2.25
MARION LANE (County Road Number 1256) from the westerly right of way line of River Road, thence extend westerly for approximately 1,450 feet, more or less to the extension of the easterly right of way line of Hoover Lane, all in Section 24, Township 17 South, Range 4 West, Willamette Meridian.	0.27
CORNWALL AVENUE (County Road Number 1551) from the northeasterly right of way line of the NW Expressway, thence extend easterly for approximately 450 feet, more or less to the westerly right of way line of N. Park Avenue, all in Section 23, Township 17 South, Range 4 West, Willamette Meridian.	0.09
BYRON STREET (County Road Numbers 1891 and 2146) from the northerly right of way line of Irvington Drive, thence extend northerly for approximately 690 feet, more or less to the southerly right of way line of Argon Avenue, all in Section 2, Township 17 South, Range 4 West, Willamette Meridian.	0.13
Also, from the southerly right of way line of Irvington Drive, thence extend southerly for approximately 350 feet, more or less to the westerly line of Lane Partition Plat No. 2000-P1328, all in Section 2, Township 17 South, Range 4 West, Willamette Meridian.	0.07
RIVER ROAD (County Road Number 200) from the northerly end of that portion of River Road surrendered to the City of Eugene in Lane County	0.24

LEGAL DESCRIPTIONS**MILEAGE**

Board of Commissioners Final Order of Surrender Number 06-4-19-6, described as the northerly right of way of Horn Lane, thence extending northwesterly for approximately 1,320 feet, more or less to southerly end of that portion of River Road surrendered the City of Eugene in Lane County Board of Commissioners Final Order of Surrender Number 13-09-10-08, described as the northerly right of way of Merry Lane, all in Sections 13 and 24, Township 17 South, Range 4 West, Willamette Meridian.

Also, from the northerly end of that portion of River Road surrendered to the City of Eugene in Lane County Board of Commissioners Final Order of Surrender Number 13-09-10-08, described as the southerly right of way of Maynard Lane, thence extending northwesterly for approximately 750 feet, more or less to southerly end of that portion of River Road surrendered the City of Eugene in Lane County Board of Commissioners Final Order of Surrender Number 06-4-19-6, described as the southerly right of way of Rosewood Avenue (West), all in Section 13, Township 17 South, Range 4 West, Willamette Meridian.

0.14

Also, from the northerly end of that portion of River Road surrendered to the City of Eugene in Lane County Board of Commissioners Final Order of Surrender Number 13-09-10-08, described as the Eugene City Limits at Wedgewood Drive, thence extending northwesterly for approximately 9,070 feet, more or less to the Urban Growth Boundary as located in 2023, all in Sections 2 and 11, Township 17 South, Range 4 West, Willamette Meridian, and Section 35, Township 16 South, Range 4 West, Willamette Meridian.

