



WSNA General Meeting Minutes January 18, 2021

Mike hello everyone it is seven o'clock so let us go ahead and get started Jason do you want to start us off with the Pledge of Allegiance, please?

Jason: I will just make an announcement that we are recording and also would just like to acknowledge the holiday and to say thank you to all the volunteer leaders in our community for their service and if you will join me in the Pledge of Allegiance

Mike: We do have a vacancy for a secretary. I really need somebody to hopefully volunteer is there any takers tonight before we start the meeting that would like to jump in right now and be able to take notes for us.

Marina Drive Update:

Steve: A quick report on update on Marina Drive. Clint Dame Iran, who is the city manager. Is working on Marine Drive had email conversations with him recently. There are four or five properties that have gone through the process so far. There are three out there that are yet to be there in negotiation with and then there is one other that is still under discussion so, it is moving forward.

There are four properties that we have been pushing as a neighborhood association to make the connection between 5th Street at Cameo and the Marine Drive fifth street old Transportation plan that we are working with we testified before city council to get that resolved. And for some reason that is a little bit in the Netherlands, but we will be following up with our city council. There is about a million and a half or million point eight dollars still left after out of the 3.8 Transportation Bond, so there should be enough funds to complete the purchase and then we will start construction. So, I'm hoping by Spring to the most of that right away purchased and so the issue then is just to encourage and stay close with the city that that's happening.

The one thing that is troubling right now is that there are four properties there between 5th and Cameo and the Marine Drive intersection with Fifth Avenue that have not been contacted yet.

Mike:



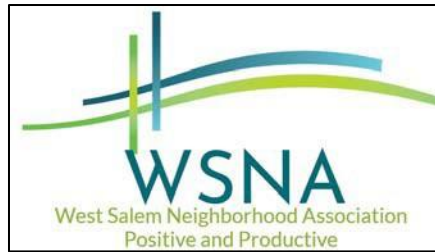
I want to read a brief statement to everybody in light of the current climate both social and political. I would like to encourage the following guidelines for this meeting. The individuals we have speaking today from the mayor's office the city council Salem Police Department are guest and I ask that we remember to treat them as such they have been asked to present information that you may or may not agree with however discourse should remain civil and if you feel as though you cannot adhere to that, please excuse yourself at this time, if anyone is rude or confrontational during the meeting the moderators reserve the right to mute add or remove individuals. I hope everybody can live with that tonight.

I appreciate the city council Gretchen here and the Salem Police Department. So, we're going to start off tonight with the

Salem Police Report:

Salem PD Lieutenant Van Meter, please go ahead and you have some questions that we were submitted to you that you could start with those and then go ahead from there, please. Councilor Lewis councilor Stapleton and chair Freitas to thank you very much for this opportunity and I have to start out by apologizing for not being here the last couple months and not that this is an excuse, but this is a usually a night that I'm at night graduate school at Willamette. And so, I will do better. I am yours for the duration. And so please forgive me. However, I am here in perpetuity to answer your questions and regarding the questions. I thank you so much for submitting them prior to the meeting which allowed me a little bit of time to give some analysis to the questions and some thoughtful comments. The first question was you would like to know how law enforcement determines Staffing and assigns resources throughout the city and so for the Patrol Division every shift, we have three shifts. We have a Shift to swing shift in a graveyard shift every shift has a minimum of eleven officers because we have 11 districts.

The 11 districts come from the early 90s when there were 11 neighborhood associations. Now, there is 18. So that has not necessarily changed for the police department where we staff one or two officers per District. Now within the Patrol Division, we have special teams such as the problem-oriented policing team the downtown enforcement team the behavioral health unit. Obviously, we have the SWAT team the mobile response. We have robust capabilities, and each officer is assigned to a district. One of the one of the eleven districts for their shift as a 911 call will come in the officers will cover each other on those calls. So even though there is one officers at least per District in the event of an emergency. We can surge up to five or six or seven officers within about two minutes. And so as a supervisor that's in charge of emergency calls. I plan on a Manpower Mountain at about the 30-second mark when after somebody calls for emergency assistance after about 30 to 45 seconds three to four to five to six Cops start to show up. So even though there's a West Salem is District 5 in are what we call District 5 and there's one officer assigned to District 5 with the police officer that is in assigned to that District calling for emergency assistance within two minutes, we can have upwards of three or four or five or six officers.



