



Laurel Hill Valley Citizens

N E W S L E T T E R



LHVC Neighborhood Meeting on Zoom Wednesday, February 16, 2022, 7 - 8:30pm

- 7:00 - 7:10 Welcome
- 7:10 - 7:25 Village/Neighbor to Neighbor project, Helen Rosenau (neighbor), Yizhao Yang (UO)
- 7:25 - 7:30 Update about Laurel Ridge development, Tim Bradshaw (neighbor)
- 7:30 - 7:40 Legislative update, Marty Wilde (state representative)
- 7:40 - 7:50 What do you want from your library?, Will O'Hearn (library services director)
- 7:50 - 8:00 Preparing for emergencies and disasters, Ashley Cissna (EWEB)
- 8:00 - 8:10 County update, Laurie Trieger (county commissioner)
- 8:10 - 8:30 City Council and Middle Housing Code updates, Alan Zelenka (city councilor)

Here's the link to join the meeting on Zoom:

<https://bit.ly/3liwbnO>

Meeting ID: 594 874 7490

You are invited to attend this Laurel Hill Valley neighborhood meeting which will feature all the speakers shown above in the agenda. For more information on the Neighbor to Neighbor project, please see the article on page 3. Information about the Laurel Ridge development is on page 2.

We miss being able to hold these neighborhood meetings in person but hope you will join us on Zoom at the link shown above.

Housing Density Rule Changes Coming

by Caroline Cox

Eugene is currently working on code amendments to implement a law passed in 2019 called HB 2001. HB 2001 increases housing density in parts of Eugene, including our neighborhood. The code amendments must be completed by June. This is a controversial issue for many neighbors. LHVC is forming a committee to weigh in on behalf of the neighborhood. If you would like to be part of that committee, please email laurelhillvalleycitizens@gmail.com. Thank you!



Development Update and Request for Donations

By Tim Bradshaw

The Laurel Ridge PUD has been given tentative approval by the City. This is the third time the developer has proposed a development on the approximate 96 acres in the SW corner of the valley over the past 5 years. It will be accessed at Spring Blvd off 30th Ave. It calls for 372 multi-unit homes clustered on 36 acres with the remaining approx. 60 acres preserved as a forest management area that will remain undeveloped. We, Laurel Hill Valley Citizens (LHVC), have worked with the City and developer through the approval process to improve the PUD to the point where it will become a welcome addition to our neighborhood EXCEPT for one issue.

That issue is the connection of 30 Ave. through the valley connecting to I-5 at Glenwood and Franklin Blvd. Our concern is the increased traffic through the valley from 30th Ave. and the affect this will have on existing streets. This should be especially concerning to people living on Riverview as a connection will be made to that street. The language of the neighborhood refinement plan clearly states that “there shall be no connection between 30th Ave. and I-5.” (The developer doesn’t need this connection to build but the City wants the connection.) LHVC has objected to this issue and proposed solutions that should satisfy all parties throughout the approval process without success. We have appealed to the Court of Appeals as our last chance to prevail. Oral arguments were made on January 10th. A ruling will be made in the first quarter of this year.

Responding to land use issues such as this is done by volunteers interested in improving our neighborhood. Literally hundreds of hours are donated by these folks. There are also hard costs associated with these efforts. Filing fees and payment for occasional legal representation are necessary. The LHVC has a fund to address land use issues for this PUD and future developments. To that end we are having a fundraising drive to have the reserves necessary to cover these costs. If you are able, please make a tax-deductible donation by check to:

LHVC, 1950 Franklin Blvd, PMB 41, Eugene OR 97403

If you want to donate specifically to the Laurel Ridge PUD efforts, indicate this on the memo portion of your check by writing LRPUD there. Thank you in advance for your support.



Neighborhood Association Helps Neighbors

Fight Trespassing, Dumping, and Other Problems in Our Neighborhood

The Laurel Hill Valley Citizens Association helps keep our neighborhood as a place where we can all enjoy living. Several members of the neighborhood executive committee have worked with other neighbors and various city departments to address ongoing problems on a couple of lots near I-5.. Now boulders and a gate block vehicle access to these areas, thanks to their efforts.

People dumping trash in our neighborhood, especially along Laurel Hill Drive where it parallels I-5, is all too common. Neighborhood association members have contacted the appropriate agencies to remove dumped trash. If you see a problem, please let the neighborhood association and the city know so that it can be corrected. Some neighbors also help by picking up trash when they are out walking near their homes. This is an easy way to be a good neighbor.

We Can Build a Strong and Resilient 'Hood!



by Betty Hemmingsen

Imagine access to free, traded, or discounted yard work, childcare, handyperson services, transportation, or aging in place support. Think about food sharing, house-sitting, dog walking and help in emergencies.

A group of neighbors is researching the concept of a Laurel Hill Valley Village. We're working with UO Planning professor and LHV neighbor Dr. Yizhao Yang to build an online survey. The resulting data will provide information to help devise and launch Neighbor to Neighbor services in 2022. We hope an active Neighbor to Neighbor system will naturally branch out into an Aging in Place program.

The voluntary survey will be available in February to every LHV neighbor. You'll be able to complete it on your computer, tablet, or phone, through the LHVC website (www.lhvc.org), at a survey Zoom party, or even on paper by request.

Please participate in the survey. Your thoughts and opinions are essential for a successful program!

There are 2 ways to access the survey online: this link and the QR code shown above:

<https://bit.ly/33Q0Fyv>

Want to stay connected to current info about the LHV Neighbor to Neighbor services? Join the Laurel Hill Valley Citizens Facebook page and/or send an email to lhvcneighbors@gmail.com with the subject "village."

Results of the Neighborhood Election Held in November

The co-chairs of our neighborhood association are now Lianne Gaunt and Caroline Cox. Natalie Whitson continues as secretary, and Jan Wostmann is now treasurer. For a complete list of the executive committee members, along with their contact information, please see the box below.



Laurel Hill Valley Citizens Neighborhood Association Executive Committee Members

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*Please join us for a neighborhood meeting
Wednesday, February 16, 2022, 7 - 8:30pm on Zoom
See inside for the link and information on the speakers*



Policy statement: This is the official newsletter of the Laurel Hill Valley Citizens. Funds for the printing and mailing of newsletters are provided by the city of Eugene. Newsletters are produced by neighborhood volunteers and are free to residents and businesses of the neighborhood. Space is available for letters to the editor or articles from neighbors and will be published as space permits. The information provided and the views expressed in this publication do not necessarily represent the position of the City of Eugene or the Laurel Hill Valley Citizens.

All uncredited text written by the newsletter editor, Deborah Kelly. Illustrations are public domain clip art. Please send articles, comments and concerns to dskharp@yahoo.com.

Laurel Hill Valley Citizens is Eugene's oldest neighborhood organization, chartered by the City Council in 1974. General meetings are held quarterly to learn about and discuss issues relating to the quality of life in our neighborhood. The LHVC Executive Committee meets at other times to discuss and represent the interests of the neighborhood.

For more information, see our website at www.lhvc.org or contact Caroline Cox (contact info on page 3). You can also email LaurelHillValleyCitizens@gmail.com and we have a Facebook group. Just go to Facebook and type in Laurel Hill Valley Citizens.