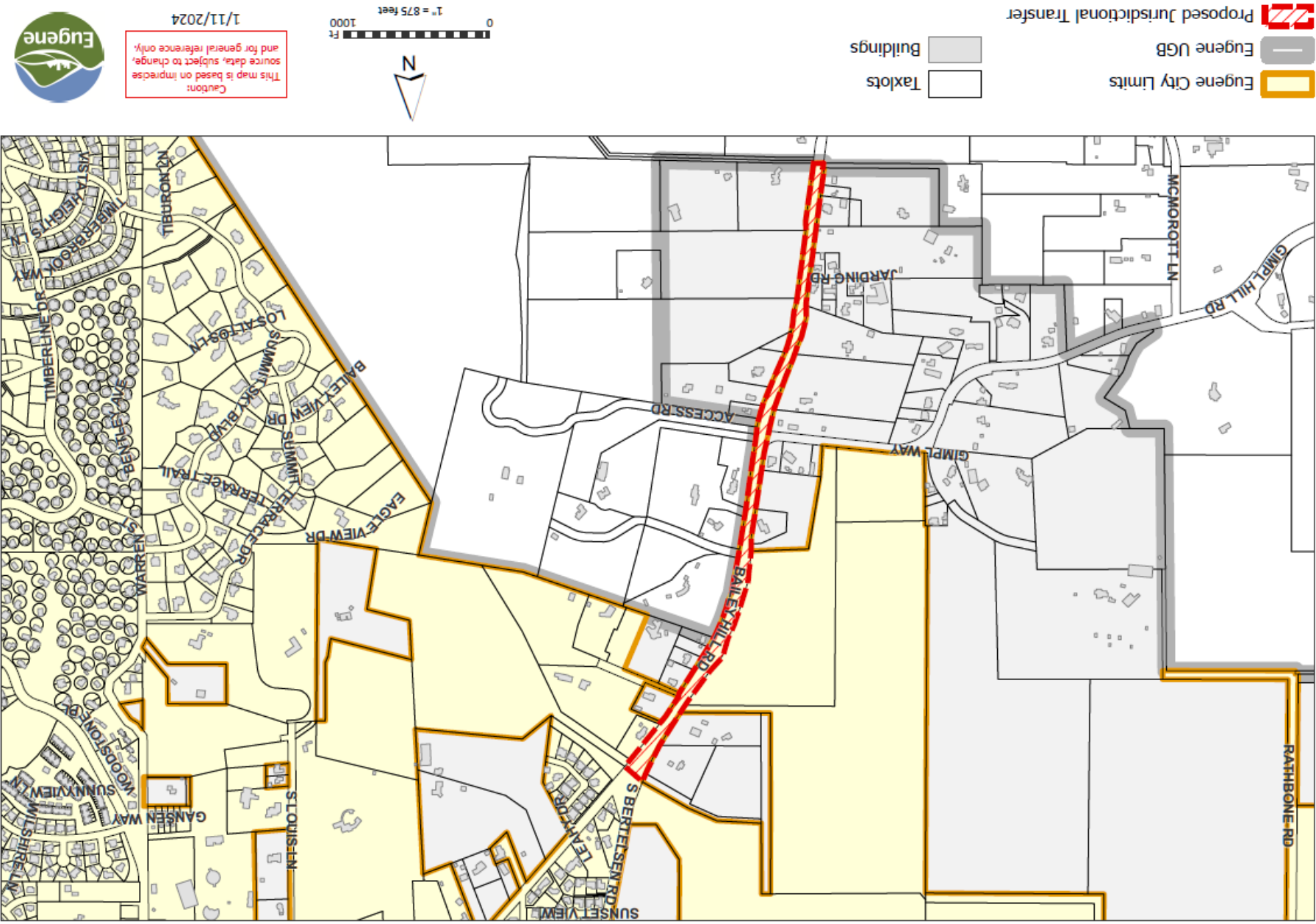
1.72

IRVINGTON DRIVE (County Road Number 540) All that portion of Irvington Drive, County Road Number 540, beginning at the easterly end of that portion of Irvington Drive surrendered to the City of Eugene pursuant to Lane County Board of County Commissioners Final Order No. 13-09-10-08; thence extending in an easterly direction 500 feet, more or less, ending at River Road, County Road No. 200, all in Section 2, Township 17 South, Range 4 West of the Willamette Meridian, Lane County, Oregon.

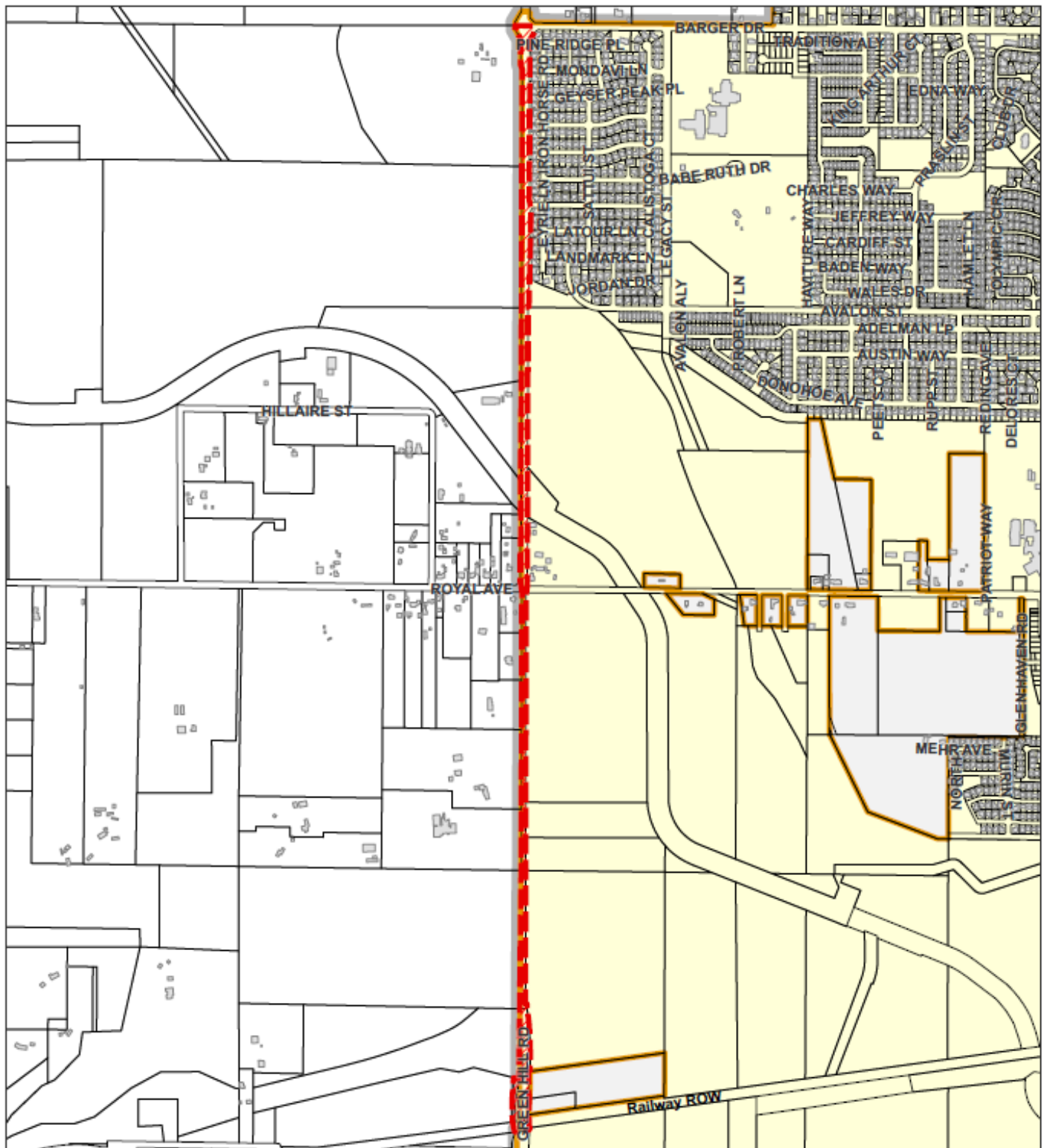
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Bailey Hill Road - South Bertelsen Road to UGB