Now the Special Teams the behavioral health unit in the problem-oriented policing team is probably what you're most associated with the Wallace Marine Park and the unsheltered that are living in the park Sergeant leads the problem oriented policing team and he's often times in West Salem the downtown enforcement team who has its five officers right now. There are also mostly in most marine park and the pedestrian bridge downtown or within 30 seconds of West Salem so on paper on our Patrol deployment we will have one officer assigned to District 5 however functionally we have up to 20 or 30 officers if you remember the good will incident on Edgewater this last summer we had 50 cops are within probably about five minutes so we have the capability to Surge a large amount of resources into a an area when the situation dictates but throughout the city the officers are distributed to the so it's a resource pull and not a resource push with our current systems and I'll go through the four questions and then I will be open for comments or questions at the end if that's okay chair for you?

Mike yes please go ahead.

LT. Thank you if there's any type of crime statistics that you have been aggregating somehow and you know the second question Part B was about statistical information that's available to the public, so we do keep Track of what reported crimes are happening and that's a distinction in statistical analysis where it's important to understand this. The reported crimes are what we can put as a number and we can actually quantify and do an analysis at a higher level with analytics. The unreported crime is what were most concerned about from a social perspective. And how do we get into the communities that are Under reporting crimes such as domestic violence and sexual assaults. And so, there's kind of an art in that and that's a much more in-depth answer to the question. And then I think so to answer your question. Yes, we do keep statistics as far as the analysis as for those statistics. That is where we need. I think we could do better as an organization is figuring out Predictive Analytics and where we deploy our resources and how we understand what is happening and instead of just reacting to problems. We can actually put in the Resources prior to the problems happening now. That's the that's the future of law enforcement Predictive Analytics and all the information that we can bring in with computer animation. And you know what the big companies do with data engineering data analysis data science is what we're looking towards and what our future is going to bring to the Salem Police Department. The idea is we know with the weather the time of day the date in relation to pay periods. The socio-economic densities population densities that we could predict when the next crime is going to happen. There's a lot of analytics and algorithms that go into that and I'm just a cop I need some help with that but we are looking towards the future and Predictive Analytics and using algorithms and artificial intelligence order to be more of a predictive agency and deploy resources where they need to be prior to the problem happening.

Question 2:how many Patrol officers are assigned to West Salem per shift one per shift and kind of caveat to my original statement is to it's a resource pull not a resource push from requirements based on the radio the 911 systems and integrated Communications that we have were able to what we call distributive operations is spread out a little bit but feelers it out and then immediately Upon A trigger we Mass our resources to that problem solve it and then distribute out not unlike nerves in the body.



What is the Salem PD doing to reduce crime in West Salem as much as we can and that also is a very that's probably an eight-hour question that we could go into is what I need from you is community involvement? What is not effective is cops driving around in a police car just looking for problems because people that are professional criminals understand our engine noise. They know where we're at our Rhythm and so in order to even if I'm two blocks away from a crime in progress, as soon as my engine noises in my siren overwhelms, they are the criminals usually leave and they flee fairly quickly and it's hard to catch them. So, I need the community's assistance in finding descriptions videos and directions of travel and time and distance and all those things that go into catch in somebody who has just come. It a crime so the interaction the integration of the community and the police department is critical for crimes in progress, and I can't tell you how much I depend on your eyes and ears when I'm responding to an emergency call through our dispatcher to affect an arrest and to make an arrest.

And then the last one there seems to be a lot of speeding in the areas of West Salem what the Salem PD have do we have a plan to address this? Yes, however, the traffic control unit that is specializing in traffic enforcement are motorcycle cops. They're also flying drones for homicide scenes and fatal pedestrian crashes in I know West Salem has experienced some tragedies with pedestrian fatalities. And so, when the traffic control unit is assigned to those cases those cases take the motorcycle cops off the road for quite a bit of time. Now, what we are looking at is photo red light and speed on green and those capabilities what we found with test studies, especially like that commercial and Madrona South Commercial and Madrona is if we put in speed on Green at that intersection that we would have potentially. More tickets written per month and we would have to hire more Court staff and we would have two more hire more police officers. And so even though we could enforce it at a standard that only computers and artificial intelligence would allow us. It would overwhelm our systems as to what those triggers are going to be. So there's some interesting social questions as to the role of artificial intelligence and policing and what the tolerances are for the for the community so I can tell you when I see a violation, I stopped a violation and my cops do as well with our called Tempo with 11 officers for the city the size of Salem about a hundred seventy nineish thousand surging more people during the day because the state capitol we run a lot of calls for service and we have a very fast tempo police department and we are going call to call to call to call to call our priority from our new chief.

