

The River and Garden District

2012: WeGene Neighborhood of the Year for SCRROL
(Santa Clara-River Road Outreach and Learning)

2013: 2nd Place in Multi-neighborhood projects at
Neighborhoods USA (NUSA) for SCRROL

October 2014

Welcome to the RRCO e-Newsletter.

Due to difficulty in e-mailing this message, all links are deleted. Please cut and paste the address in your browser or e-mail program.

RRCO regular monthly meetings - Second Monday (USUALLY)

General Membership meeting - 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.

RRCO Board meeting - 8:30 - 9:15 p.m.

River Road Annex, 1055 River Road

We will start promptly at 7:00 to accommodate candidates and get neighbors' questions answered.

All RRCO meetings open to the public and include **public comment** period. As funds run low for mailing postcards and newsletters, encourage friends and neighbors to sign up for monthly RRCO e-News at riverroadcommunityorganization@gmail.org or contact RRCO Co-Chair Jon Belcher for more information.

Santa Clara-River Road Implementation Planning Team (SCRRIPT) Neighborhood Listening Sessions

River Road Hosts for Listening Sessions were awesome. Polly and Doug, Hillary and Charles, Roberta and Trinity United Methodist Church, Lynn, Jo, and Linda opened their homes and the church to unknown neighbors for an untested gathering in the hopes of improving our neighborhood. We are grateful they took the risk. We also appreciate our neighbors who donated 3 hours of a valuable summer day to discuss how to better our neighborhood. They reported their expectations were exceeded, even those most sceptical about the endeavor.

Between June 26 and September 13, the Santa Clara/River Road Implementation Planning Team (SCRRIPT) completed 14 listening sessions involving 110 River Road and Santa Clara

neighbors. Ten SCRRIPTErs attended many or all sessions.

A protigious amount of input has been collected. Although regular sessions have concluded, the intent is to collect additional information from specific populations who tended to not be represented so far. At present, collective summaries of comments are being prepared, and SCRRIPT hopes to share this information in forums in November. Hopefully, many neighbors who have participated so far will volunteer to serve in resource groups when Santa Clara and River Road begin creating an area plan with City planners after the first of the year.

For more information about the SCRRIPT process, contact **Carleen Reilly** at carleenr@gmail.com or [541-689-8561](tel:541-689-8561) for River Road or--

riverroadcommunityorganization@gmail.com

or Jerry Finigan jerfinigan@comcast.net or [541-688-1406](tel:541-688-1406) for Santa Clara.

RRCO Pancake Breakfast - Kudos

More than 70 neighbors and friends enjoyed one another's camaraderie and a good country breakfast with buckwheat pancakes (mix donated by Nearly Normal's in Corvallis), Grizzlie's Granola (thanks to WildTime Foods), all kinds of melons (donated by The Corner Market) coffee (compliments of Global Delights), eggs from Kate, syrup donated by Teresa, and many items given by unknown donors--for which we are no less grateful. Volunteers were numerous and very helpful. Jolene Siemsen coordinated masterfully, with what appeared to be a minimum of bluster.

Lane Transit District brought us information about Safe Routes to Schools, displayed improved street interesections and landscaping for EmX, and had givaways for children and neighbors. The newest booklet with updated bus schedules were available. We appreciate their willingness to come to our neighborhood on a Saturday when they could be spending it with their families.

Information was available about SCRRIPT's activities, maps, and updated tax information.

If you enjoyed the Pancake Breakfast, let us know so we can plan for next year.

~ River Road Community Organization ~

RRCO General Membership Meeting

October 13, 2014; 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.

RRCO Board Meeting - 8:30 to 9:15 p.m.

River Road Annex, 1055 River Road

Candidate Forum and Ballot Measure information.

We will start promptly at 7:00 to accommodate candidates and get

neighbors' questions answered.

Inform yourself before you vote. Attend the RRCO Candidate Forum to acquaint yourself with candidates and the positions they support.

Invitation were sent to the following candidates:

Chris Edwards for Senate District 7

Laura Cooper and Nancy Nathanson for House District 13

Val Hoyle and Cathy Lamberg for House District 14

Ballot Measure information will be available.

Be sure to vote on November 4!

RRCO General Membership Meeting

November 10, 2014; 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.

RRCO Board Meeting - 8:30 to 9:15 p.m.

