

SANTA CLARA ~ RIVER ROAD OUTREACH & LEARNING PROJECT NEWSLETTER

EDUCATION, OPPORTUNITY & OUR FUTURE

GET INVOLVED IN THE SHAPE OF THINGS TO COME

The SCRROL project is complete and we have learned much about the issues facing River Road and Santa Clara thanks to over 700 of you and your neighbors. It is now time to refine those issues into desired best outcomes and work toward making them realities. Numerous changes are already in the works.

- Our storm drains are being converted from drywells into rain gardens and bioswales by the City and County.
- The River Road Park District and our fire districts are working with the City of Eugene to define the best way to deliver their services.
- The City of Eugene has committed to work with our Neighborhood Organizations to create an area plan defining how urban services will be provided in our area.
- The County is seeking new ways to provide public safety services with a reduced budget.

All of these will affect your quality of life and your wallet; don't you

CONTINUED, BACK COVER: NEXT STEPS



Eugene, OR 97401

99 W 10th Ave

c/o Neighborhood Services

Santa Clara & River Road Community Organizations

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COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND OUTCOMES

The SCRROL team used a variety of means to create opportunities to have conversations with our River Road and Santa Clara neighbors. We estimated that there were 736 of these conversations. These included our regular Community Organization meetings, community events, home gatherings, interviews, community forums, and

what we called “intercepts.” There were 242 intercepts consisting of conversations with people who attended a variety of community events--using maps and forms to record their concerns and priorities as our community moves into the future. Here is a chart that summarizes what we heard:

NEIGHBORHOOD CONVERSATION FORM RESULTS

Issue	Santa Clara Top 3	River Road Top 3
Protect agricultural land in/surrounding neighborhood.	42%	20%
Protect/enhance waterways, wildlife habitat, and open space.	27%	22%
Make streets safer and more friendly for cyclists and walkers.	25%	36%
Maintain/expand recreation services in the neighborhood.	24%	18%
Enhance/increase parks , including access to Willamette River.	20%	22%
Protect look & feel of neighborhood while accommodating additional growth.	18%	27%
Maintain rural feel of neighborhood streets.	18%	17%
Decrease traffic congestion.	14%	11%
Increase neighborhood participation in govt. (e.g. City Council/County Commission).	12%	12%
Seek clarity, reliability, efficiencies in delivering public services in, e.g. fire, water, recreation & schools.	8%	16%
Other services or issues that you think are more important than what is on this list?		
• Increase library services	18%	16%
• Increase police patrols	17%	23%
• Sort out confusion between City and County	14%	16%
• More commercial businesses and services	14%	10%
• Promote connections between neighbors	13%	8%
Total Surveys	115	92



EUGENE NEIGHBORHOODS OF THE YEAR! SANTA CLARA & RIVER ROAD COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS

FOR THE SANTA CLARA-RIVER ROAD OUTREACH & LEARNING (SCRROL) PROJECT

SCRROL as a joint project of RRCO and SCCO, was nominated for and received the WEgene! Neighborhood of the Year award this Spring. In recognition of this award, Barbara Denlis, a SCCO member of SCRROL, traveled to Indianapolis as our representative to the Neighborhoods USA Conference, May 23-16. This is quite an honor for our work.

SCRROL's Report and Recommendations are to be presented at the SCCO and RRCO October meetings .

Contact Jerry Finigan, Chair, at jerry@scrrol.org, or check our website www.scrrol.org for more information.

OBSERVATIONS ON GOVERNANCE AND PUBLIC SERVICES IN THE NEIGHBORHOODS

Government services such as police, water, road/street maintenance, animal control, sewer, fire/ambulance, library, parks and recreation, street lights, planning, open space, and building permits are provided in River Road and Santa Clara through state, city, and county agencies, and 5 service districts.

The SCRROL process observed that:

- Governance has become increasingly complex in the 30 years following the establishment of the Urban Growth Boundary;
- Differences in tax rates exist between neighborhoods;
- 53% of Santa Clara and 29% (new rate now indicates 32%) of River Road are now incorporated;
- River Road and Santa Clara are served by five service districts: Lane Rural Fire and Rescue District; Santa Clara Fire District; Santa Clara and River Road Water Districts; and the River Road Park and Recreation District.
- As the number of incorporated properties increase, the service districts' tax bases decrease, which affects their ability to continue to provide services;
- The City of Eugene provides River Road and Santa Clara with neighborhood parks and other services.