Chief Womack is Life safety protection of property enforcing a violations and fractions and then follow-up investigations. And if I have to make a decision between a physical domestic and going to a call where somebody is getting assaulted by their spouse or traffic violations, then I have to go to the domestic and I'm sure we all understand that so on a daily basis I make those calls as to even what domestic are we going to go to do? I have to keep this one from impending why I respond to this physical domestic, so we were constantly working that balance. So it's the in the enforcement of infractions is a priority. It's the response to potentially violent persons crime is what our priority is. We spend a lot of time doing that and so I truly appreciate the questions and that's kind of a once over the world with the questions now, I'll just put it back. I'm here for as long as you need me.

What questions do you have for me?



Mike: Looks like you have taken the time and answering that I appreciate it.

Lt. I love the questions. Thank you for the preparation.

Yes, Beverly Lieutenant Van Meter. Thank you very much for your time.

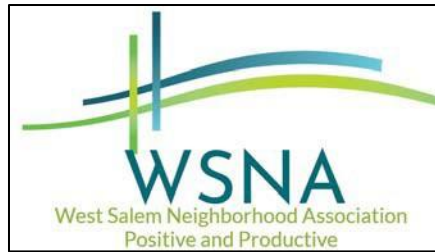
I do have a couple of questions just because I'm also on a couple of other Facebook groups which cover the West Salem area and it seems to be a lot of frustration in places where citizens are required for insurance purposes, get a case number issued if they get a car break excreta and people seem to be pretty cynical about reporting, minor or more what I would say, we're more minor property crimes to the police department for either lack of resolution or arrests. Is there anything that we could possibly comment on or provide for people?

Lt. VanMeter That's an awesome question. I sent Irma Dowd who is the neighborhood association leader for the City contact information for how to file a police report online and that allows people to get a case number to report it to their insurance companies. And so that should be forthcoming through Irma

Mike Any other questions for the Lt. Let us go ahead and close. Thanks, Lieutenant, for being here tonight.

Jim Lewis: I sure hate to put you on the spot because I think this was a question for grant for Gretchen, but I'd like to hear both people's perspective on it. And that is the issue of the litter in the garbage on the side of the road as you come around the corner from Wallace over the bridge as it was Salem resident. I've noticed that changing over the last few months and it's been cleaned up but yet it is almost instantaneously again, so from a law enforcement standpoint, but can you are you doing about that?

Lt. VanMeter >Great question sir, and it's something from that I'm passionate about from my days as a downtown enforcement team sergeant and working collaboratively with the churches and the nonprofits and the governmental organizations that respond to unsheltered and oftentimes it's quite simple to go in those camps and ask kind of the question. Bring that stuff in to also take it out. So being able to talk to some of the church leadership about an exchange program for sleeping bags. If they give one out they have to receive one for disposal and so that type of collaboration which is important when dealing with unsheltered from a law enforcement perspective. The most visual issue is the garbage and then you have the mental illness and the addiction and the physical injury, so as for four components that I look at as law enforcement officer as a Salem police officer trying to deal with unsheltered populations. And the garbage is the easiest to quantify in the easiest to clean up quite frankly, but the amount of resources it takes to clean up that garbage is very tremendous and it's dangerous work. A lot of companies won't do it because of the needles and the stuff that is in that garbage. So getting the



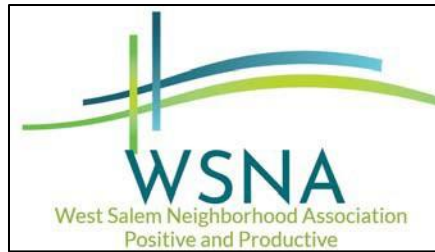
community to understand that garbage is Problem not just giving them resources. That's we need to push resources out. But then how are we collecting resources on the back end from that transaction? So it has to be a two-way transaction for in order to start making effort in that in that clean up. And that's a that's a conversation that is ongoing with different organizations. Yes, ma'am.

