



NFL: Lamb leads charge as best rise up, rest start sorting themselves out

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State Rep. Willy Chotzen, D-Portland, speaks in Happy Valley on Oct. 5 about legislation he plans to introduce to indefinitely ban automated license plate reader cameras like those installed by Flock Safety. Chotzen was joined by U.S. Sen. Ron Wyden, D-Oregon, and ACLU of Oregon policy director Jessica Maravilla. DIANNE LUGO/STATESMAN JOURNAL

Springfield council postpones annexation vote again

Alan Torres
Eugene Register-Guard
USA TODAY NETWORK

A month after Springfield City Council's fall session, Lane County and PeaceHealth still don't have an answer on their request to annex the north Springfield property where the entities want to build a combined mental health stabilization center and hospital.

The county and PeaceHealth applied to build the combined 392,040-square-foot facilities on two lots totaling 18 acres between International Way and Maple Island Road. Lane County's stabilization center would provide short-term mental health care for people in crisis. PeaceHealth's Timber Springs hospital would provide longer-term residential mental health treatment.

Springfield City Council held its first public hearing on the annexation in May and adjourned for its summer recess without reaching a decision. At their Oct. 5 meeting, city councilors still didn't have an answer but narrowed their discussion to three remaining questions and said they would reach a decision Nov. 2.

The annexation is atypical in part because of House Bill 2005, a "super siting" law, directing the city to forego consideration of all the factors it normally would. City officials ultimately interpreted that law to be much narrower than the county and PeaceHealth wanted.

HB 2005 states if a developer applies to build a co-located stabilization center and mental health hospital, the local government cannot require a plan amendment or zone change as a condition of approval. In land-use planning lingo, the "plans" are the overarching documents outlining and describing different zones throughout the city. There is both the "Comprehensive

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Lawmakers seek ban on plate readers

Officials warn of potential abuse of automated cameras

Dianne Lugo Salem Statesman Journal | USA TODAY NETWORK

Standing near Flock cameras at the Clackamas County Town Center, Rep. Willy Chotzen, D-Portland, said he was optimistic that state lawmakers would pass legislation he and Rep. Alek Skarlatos, R-Winston, will introduce in January to implement a statewide ban on AI-powered automated license plate reader cameras.

Joined by U.S. Sen. Ron Wyden, D-Oregon, and Jessica Maravilla, policy director for the ACLU of Oregon, Chotzen said Oregonians are increasingly calling on elected leaders to enact more protections against the state's growing network of cameras.

The community mapping project, Flock Camera Locations, includes information on at least 576 Flock Safety cameras and ALPRs reported in Oregon. The

exact number of cameras is unknown.

Wyden referred to the hundreds of cameras across the state as "a weapon of mass inspection."

"Throughout the country, Americans across the political spectrum of all races, of all religions, of all beliefs, are making it clear they don't want to be spied on," Chotzen said.

Wyden said the abuse of the technology has also "become inevitable."

USA TODAY found widespread misuse of Flock cameras in an investigation. At least 22 police and sheriff's officials were arrested, fired, put on leave, or placed under investigation because of USA TODAY's

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Caniacs can win a year of free food at Raising Cane's

Restaurant hosting grand opening on Oct. 13

Hannarose McGuinness
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USA TODAY NETWORK

Residents in the Eugene-Springfield area will soon have access to the area's first Raising Cane's location and visitors to the restaurant's grand opening on Oct. 13 could win big in giveaways that include a free year of meals from the business.

The grand opening celebrations at 2720 Gateway St. in Springfield start at 7:30 a.m., when people can enter the "Lucky 20" drawing for a chance to win free Raising Cane's for a year. Entries open at 7:30 a.m. and close at 8:30 a.m., with the 20 winners selected shortly after.

A ribbon cutting will take place at 8:30



A Raising Cane's Chicken Fingers location under construction at 2720 Gateway St. in Springfield on Aug. 18. HANNAROSE MCGUINNESS/THE REGISTER-GUARD

a.m. The eatery opens at 10 a.m. and the first customer in line will receive a gift basket and a special welcome from the

crew. The first 100 people to purchase a combo in the restaurant will be given a branded hat and a card for a free box com-

bo, while supplies last.

Additional opening day festivities include a visit from the Oregon Duck and the cheer team, a live DJ and a donation to the Boys & Girls Clubs of Emerald Valley.

The restaurant has created 160 jobs and features locally-inspired décor harkening back to Springfield's connection to "The Simpsons."

A second Raising Cane's location is under development near the University of Oregon campus. That restaurant will be located in the ground-floor retail space of The Ellis, a student housing complex being built at 13th Avenue and Alder Street. The Ellis is expected to start leasing units for the 2026-2027 academic year.

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