Resolution Exhibit A

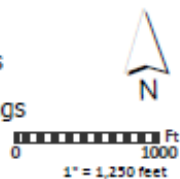


Greenhill Road - Railroad Tracks to Barger Drive



-  Eugene City Limits
-  Eugene UGB
-  Proposed Jurisdictional Transfer

-  Taxlots
-  Buildings



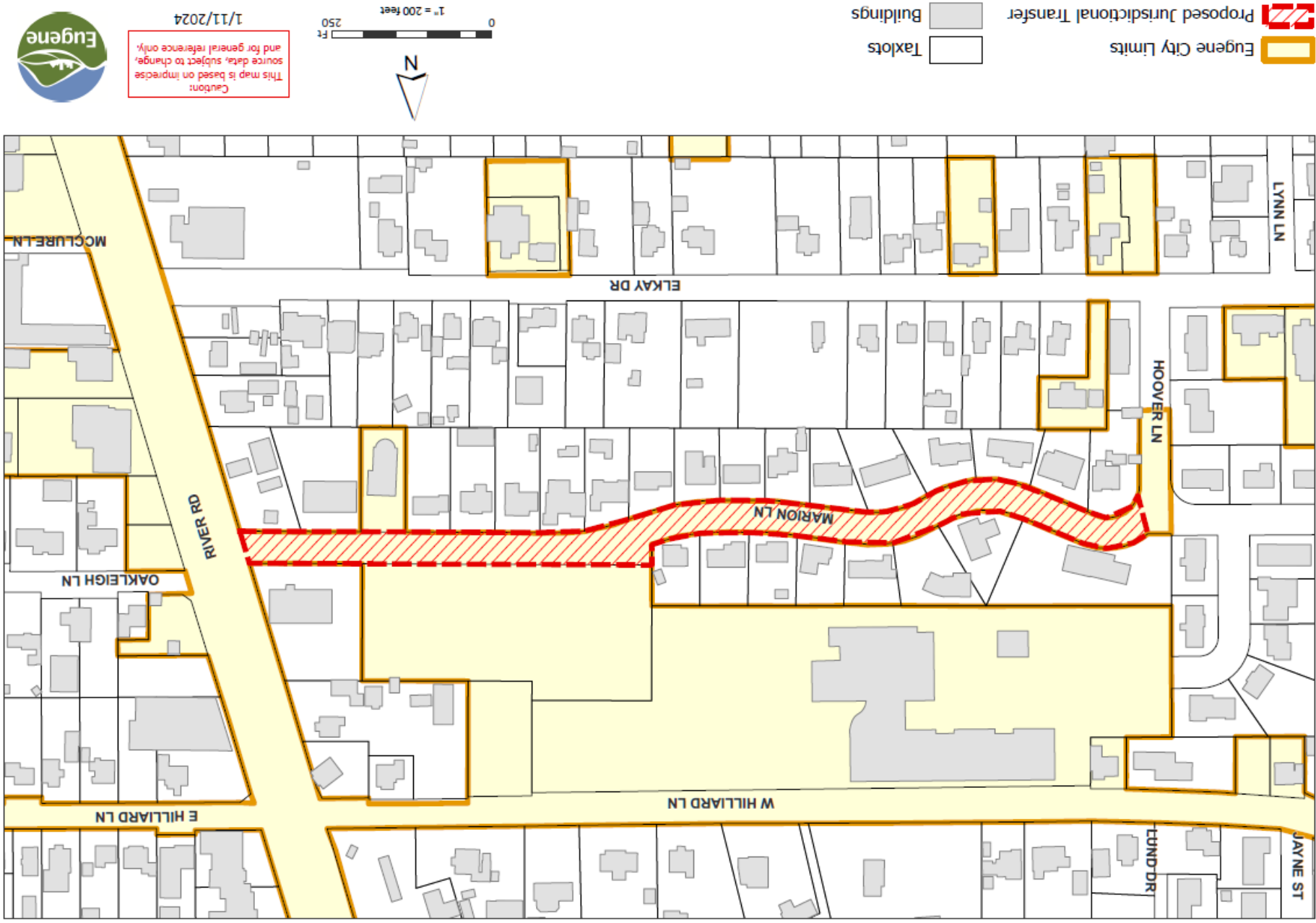
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This map is based on imprecise
source data, subject to change,
and for general reference only.