Virginia Stapleton Yeah, I just have a question here. We're coming off a pretty hard challenging year just for our society and for our city and you guys have had a change of leadership right in the middle of that and I was just wondering can you tell us how the morale is down there with your with your fellow officers how everybody's handling that change of leadership. I've had the privilege of talking with the chief and he seems like an amazing guy. So, I am just wondering how things are going down there from your perspective.

Lt.> Thank you councilor. That is an excellent question. I see morale as having three pillars in the three pillars of morale or you are good at what you do people appreciate what you do and you're and you're well trained. And so, we are very well trained in the Salem Police Department. We have we have quarterly training. We have firearms training defensive tactics training conflict simulation training and emergency vehicle operations training quarterly. So, every three months we have those survival skills training not so much from COVID-19, but now that we're starting to get immunized that's going to help our training, but we trained as a police department as much as agencies in the Midwest. The South train their SWAT teams. And so we train constantly in a it shows on the streets from a leadership perspective and we're good at what we do. I think that's a self-assessment part of morale is a lack of self-pity if I could borrow some stuff from General Mattis Marine Corps General I served under and the early 2000s. If you have high morale you have low self-pity and my cops love to do what they do and they love to go to work and they look forward to signing on and serving the community and then people appreciate what we do and I think it's there's never been a better time to be a police officer in Salem where the amount of people that say. Thank you is overwhelming. So, I would say the morale is high now with the change from a neuroscience perspective is not unlike an argument with your spouse and so cops don't like change, but they also don't like to stay the same. So, there is a challenge in law enforcement leadership is they do not like change, and they do not like changing. So, with the new police department the new Chief the morale is high but there's always conflict and change, and we've been navigating through that and chief Womack is we're glad to have them in the Wheelhouse because he's a tremendous leader. So, the council did an amazing job of picking him. Thank you.

Mike> I am going to step in here and ask a question of quick has there been any training, or do you have any assistance when you go out on a call that might involve a mentally Disturbed or ill person? I mean how you treat how you handle that situation? Have you received any special training in that area?

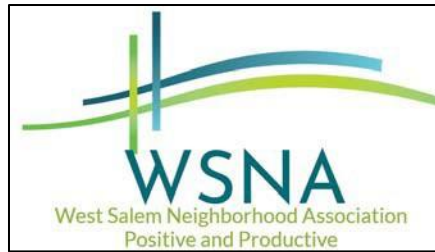
LT> I love that question. If I was going to give you a question to ask me. That was that is the one I would have emotionally disturbed people is I was also a super the supervisor of the behavioral health unit. And so, we have in Salem qualified mental health professionals riding around with teams with officers that



are called Crisis Intervention team trained or CIT trained officers. And so they're two people cars that drive right around and that's all we deal with is mental health calls and with a qualified mental health professional in the car with us. It gives us such a better probability of a positive outcome past the doors of the hospital. Then I can quantify because we have, we do not have the data on that yet. But the amount of amount of respect that a qualified mental health professional gets inside the hospital and can diagnose and start to dictate treatments is critical for the outcome for the patient. But then also getting to know the person that the switch and law enforcement between calling a person a suspect and a patient is profound and you'll see that now with mental health calls emotionally disturbed people calls as we're calling them patience and that it's a different Dynamic when it comes to using force not using Force talking about medications talking about patient care talking about outcomes things that cops have never traditionally talked about is now part of our normal vernacular and that's really exciting to me. I teach that at the police academy the Veterans Affairs mental health perspective. So I'm going to structure out at the police academy and they get I can't remember the exact numbers of The hours of mental health training at the Academy but it's almost quadrupled in the last five or five or 10 years and you have cops that are starting to learn terms like empathy grounding like therapist grounding techniques, and that's truly exciting. So when you have a cop that is looking at how to ground a patient Vice how to use Force against the suspect were ages away from where we used to be Thank you lieutenant.

Jason stats here. Thanks for being here this evening. Could you talk to us about implicit bias training that the department has received and the ongoing training that you'll be receiving hopefully in the future and either how that's benefited the department or if you're still waiting for that training.