River Road Annex, 1055 River Road

Santa Clara-River Road Implementation Planning Team (SCRRIPT). SCRRIPT anticipates information from the Listening Sessions will be compiled to share with neighbors. We hope to lay out the next steps in the process of developing our area plan, which integrate transportation ideas to bring us into the 21st century. Be part of the team that carefully looks at each area of our neighborhood as we begin to zone for appropriate growth, protect our heritage trees, provide safe multi-modal transportation, and provide for public safety.

Someone planned for our future and protected our access to the River. You can pay forward by participating in planning for the next generation's future in a safe, healthy, and thriving community.

RRCO General Membership Meeting

December 15, 2014; 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.

RRCO Board Meeting - 8:30 to 9:15 p.m.

River Road Annex, 1055 River Road

Holiday Dessert Potluck. Join your neighbors for some holiday cheer, bring a sweet or savory dish to share with others, and be prepared to share your thoughts about the neighborhood.

RRCO General Membership Meeting

January 12, 2015; 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.

RRCO Board Meeting - 8:30 to 9:15 p.m.

River Road Annex, 1055 River Road

Public Safety. It's time to get down to business and explore some short-term solutions and long-term ideas for our safety. Many suggestions came in from our Listening Sessions that we can consider. We hope to invite a representative from the County Sheriff's office and an officer from the Eugene Police Department.

Good Information from LTD

The recent LTD E-newsletter provided some useful information as we think about our neighborhood transit needs and our future land use planning.

The Urban tree canopy is the layer of tree leaves and branches that cover the ground when viewed from above. The canopy helps filter stormwater, improves air quality, increases property values, reduces heating and cooling costs, and provides wildlife habitat.

Urban stormwater management used to mean piping rain and snow melt directly into streams and rivers causing damaging contamination. Now, in urban areas landscaping plays a role in filtering out pollutants before stormwater enters the waterways, like the West Eugene EmX filtration planters will do.

You can stay updated on EmX project news at weemx.ltd.org.

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### Weigh in on River Road Elementary Rebuild Options

Eugene 4-J released two options for rebuilding River Road Elementary School at an open house, September 25. They can be viewed at:

<http://www.4jnewschoolshoward-riverroad.org/river-road-schematic-design.html>

Since the new buildings are to be constructed while the current school is functioning, the new buildings will be sited either to the west or the east of the current buildings.

Here is a brief summary of the major differences between the two options (either option will meet the design specifications of the project):

**The E (east option):**

- Most adjacent properties are non-residential.
- The Oak Grove in that area will be removed.
- The two-story classroom wing is located at the south end of the new school, along Marion Lane.

- Short term-play areas and parking will need to be provided during construction costing approximately \$500,000 to \$750,000. These will be removed once construction is complete and will reduce the money available for the final building.

**The W (west option):**

- There are 9 or 10 residences immediately adjacent to the area. A portion of the new school is approximately 40 ft from the property line to the south (the height is typically restricted to 30 ft max when within 50 ft of residential properties). Nearby neighbors have expressed concerns that this proposal will affect their quality of life (playground school noise, loss of privacy, possible danger from creation of areas hidden from view and increased traffic deeper into the neighborhood. )
- The existing trees immediately south of the new school are planned to remain.

Review plans on webpage above and send comments to Beth Gerot <[gerot\\_b@4j.lane.edu](mailto:gerot_b@4j.lane.edu)>, school board member, with a copy to Jon Belcher [jbelcher@efn.org](mailto:jbelcher@efn.org) by Wed., October 8.

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### Land Use Updates

If you would like Land Use information on any projects or would like to be added to RRCO's land use update listing, please contact Jon Belcher at <[jbelcher@efn.org](mailto:jbelcher@efn.org)> or [541-343-6695](tel:541-343-6695).

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### RRCO E-Updates: [riverroadcommunityorganization@gmail.com](mailto:riverroadcommunityorganization@gmail.com)

Sign up for the **RRCO's e-news**, change your e-address, receive **Police Alerts** or **bike/ped info**, work on the **Graffiti clean up team**, organize a **Neighborhood Watchgroup** or become a member of the Santa Clara-River Road Implementation Planning Team (SCRRIPT) to work on land use, governance, transportation, or parks and recreation issues.

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NOTE: RRCO Board and General Membership Meetings are usually held at the River Road Annex, 1055 River Road. *We usually meet the second Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. All meetings are open to the public with a public comment period.*

Contact Jon Belcher <[jbelcher@efn.org](mailto:jbelcher@efn.org)>, RRCO Co-Chair, with your questions or concerns about the neighborhood or River Road Community Organization.  
"Like" River Road Community Organization on Facebook and 'invite' your friends to 'like' us or find us on the web at [riverroadco.org](http://riverroadco.org)