1/10/2024



Marion Lane - River Road to Hoover Lane

Resolution Exhibit A



Cornwall Avenue - NW Expressway to North Park Avenue

Resolution Exhibit A

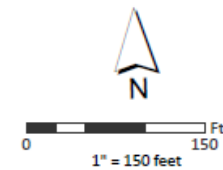


 Eugene City Limits

 Taxlots

 Proposed Jurisdictional Transfer

 Buildings

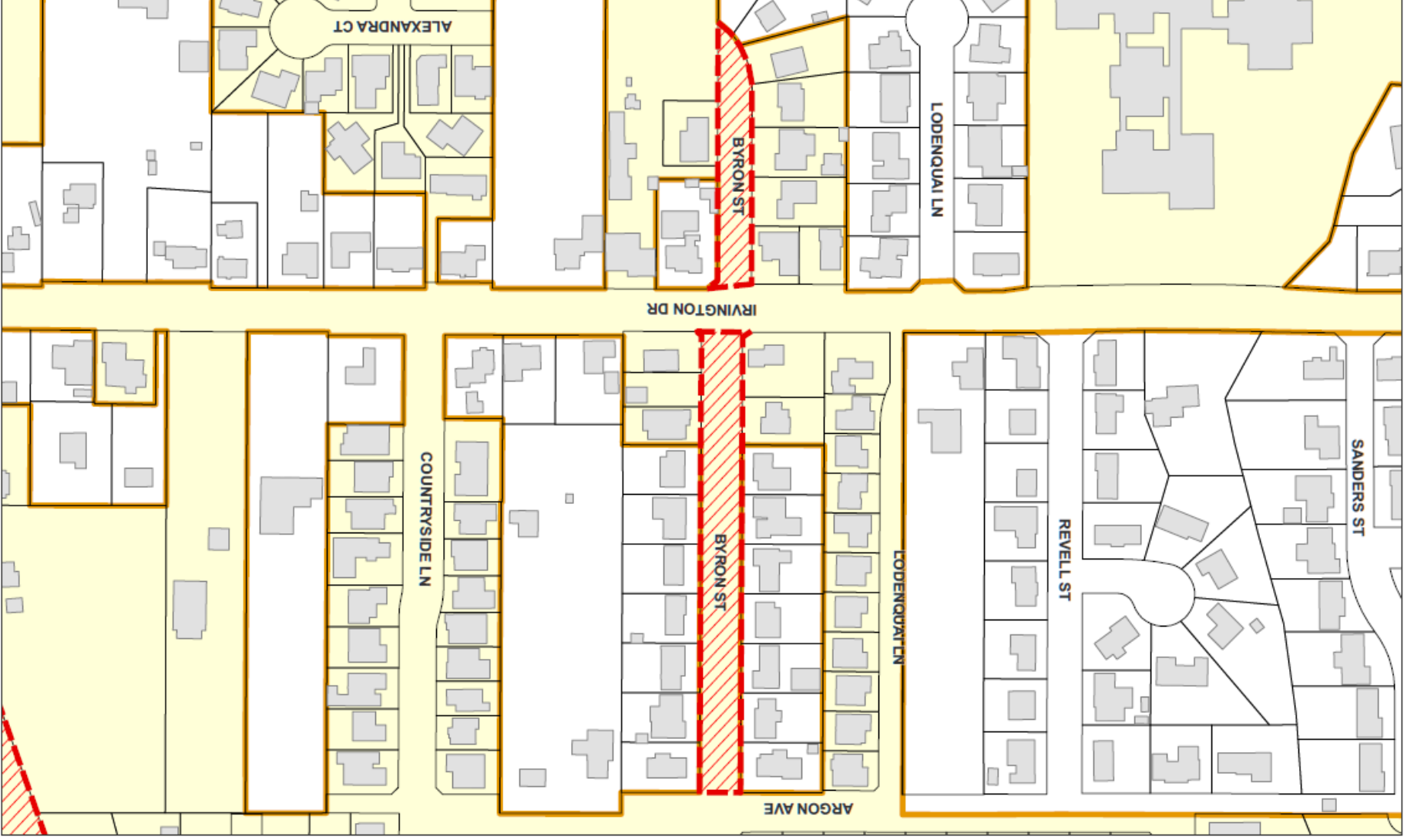


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1/10/2024



Byron Street

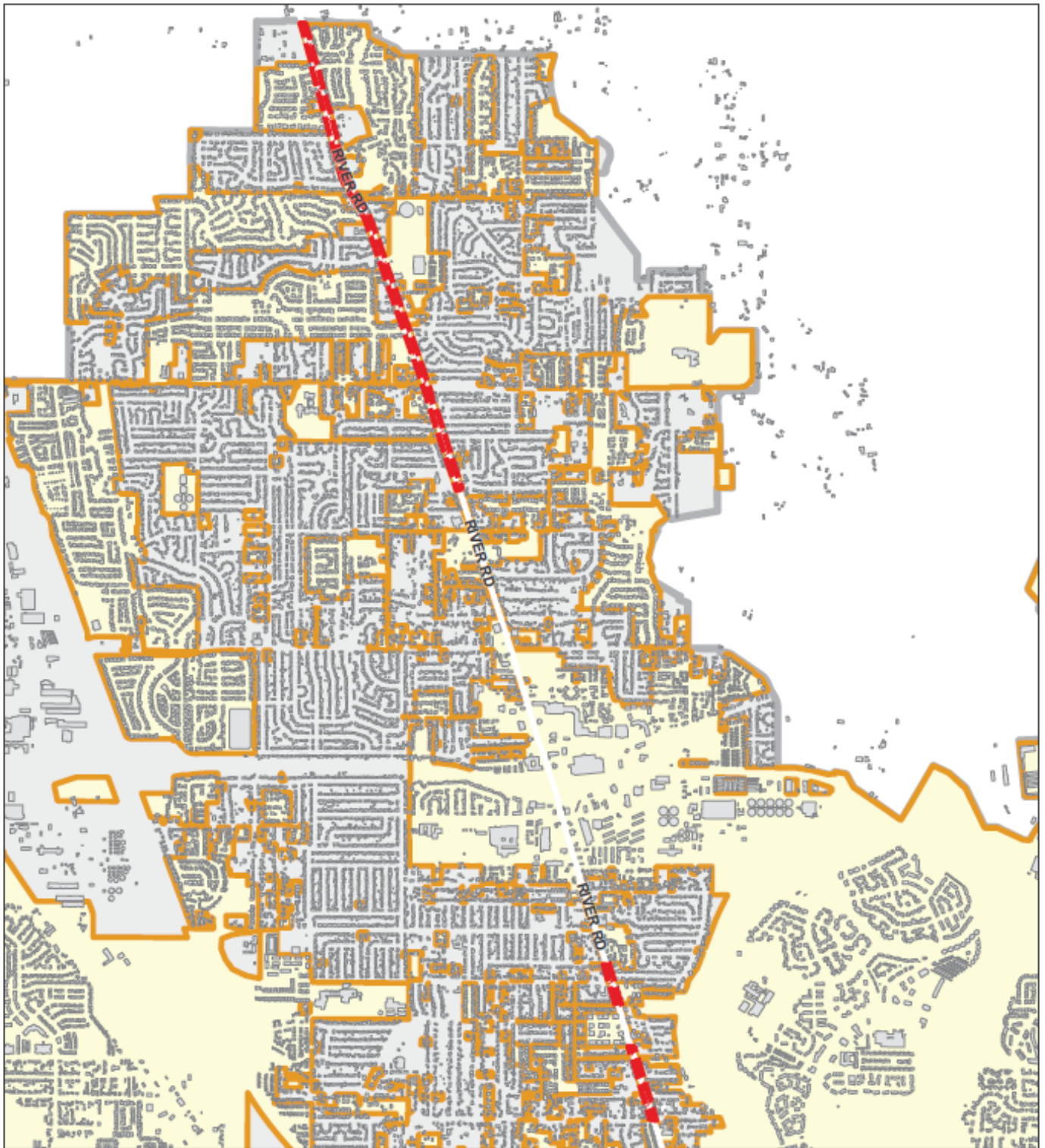


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1/10/2024



River Road: Wedgewood Drive to UGB, Maynard, and Horn



-  Eugene City Limits
-  Eugene UGB
-  Proposed Jurisdictional Transfer

 Buildings



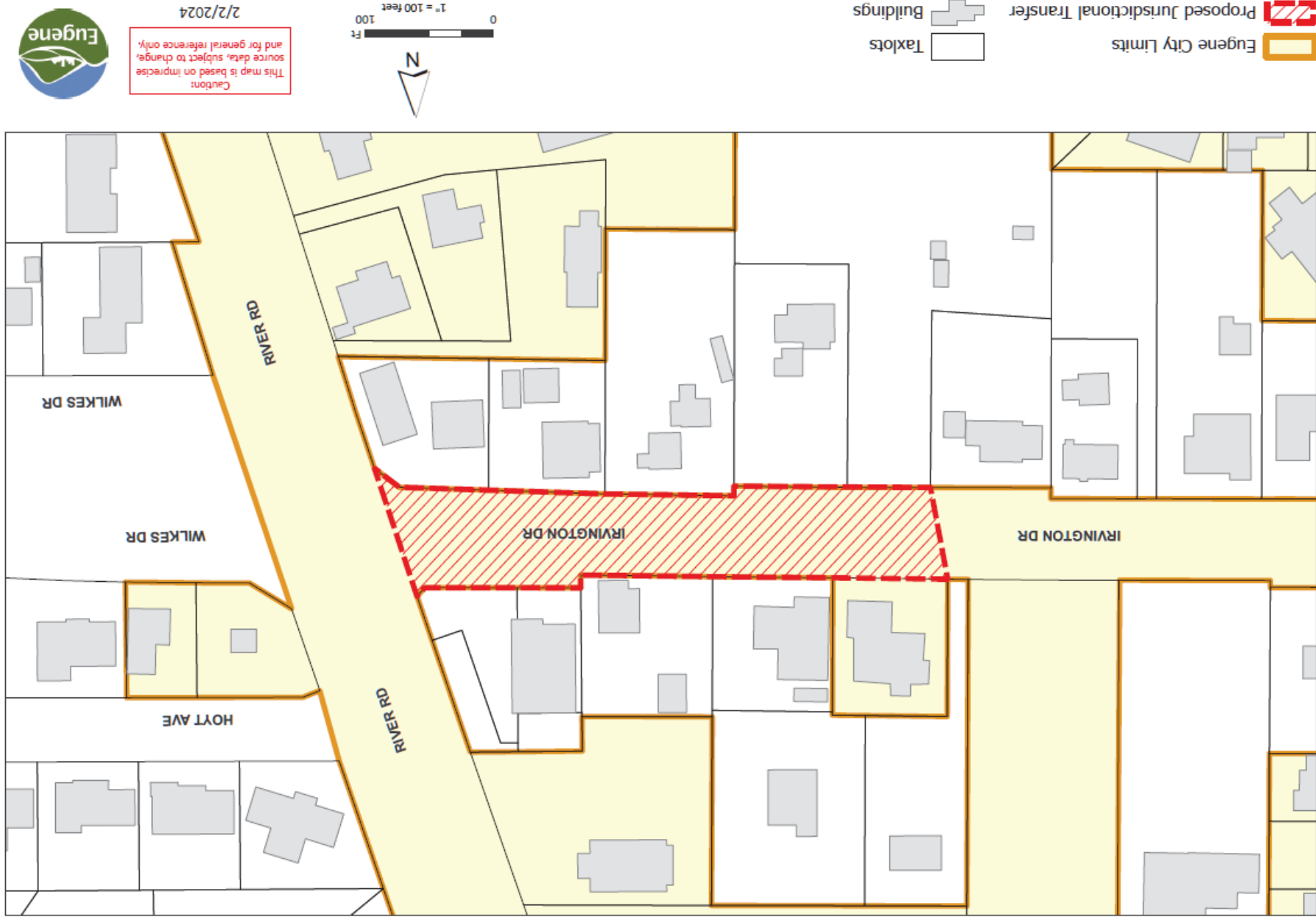
0 2250 Ft
1" = 2,250 feet

Caution:
This map is based on imprecise
source data, subject to change,
and for general reference only.

1/31/2024



Irvington Drive at River Road



EUGENE CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY



Work Session: Eugene Public Library – Year 2 Levy Report

Meeting Date: February 14, 2024
Department: Library, Recreation and Cultural Services
www.eugene-or.gov

Agenda Item Number: 2
Staff Contact: Angela Ocaña
Contact Telephone Number: 541-682-8480

ISSUE STATEMENT

The purpose of this update is to report to the community on year 2 expanded library services made possible with levy funding during the period starting on July 1, 2022 and ending on June 30, 2023.

BACKGROUND

On November 3, 2020, the City of Eugene voters approved Measure 20-309 to fund expanded Eugene Public Library services for five years beginning July 2021. The expanded services promised in the levy were in three categories:

1. More hours and access
2. More programs for all ages
3. More materials and technology