Lt> Yeah, so we did have we have in-service training and it's a Two days of training and implicit bias has been a class within that training and as we start to contemplate as an organization now, we're starting to train a get together again diversity Equity inclusion and what that looks like in the future with our current political social Dynamic and the terrain that we're operating and now how do we get better? And that's where I Rely quite heavily on Gretchen and what she has to bring to our agency now, I think I alluded to the fact that I served under General Mattis in the early 2000s as a Marine Corps infantry officer. And one of the best examples I have of diversity is a Marine Corps Rifle Company where you have marines that are from South Chicago South Central Los Angeles within that same company. You have Marines from Colorado. You have Marines for Montana. And so we're all one to get we're one thing where Marine Corps infantry unit. And when we go into different parts of the world's if I was in Fallujah Iraq, then the Marines that were that had grown up in South Central or South Chicago where critical to the survival of the unit when we went to add Northeast Afghanistan the Marines that grew up in Colorado Oklahoma critical to the survival of the unit and together. We survived some crazy stuff. And that is where we want as a police Mark to be and what the chief wanted me to. Us tonight as we need more diversity equity in the police department, if you are looking to be a police officer, please come see me. We need more people. We need female applicants. We need by POC applicants. We need more diversity because of that reason that I have of the Marine Corps infantry companies the more diverse.



We are the stronger we are we need more applicants. So, if you know somebody please send them my way. I would love to bring them aboard and get them wearing a badge so we can be a better Police Department because of it.

Mike> any other questions for lieutenant,

Jason> I have just one more follow-up question to what you said there. Do you personally feel that the police department has the financial resources to reach outside of the Salem Oregon area to diversify the workforce in your community currently well, and that might be a different? In pay grade, but yes, I think that is different. I am just, you know, simply curious because I know we have some people here tonight that can help influence that Yeah.

LT> No, I am going outside of the city of Portland PD does a really good job of doing that, getting into New York, and bringing people to the West Coast to support their diversity equity and inclusion, but it's expensive and we have overtime costs we have vehicle costs maintenance costs no excuse, but it is a priority for chief Womack. And so it's exciting to see what he's going to do over the next year. But diversity Equity inclusion is one of Priorities that he hammers he is just getting on deck and starting to Sprint and I know it will be a priority in his agenda.

Go Ahead, E.M.> Lieutenant thank you so much for being here one of the topics that continually rattles around and West Salem conversation is our campers in Wallace Marine Park a specific question, what kind of interaction or travel through between some of the officers and the Changing sights of the residents in the park actually takes place on a daily or weekly basis for a downtown enforcement team.

LT> I can speak from in. The first person is I had personal relationships with the people it we are on first name basis. Well, they would call me Van Meter and I would call them Mr. Whatever their last name was, but I got to know them as a person. I got to know their story and that is about the only way. We're going to be able to move the needle a little bit at a time. We can't let perfect be the enemy of good when it comes to unsheltered. And even if I just make a little bit of an influence and Improvement because I know that person's name. That's a start and we have in in Salem What's called the lead program law enforcement assisted diversion, and it's from Marion County Health and its people that have been in prison and they have been addicts and now they're on the other side of their recovery. And they go into the community and put people into Addiction Services. And so, if we're looking at police officers to solve this problem, we're going to be wholly unsuccessful because I don't have the letters behind my name to affect a real influence. I need MD and PHD's out there in the field with me to make a change the law enforcement assisted diversion Navigators. The ones that have been consumers they've been addicts they've been in prison they can come out and gain immediate rapport with the people and get them into counseling programs about two years faster than I can because there's a lot of trauma that goes along with my uniform and I understand that it's exciting. We live in a time where police officers are talking about trauma-informed care. And I understand when I show up, I am freaking people out. I am not going to make much of a movement and getting them healthy, but when a navigator shows up, they 180° get people into treatments and that is what we need to be focused on not



enforced. But treatments and education and not through law enforcement through law enforcement assisted diversion programs. All I can do is get to know their name give them a cup of coffee when they need it when they are in crisis. Give them give them space give them time. Let them have the crisis and then keep the community safe. There's times where I have to draw a line and if they're going to hurt you or your grandkids or your kids or your spouse then I have to do cop stuff, but for the most part, I have a tremendous amount of time and I just have to be patient with the people that Are in crisis and understand that their patients not necessarily suspects. So, it is a new environment for sure.

