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The Register-Guard

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Springfield sends librarian layoff notice amid budget talks



Springfield Public Library Latino Liaison Librarian Kristen Curé, center, leads a Family Story time in Springfield April 8, 2026. CHRIS PIETSCH/THE REGISTER-GUARD

Alan Torres

Eugene Register-Guard
USA TODAY NETWORK

The City of Springfield has sent a layoff letter to one of its librarians, has closed another position, and likely will close the library on Mondays, according to people familiar with the situation.

According to library volunteers Jim Lauinger and Heather Millehrer-Huerta, the city sent Springfield's teen librarian a layoff letter on March 31 with an effective date of July 1, the first day of the new fiscal year.

A message from Springfield's library director to

library staff described "budget reductions" that "results in the elimination of two positions effective July 1," one being the teen librarian and the other a vacant associate manager position. These two job cuts will result in library hours reductions six days a week to five, according to that message.

Elyse Ditzel, spokesperson for the city, confirmed a librarian was sent a "staffing notification." She said the message from the library director "reflect(s) planning scenarios" and these cuts "would only be implemented if the budget is adopted by Council."

But library supporters, who packed Springfield

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Program heads push back on LCC plan

Miranda Cyr

Eugene Register-Guard
USA TODAY NETWORK

The Lane Community College Board of Education carved two programs from the chopping block at LCC out of a package of significant budget cuts as the college looks to mitigate a \$4.2 million shortfall.

In a split vote, the board gave the LCC administration the go-ahead to make cuts to departments like Printing & Graphics, Course Embedded Tutoring, Willamette Restorative Dental Clinic, Health Clinic and more, constituting approximately \$3.7 million.

But one large, combined reduction, which would address the remainder of the total \$4.2 million shortfall, was taken out of the proposal for a closer look and more community feedback.

Public comment criticizes LCC's budget cuts

Closing Health Information Management and Criminal Justice would save LCC \$534,000 according to the mitigation plan. But students, staff and community members didn't think it was a meaningful tradeoff.

Out of 34 public comments at a recent meeting, 30 people spoke in support of the programs or other services targeted for savings. Several of the speakers were students enrolled in one of the two programs.

Student Emily Erick said she learned about the program's suspension through her professor rather than through LCC administration. Erick said she used to be a nursing student at Loyola University Chicago before transferring to LCC for the Criminal Justice program.

"For the first time, I'm not just in school, I'm building a future that fits

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Appeals court rejects CleanLane in Goshen, maintains LUBA decision

Alan Torres

Eugene Register-Guard
USA TODAY NETWORK

The Oregon Court of Appeals affirmed the Land Use Board of Appeals decision to block the CleanLane resource recovery facility from being located in Goshen in an order issued April 8.

The Court of Appeals issued the "or-

der without opinion" affirming the earlier denial and ordering the county to pay attorney fees to Sanipac and the Lane County Garbage and Recycling Association.

Both sides held oral argument before the court March 19.

The proposed project would intake waste collected in Lane County and use machinery to separate garbage, recyclables and organics. Garbage would be taken to the landfill, recyclables would be sold and organics would be processed onsite into renewable natural gas.

The county purchased vacant land in Goshen where wanted to put the CleanLane facility.

Waste hauling businesses and Goshen residents opposed to the project argued CleanLane is a waste-related facility, which is not allowed by the site's zoning. The county argued it is a recycling facility and a government facility, which are allowed.

LUBA previously sided with the project opponents based on the facts the facility would intake hundreds of thousands of tons of solid waste, transfer

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