Accountability and transparency were built into the levy measure through an annual review by the citizen Library Advisory Board.

RELATED CITY POLICIES

This item relates to the following City Council Goals:

- Accessible and Thriving Culture, Parks and Recreation: A community where arts and outdoors are integral to our social and economic well-being and are available to all
- Sustainable and Accountable Development
- Equitable, Effective, Accountable Municipal Government

COUNCIL OPTIONS

Information only.

CITY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION

None.

February 14, 2024 Work Session – Item 2

SUGGESTED MOTION

None.

ATTACHMENTS

- A. Eugene Public Library: Year 2 Levy Report as approved by the Library Advisory Board
- B. Memo to City Manager, Sarah Medary, from the Library Advisory Board Chair

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Staff Contact: Angela Ocaña, Community Services Manager
Telephone: 541-682-8480
Staff E-Mail: Aocana@eugene-or.gov

YEAR **2**

LEVY REPORT

measure 20-309



Public
Library



HOURS & ACCESS

321,712
More visitors
than FY22



PROGRAMS & SERVICES

13,084
Attendance increase
over FY22



MATERIALS & TECHNOLOGY

220,805
Total offerings
increased



ACCOUNTABILITY & TRANSPARENCY

CC Agenda Page 17

February 14, 2024 Work Session - Item 2

A core tenant of Library Services has always been its spaces are for everyone. A place for people to find refuge, a warm place to sit out of the elements, a place to find entertainment, education or like-minded people. For nearly 120 years, Eugene Public Library has been a pillar of our city. Staff have strived to support an informed community, foster lifelong learning and instill the love of reading by providing access to a universe of ideas to everyone.