EM> Lieutenant. That is a message. We in West Salem clearly need to hear.

Leroy Hedberg > Go back to the trash situation. I know under the under the bridges and etcetera where these guys are is not there some way you can Corral them. To clean up their own trash. It is a mess wherever they are even down in front of my place. So, what is being done?

LT> great question, sir, great question. And in the mission from a marketing perspective, I had conversations with leadership that the Union Gospel Mission about developing teams that could go out and clean up around the mission and they were there were successful for time that it was in. In progress. However, it is very time intensive and it's kind of kind of waned off because it does take a lot of energy and resources. It is it would take somebody not unlike a navigator to be down there and supervise them. But then also give them some type of reward for that and there are some people in the different camps that they little Society starts to form. They usually have a mayor they have a security detail. They have medical treatment, and they will start to form their own little society and there is usually somebody who really wants to keep the camp clean. And it is just a matter of getting boots on the ground figuring out who that person is and then empowering that person to be able to make decisions to help affect the cleanup. So, it's a very complicated thing sociology problem that we're working through, but it is the end goal. My goal is to clean up the parks and how we get there is extremely complicated when you overlay addiction and mental health issues.

Mike> so I am going to take the lieutenant off the off the hook for a little bit. We are going to move over here, and we will put a Gretchen underneath the microscope for a little bit and let her talk a little bit about what is going on with the city and the homeless the park if you could do that but since there has been several questions. I know you have some things to say, but from since there has been some several questions. Let us tackle the first the first thing that is on several people's minds are that's been brought up a couple times. We are talking about specifically Wallace Road where it goes under Highway 22 the trash and the boulders that are falling on that road. What I am afraid of is I've seen Boulders on there is that a car is going to come across? the corner and hit one of these Boulders and we're going to have a massive accident and I think Gretchen you've already confirmed this this might be a ODOT responsibility and not a city responsibility if you could explain that a little bit more because then I'm going to ask the two city council is here how they can help get us ODOT support so go ahead Gretchen



Gretchen> well absolutely although the City of Salem has a geographic boundary that is Salem there's different Property Owners of course throughout the city you know like we have private property owners and County property owners and one of the interesting threads of Salem is all of the State Highway and state jurisdiction that runs right through and that area you're describing is one of the areas that is the state's jurisdiction and responsibility so far I as well Many of you have been communicating to the state about this is an issue for West Salem. This is the safety concern. This is also just too much garbage and they have been episodically coming out, cleaning, and trying to manage the space. But you're catching. My ear was the word boulder. I have seen garbage thrown down just myself as a resident of West Salem and traveling there. But if you can verify for me that you are also seeing Boulders that might up the ante I what I did. And after getting your question is asked about a more permanent solution. Like is there some sort of netting or fencing or something that we can do to somehow Harden the target if you well in addition to just cleaning all the time. Can we do anything on the prevention side, but I'm seeing some nods it sounds like people have actually seen to me a boulder is a large Rock. Are you seeing those as well as garbage?

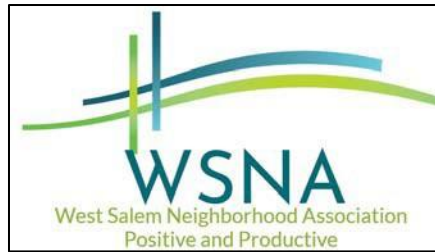
Okay. Mr. Garcia is nodding.

All right. I'll tell him I'll tell him then. That's what I'm hearing as well as boulders.

On garbage more generally though. We've got a group of people made up of the garbage haulers Association and the folks that receive garbage like Covanta and the counties and us Walking through the workflow of what it would be like to have a system for receiving all of the garbage at the locations where people who are unsheltered and not technically legally supposed to be our and that would really take a partnership with people who are camping as well as the nonprofit Street Outreach teams to make that successful like for example, we've just recently confirmed ODOT will come on. Regular basis to Market and I-5 and pick-up garbage there and that has taken a partnership with some volunteers and nonprofits to prepare the site each day working with campers to ensure the garbage's, you know picked up and in bags and in a designated spot and ODOT will come through and pick it up. We are working on that sort of system for a regional solution at the areas, but gosh, it is slow-going. It is just embarrassing to me personally as an employee. To see all these spots and it is hard not to just get out and clean it all up fast because it just makes me bonkers at all the sites and we'll go out and do a clean and then I'll turn around and it's the best again. It is just it's just ridiculous.