Participants in the SCRROL process expressed opinions/concerns including the following:

- Confusion by newer residents as to why the two neighborhoods are not within the City limits;
- Desire by unincorporated residents to be able to vote for City Councilors and Mayor;
- Acceptance &/or approval by annexed residents of the fact they are in the City;
- Desire for more input on decisions regarding traffic and other issues;
- Desire for increased police services;
- Appreciation of the services and neighborhood parks provided by the City;
- Appreciation of the quality of services provided by the service districts.

The SCRROL process concluded with the following observations:

- For many residents, annexation is a topic of concern or interest. Early in SCRROL discussions, annexation was identified as one of many possible tools or strategies to consider during the post SCRROL implementation stage.
- Quality of services, fairness and equity are challenges facing all residents in Santa Clara and River Road as they address governance issues in the future.



SCRROL SUMMARY

The River Road and Santa Clara Community Organizations formed a Joint Strategy Team (JuST) 2010, which reviewed the goals of the 2006 Transition Report and identified four priorities for residents to provide feedback about: Land Use; Governance; Parks and Recreation; and Transportation. The Santa Clara-River Road Outreach and Learning project (SCRROL) organized in February 2011, and outreach activities began in May 2011.

SCRROL learned that--

- River Roaders and Santa Clarans do care and want to have a say in their community's future.
- They enjoy the look and feel of their neighborhood and want to protect it.
- Traffic congestion is a concern, and they desire

integrated transportation, with public transit and safe bike and pedestrian amenities.

- River Roaders desire increased police protection.
- Santa Clarans value the agricultural and rural lifestyle and want waterways, wildlife habitats and open space protected.
- Santa Clarans would like development of recreational and community-building opportunities, for example, a community center, ball fields, exercise classes, and community events.
- Santa Clarans desire increased access to the Willamette River.
- Residents want the confusion about city and county services sorted out.
- Both neighborhoods want more library services.

NEXT STEPS CONTINUED FROM PG 1

want to have a say in how those decisions are made?

If the answer is yes, you should get involved in the next stage of the process: SCRRIPT (Santa Clara River Road Implementation and Planning Team). Here's how you can participate:

- Link to www.scriipt.org
- Like SCRRIPT on Facebook [Pg available???]
- Attend an October Neighborhood Organization meeting to share your thoughts and learn how to get further involved:

Santa Clara Community Organization: Thursday 10/4
@ 7 PM Messiah Lutheran Church, 3280 River Road

River Road Community Organization Monday 10/8
@ 7 PM River Road Annex, 1055 River Road

Together we can move toward the best future for River Road and Santa Clara.

Jon Belcher



SCRROL RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Pro-active and creative collaboration to protect and strengthen neighborhood assets and solve key problems
2. Prioritize common goals of River Road and Santa Clara, including the service district providers, to develop an implementation plan
3. Communicate with elected officials about SCRROL results and implementation plans
4. Host summits with service providers and neighborhood leaders
5. Initiate follow-up conversations with City of Eugene staff on SCRROL-identified issues
6. Engage neighbors in conversations on, and public support for collaborative and realistic solutions.
7. Continue to gather opinions of under-represented community members
8. Consider a statistically valid survey to identify community support for specific implementation measures
9. Form a new advocacy group named "The Santa Clara-River Road Implementation Planning Team" (SCRRIPT). This task force would be composed of River Road and Santa Clara representatives to work on common goals. SCRRIPT would function similar to SCRROL, but would be more pro-active in advocating for specific solutions and implementing the goals identified by SCRROL.
10. SCRROL recommends that SCCO and RRCO develop action plans to strengthen neighborhood assets and solve key problems through pro-active and creative collaboration.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

1st Thursday Monthly: Santa Clara CO Meetings

For agenda or to suggest meeting topics: email Jerry Finigan, jerfinigan@comcast.net

2nd Tuesday Monthly: River Road CO Meetings

For agenda or to suggest meeting topics: email Carleen Reilly or Jon Belcher, riverroadcommunityorganization@gmail.com

October 4: Santa Clara Community Organization General Meeting

SCRROL to SCRRIPT

October 8: River Road Community Organization General Meeting

SCRROL to SCRRIPT

SCCO Meets at the Messiah Lutheran Church, 3280 River Road

RRCO Meets at the River Road Annex, 1055 River Road

All meetings are open to the public with a public comment period; 7-9 PM unless otherwise noted.

This is the official newsletter of the Santa Clara~River Road Outreach & Learning Project. Funds for newsletter printing and mailing are provided by the City of Eugene and from Transition Funds. This special newsletter is produced by neighborhood volunteers and is free to Santa Clara and River Road residents and businesses. The information provided and the views expressed do not necessarily represent the position of the Santa Clara or River Road Community Organizations or the City of Eugene.

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