That dedication hasn't wavered. We are still emerging from the COVID-19 pandemic and its many effects, each day bringing seemingly new challenges to overcome. We have changed the way we served and met people's needs since 2020, but we have continued to work on giving our community the support and access it has told us it wants.

This levy report covers the time period of July 1, 2022, to June 30, 2023. EPL staff have continued to bring back offerings that were suspended, reinvigorate youth offerings and find new, creative ways to provide services during budget and staffing uncertainty. This timeframe is also the second year of the five-year operating levy passed by Eugene voters by an overwhelming 76 percent.



This year we took time to reengage with the work and create updated mission, vision and value statements. We also did a large outreach campaign and heard from more than 4,000 community members. The goal of both initiatives was to connect more closely with what we experience every day from those who pass through our doors. It was a long, important process that will guide our future work. From talking about our core values of continuing to provide compassionate, patron-first service to working together to create a community where people matter, we led thinking about Eugene first.

In the end we chose "providing equitable resources and opportunities for everyone to create a connected, caring and inspired community" as our mission statement. We think it fits the bill at this moment in time. Challenges are on the horizon, but our dedication to building Eugene up has not. We have increased who has access to library cards in a variety of ways and are pushing for more. We are always expanding and updating our selections and helping our town's youth find safe places to just be.

We've said it before and will continue to say: your library card, now more than ever, is more powerful.





HOURS & ACCESS

Access to services and resources are at the core of our mission at Eugene Public Library. Whether in person or online, access to free materials helps create an informed community.

Our levy promise was to maintain the existing level of library services funded by the 2015 levy. We promised to preserve 47 open hours a week across the Downtown Library and Bethel and Sheldon branches. We did that in year one of the 2020 levy renewal and we continued to provide the same level of hours in FY23, giving increased opportunities for cardholders to borrow materials and use resources.

We saw an increase in visitors this past year to 826,982 across our three facilities. For comparison, in FY22 we had 505,270 people pass through our doors.

For perspective, before the pandemic we had more than 1.1 million visits. We are continuing to make great strides in bringing more people back through our doors. Every facility saw modest to significant increases in traffic. The Downtown Library continued to rush toward pre-COVID numbers, jumping by 79.1 percent in annual visits. Bethel Branch also saw a robust increase at 20.9 percent over FY22, while Sheldon had an increase of 5.4 percent.

During the past year we also increased registered users by 8,860. The total number of cardholders in FY23 was 98,497. An astute observer might recall the number of registered users in FY22 was 112,695. The cause for the difference is long-time inactive users were purged from the system.

Staff continued to go into the community for outreach opportunities, attending large events like the Black

Cultural Festival, Pride and arts and cultural events at the Farmers Market Pavilion. All told staff went to 169 events with the sole purpose of outreach. Staffing these large outreach events continues to be a challenge in the face of budget reductions, and EPL is currently working on how to continue outreach efforts to keep the library out in the community where it belongs.

Every day we build partnerships to increase access. The Friends of the Eugene Public Library and Eugene Public Library Foundation are partners in this work. Through the years our partnerships have yielded greater access in programs like providing wireless hotspots to check out. In FY23 we continued this strong work by purchasing isopods for Sheldon Branch. We also collaborated again with Eugene 4J to provide library cards to children ages 0–5 who live outside of the city limits but who attend school in town.



CREATING PLACES FOR TEENS

Teens in our community are an underserved population and outside of school don't have many places where they can commune and be with materials catered to their interests and needs. Eugene Public Library features intentionally designed spaces, services and activities for teens at all three locations. These places include things you might expect, like computers, curated books and multimedia materials like video games and movies, but also other greatly needed things like toilet-ries. These comfort cabinets have person hygiene items that some teens don't consistently have access to at home.

All three locations recently updated their teen spaces to be even more inclusive and safe. For example, Bethel Branch staff moved teen materials into the vault room so they could have a more private space, and at the Downtown Library, a glass partition was installed so teens can be their normal, sometimes loud selves without worry of disturbing other patrons.

"Teens are super creative, they're funny, it's just always super delightful to see the wonderful adults they're becoming," Teen Librarian Caitlin McMahan says. "This is like a special area of the library."

Circulation

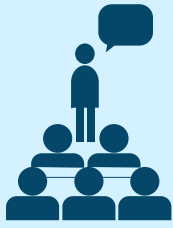
We continued to see an increase in circulation across the system, **with a 5.4 percent growth**. Downtown and virtual circulation were particularly strong as we continue to provide more materials for digital consumption.

TOTAL CIRCULATION
2.71 million

Downtown	1,780,541
Bethel Branch	189,951
Sheldon Branch	249,381
Virtual	492,485

ITEMS





PROGRAMS & SERVICES

Books and resources make up just a part of what Eugene Public Library offers. In year two of the operating levy, we continued to increase our free, diverse programming that people were eager to see return after the pandemic. We brought back more programs that served kids, teens and adults and started new programs to reach out to underserved populations.

Our levy promise for this second five years was to maintain the 1/3 increase in programming we sustained in the first levy. We promised to maintain the Maker equipment and sustain the increased offsite delivery of programs and the Library Van.

We still have not reached pre-pandemic program numbers, but we again made significant progress with an increase from 580 events in FY22 to 798 in FY23. Attendance also increased from one year to the next, from 17,228 to 30,312.

In FY22 we phased back programming, beginning with baby storytimes. In the past year we increased programming across the system. The largest leaps came in adult, young adult and elementary programming. We also started programs that were more inclusive to all age ranges in FY22, and we doubled the number of offerings for all-age programs from 19 to 42.