But we were at Wallace on Friday and removed if you can imagine 7.5 heavy dump trucks. That's how much we got out of Wallace on Friday. We hit a City record for the amount of garbage coming out of a place in one day. And we're doing daily garbage pickup at Wallace, but then we're doing monthly deep cleans like what we did on Friday as well to try to get a handle on that. But if you want I can pause and see if there's questions about garbage specifically like Lieutenant. I really want to see good Solutions on that.

Go ahead Gretchen.



Paul Alley Well, Michael I have a question. Gretchen thanks for the information. You said you're the there's daily garbage pickups is that just kind of stuff that's just left and like on sidewalks or something or is there a dumpster or a receptacle that people are voluntarily putting stuff in there's dumpsters and receptacles. And then also you're speaking about being able to pick up the garbage and then you mention deep cleaning on Friday. Well Saturday morning, my wife and I parked down at Wallace Marine Park walked across the railroad bridge and as you go across a railroad bridge going into town on your immediate left is We call a dump site for the homeless Community there and it looks to me like probably quite a few people have dumped things there because there's many bicycle rims and tires and another stuff. And you know, if you were picking up seven-and-a-half dump trucks of garbage, I would think that would have been one of the places you cleaned out. So yeah, I guess go back to what e-m said. There's a lot of Of work, you know still to be done and I really appreciate the fact that it is I daily deal and like Leroy was saying is there, you know some way to encourage the people in the camps who are the more you know, what we want to call a neat nicks, you know to help pick up the stuff and get it gathered so it can be taken out.

Gretchen> I am getting I am sad to hear that I haven't been there myself since late last week. But before the cleanup I am disappointed to hear that they didn't get the area you described because I think I know what you're talking about. I am going to have to see how quickly We're not scheduled to come back for a month. So, I don't want to I don't want to get hopes up but that's troubling to me. And so, I need to see what else can be done there. We did we did work for a while with an incentive program. Where we were providing \$10 gift cards in exchange for people keeping their areas clean like to McDonald's for example, so if you kept the garbage picked up around your personal campsite, we would be able to receive the garbage and haul it away as well as provide a \$10 gift card and that had some success. That was one thing we tried.

Mike>Yes, Virginia, yeah, I just wanted to add something to the conversation in the emails that Mr. Lewis and I have been receiving about these garbage cleanups that have been going on we did ask the question of you know to give us an estimate of how long it would take to get the whole area cleaned up and they estimated that they only got a tenth of what was there so that kind of gives people I think a better understanding of the amount of work that's out there to do. And also, just confirmation that you're not imagining things. It doesn't look like much was done even though a lot really was taken away, but they're just as so much there that it's just really going to take some time for us to get it all cleaned up.

Thank you there.



Leroy you had a question? Yes. I go back to this as a homeowner. I'm required to keep my stuff clean. I can't throw my garbage in the front yard and yet these people are not welcome to come in and dumped their stuff and then leave it there and then Gretchen you got to send somebody out to fix it up Lieutenant. You got to go down there and do it. Can you not tell these people if they want to live there that they must clean their stuff provide the garbage cans or whatever or else tell him to leave. I don't understand it.

Gretchen> So it's that's an area where I'm going to Lt. VanMeter please jump into because you're you've certainly been at this a lot longer than me, but that's an area that has been of particular concern to me is that we often have a real limited ability to compel someone you have like because that makes so much sense and I can't tell you how many times my mom voice is come out and I've just exactly wanted to come down and just explain that to everybody.

Look. This is the only way this is going to work if you know, we're we opened the park because of COVID to try to have physically distant space and if we can't keep a clean or not, you know, it's not going to be a choice and however, you know, I've talked with Campers at Wallace and it's I'm not a qualified mental health professional but there are some significant behavioral health issues. And then there are also a lack of sticks if you well in the carrot stick Continuum, we can incentivize and we can provide supports and we can be encouraging and We can provide resources but when it comes down to it, there's no sticks. So, like if I were to talk to my kiddo about cleaning up their room at the end of the day, I need to be able to follow through with a consequence and with the jail not accepting people who commit this level of crime and with our legal system not interesting interested in citing people financially for these types of crimes.