One service that we introduced in May 2023 was installing a freestanding receptacle to return EPL items outside Amazon Pool. The pilot project aimed to make library borrowing even more convenient and sustainable for everyone in Eugene. The new return is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week and items are picked up twice weekly. The receptacle has been a success, opening the possibility for more in other parts of the city in the future including Santa Clara and southwest Eugene.



PROGRAM ATTENDANCE

Total 30,312

**76 % MORE
THAN FY22**



WORKING WITH THE MISSION

Working with everyone in the community, even the most marginalized, is a hallmark of libraries the country over. It's not different in Eugene, where our staff strive to create welcoming environments at all three locations. Sometimes the local library is a person's third place -- or even only place. We also go to where these marginalized populations are. Staff have started working with the Eugene Mission to go onsite and provide training to anyone who was interested.

It started first with offering computer basics, which was really helping folks navigate what they needed rather than a structured class. From there staff opened and offered a creative writing class with

lessons in poetry, creative nonfiction and fantasy world building. Now staff are doing an "intro to" series, where they taught classes on their own hobbies like bullet journaling, mindfulness, mending and knitting.

"These classes fall under our 'community recovery' priority for programs," EPL Adult Librarian Kate Berry says.

"They're important because we're making connections with marginalized community members. We're building relationships that will hopefully translate to them coming to the library because we've made them feel welcome and included."



MATERIALS & TECHNOLOGY

Eugene Public Library continually works to maintain a diverse collection of materials for our community. That means making items available in physical and digital forms as well as providing access to a broad range of materials and technology.

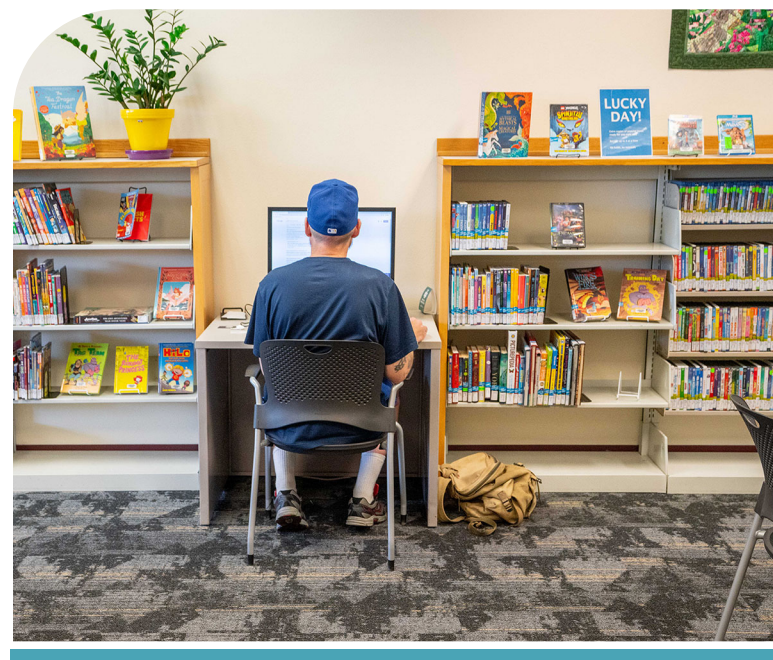
Our levy promise was to maintain the library's budget for books, movies, eBooks and other items as well as to maintain and replace internet-ready devices at Bethel and Sheldon branches.

We continued to increase access to computers for community members. Libraries play a critical role in bridging the digital divide through internet access and online training. From job hunting to staying in touch with friends and family, being able to access the internet is a critical part of life now. The total number of computer sessions in FY23 was 82,602, up from 52,479 in FY22.

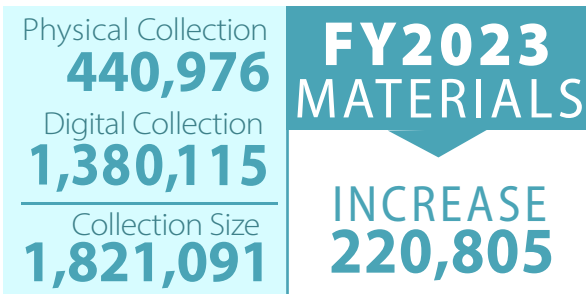
We've noted in previous levy reports the success of the wireless hotspot program. During FY22 the Eugene Public Library Foundation joined with the Friends of Eugene Public Library to raise \$60,000 to purchase 300 hotspots to lend. The campaign surpassed its goal. Generous individual donors as well as the Oregon Library Innovation Fund of Oregon Community Foundation gave a total of \$102,000, which allowed the project to launch with 500 hotspots – 250 to lend and 250 supplied to local agencies that serve unhoused community members and others

facing barriers to internet access. This program has been an incredible success and currently we loan out laptops with hotspots so people can access the internet regardless if they have it at home.

Another new, low-cost service we provide to anyone is our resume printing program. Anyone can come into a library branch and get up to 10 copies of their resume or cover letter printed. The library is a placeholder for success, and providing this cheap service helps eliminate another barrier for some to finding a job in our community.



Our overall collection grew to 1,821,091 items. We increased digital offerings from 1.1 million to 1.3 million, while reducing our physical collection by 31,758 items.



SPEAKING BOOKS FOR KIDS

In the continued effort to provide new and diverse materials for the community, Eugene Public Library started lending VOX Books for children. These picture books feature a built-in audio player that reads the words on each page aloud at the push of a button. EPL provides 245 VOX picture books and early reader titles so far, including English, Spanish, bilingual English/Spanish and bilingual English/Chinese. Titles in French and Japanese have also been added.

VOX Books won the 2021 National Parenting Product Award in their Best

Books for Kids and Families category and a 2021 Mom's Choice Award.

"We're so happy to start lending VOX Books," librarian Rebecca Saxon said. "They're easy for young children to use without help, which is handy for caregivers and fun for the kids. ... VOX Books are also a great support for kids who have started reading and are having some challenges. And they're often appealing to kids who haven't found books especially engaging yet. Really for everyone, they're just a super fun way to read."

✓ ACCOUNTABILITY & TRANSPARENCY

Trust and libraries go hand in hand. The staff at Eugene Public Library takes the community's trust seriously. Study after study prove libraries remain highly trusted because of their proven ability to foster and share knowledge and to maintain people's privacy.

Our levy promise

is to guarantee accountability and transparency. In this measure, we promised to separate levy fund budgeting and accounting per state law, to prepare an annual staff summary of spending and performance measures, an annual review by the citizen Library Advisory Board and an annual City Manager's report to City Council.

SOME DETAILS ON FY 2023 LEVY SPENDING:

The Library Local Option Levy is set at \$2.85 million per year for five years, in accordance with state law restrictions regarding how levies are structured.

FY 2023 LIBRARY EXPENDITURES	
Levy Funds	\$2,617,643 *
General Fund	\$12,541,391
Misc. Trust Funds	\$89,547
	<hr/>
	\$15,248,581

*Each year of the levy, we intentionally reserve funds as part of budget planning for the full five years. While the levy provides the same amount of revenue each year, spending fluctuates because of ongoing expansion of services as well as increased costs, inflation and other factors. Funds are budgeted in order to ensure the ability to fulfill levy promises throughout the duration.

This report shows one side of the levy story. The greater picture, though, shows how access to programs, materials and resources contribute to a more informed and engaged community. This is evident in countless stories from the public.

After all, libraries are not just about books, they are about people. The extended levy services helped us meet the needs of the community even while we continue to adjust during the pandemic. Library staff,

partners and volunteers spend every day supporting an informed community and fostering lifelong learning and a love for reading. That's at the heart of our work.

We're committed to free access to the universe of ideas and information for our community as we serve through changing times. That dedication allows Eugene Public Library to adapt and remain essential to the lives of residents, and keeps our library a truly public place.

In November 2020, Eugene voters overwhelmingly supported the passage of Measure 20-309, which provides an additional five years of support for library services.

Ongoing levy information is available to the public at eugene-or.gov/levyinfo. This report will also be available online after review from the Library Advisory Board and City Council.


541-682-5450
eugene-or.gov/library





December 11, 2023

To: Sarah Medary, Manager
City of Eugene

From: Hilary Mankofsky, Chair
Eugene Public Library Advisory Board

Re: Report on the second year of the Library Levy

The Eugene Public Library Advisory Board is pleased to present this report for the second year of the Library Levy. In November of 2020, the City of Eugene voters overwhelmingly approved Measure 20-309 to fund expanded Eugene Public Library services for five years beginning in July 2021. The citizen Library Advisory Board has the responsibility to annually review the levy performance to ensure accountability and transparency.

Although this letter is about the levy report, again, I think it's important to acknowledge that libraries are so much more than the books and materials that are held in the building, they are about the people who frequent them. The Eugene Public Library places people at the heart of their services, even including patrons when updating their mission, vision and value statements. Over 4,000 community members took part in an outreach campaign to talk about what the library means to them, how they use the library, and what they would like to see at the library. A new mission statement came out of that process: "providing equitable resources and opportunities for everyone to create a connected, caring and inspired community." Seeing the work of so many Eugonians take shape into a culture of belonging at the library is inspiring.

As you will read in the attached report, the focus of Eugene Public Library's levy implementation is: "*Promises made, Promises kept.*" The expanded services promised in the levy were in three categories:

1. More Programs for All Ages

Promises made: The Library promised to increase free events by 33% over the course of the levy with a particular emphasis on areas identified as community priorities: early literacy, activities for teens, and "Maker" opportunities. Additionally, the Library promised to provide more free programs off-site and to bring these services to parts of the community not currently served by one of the three branch locations.

Promises kept: There were over 200 more programs provided in FY23 than in FY22. Programming was increased across every group, including all ages programs which went from 19 to 42. In addition, attendance in programs went from 17,228 last year to 30,312. Almost doubling!

Another way the Eugene Public Library is creating a sense of belonging for everyone in our community, even the most marginalized, is to host classes at the Eugene Mission. Anyone interested in the classes is welcome to attend, from computer basics, to fantasy world building, to mindfulness, staff are teaching classes on their own hobbies. This may encourage people to come to the library as they feel a greater sense of being included in what the library has to offer.

2. More Materials and Technology

Promises made: The Library promised to return the budget for books, movies, eBooks, and etc., to pre-recession levels, and to increase the community's Internet access at the Bethel and Sheldon Branches by providing laptops for patrons.

Promises kept: There was a 5.4% growth in circulation across the system. Virtual circulation was particularly strong and the library continues to provide more materials for digital consumption, going from 1.1 million to 1.3 million. In May of 2023, a freestanding receptacle was installed outside Amazon Pool. This return is open 24 hours a day/7 days a week, and items are picked up twice weekly.

VOX books are a new material for the EPL. These books have a built-in audio player to read the words on each page to help with early language learners and to help develop literacy skills. There are VOX books in English, Spanish, bilingual English/Spanish, bilingual English/Chinese, French, and Japanese.

3. More Hours and Access

Promises made: The Library promised to add 22 hours each week at the neighborhood Bethel and Sheldon Branches bringing each to a total of 48 open hours across six days and restore Sunday morning hours at the Downtown Library.

Promises kept: This goal was met in 2020 and it has continued to be kept in FY23. 826,982 visitors came to the Eugene Public Library this year, over 300,000 more than last year. 8,860 new cardholders were registered. The total number of computer sessions in FY23 was 82,602 which is over 30,000 sessions more than in FY22.

Teens in our community do not often have a safe place to spend time outside of school, especially a welcoming place that provides materials directed toward their interests. All three library locations have specific teen spaces, services and activities. Each space is designed with the specific population they serve. Basic needs areas have also been created, so teens know that the EPL cares about them, they belong at the library, and they have a safe place where they are welcomed and included.

In closing, the Eugene Public Library Advisory Board takes great pride in reporting to you the continued success of the levy in the second year.

Sincerely,

Hilary Mankofsky

Library Advisory Board Chair