There are certainly some that are just not interested in participating and We're not able to compel a different Choice. I am going to pause there. Make sure Lieutenant Van Meter doesn't disagree with that.

Mike> Gretchen you brought up a good point Lieutenant. Why will the Jail's not accept is it due to COVID-19 or is it because of the it's a minor offense both you live on the

Lt.> Polk County side. So, the Polk County Jail is much more amicable about getting People into custody keeping them in custody, but literary and said it's a such a low-level City misdemeanor that they're not going to stay for very long. And so, the compelling governmental interest for littering is is fairly low.

Now when you have 5,000 people that's just a number, I pulled out of this not the term, but when you have that many people drop in gum on the sidewalk, then that's going to create more of a societal issue that will have to pay attention to and so the other issue becomes having worked part of the firm several months with Riverbend the place.

That is just to the to the east of Wallace Marine Park some of the issues that occur when people establish residency in Polk County as the district attorney was weighing in on the legal decisions that they must have. Remedies as far as being able to eject or evict each specific person from their area even



though essentially, they said they could establish residency on River bends private property. So now Riverbend was property owner and they had to evict each person which had a filing cost and so you get courts and lawyers involved in it becomes a process. Thank you.

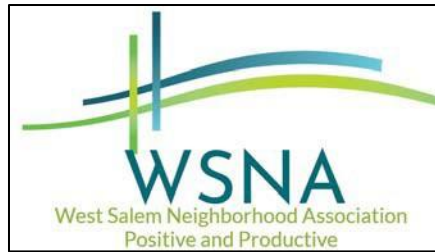
Gretchen>We have not been able to like to overlay a management system. For example, like in these areas for some of the legal reasons that Lieutenant Van Meter. Did we are at work on a plan to safely unwind the camping at the parks which has as one of the tenants the idea that we would want to open additional locations that have a management system. You know that have someone who is checking people in and out and staff, security, and those. We are not confident. Everyone will go will not confident. Everyone will participate in a location like that. But if we have more locations available along those lines, we go further on the Continuum of being able to then enforce our time manner Place restrictions more effectively. The legal landscape is such that we can't just say well you can't be anywhere, you know, you figure it out. Yeah, you have to according to the recent case law you need to be able to say as in you could argue you'd want to be able to say depending on your perspective here is where people are able to be and so opening up additional locations is a key part of the overall ability to say where you can't be if that makes sense.

Mike> So Gretchen, I want to I want to I want to bring up one of the questions that I receive that I forwarded to you because you are leading right into that. Somebody has provided me question that it seems like the city council has been talking about this for two years and we still not have a solid plan in place and how many more years will the council resort to emergency measures instead of developing a plan. I like to hear the city's response to this question for the people in West Salem and I like to hear what to the city councilors say about these two questions because this is our neighbors who are saying this, and I do not know if this is true or not. I am just reading something that somebody passed.

Gretchen>Yes, absolutely. Oh counselor. I would defer to you first of course. Oh sure.

Jim Lewis>Thanks, you know a couple of things. I believe the city has have a plan for three years now starting with the housing first initiatives that we put out three years ago. And I and we've been working on the plan as Loose as it may be its fluid but there are two things that have come in that greatly influence the ability of the City to perform the one is of course COVID-19 we are now close to our second year of having to completely throw out any potential plan that we had and now are in emergency situations. The second thing that has a dramatic ramification on our efforts is the state of Oregon. We were close to getting financing for our navigation Center. The bill was prepared. It was ready to go and the special session ended.so we're hoping that this year that bill will be picked upand move forward but as a practical matter any plan whether it's the cities the counties the state's communities is going to require financing and without that financing it slows things down.

Gretchen> I can add that there's a plan on the website and I can also provide it if you like with the mid-Willamette Valley homelessness Alliance which is our regional collaboration Marion County Polk County City of Salem City a Kaiser that's a strategic plan for it includes quite a few of the tenants addressing this and this councilor Lewis said there are gaps in the revenue needed to really actualize the plan



everything I read speaks to key part of success is opening up more locations like what we opened in July on Fisher Road.

It's a housing strategy that has staff on site because you've got folks that we have learned through our housing rental assistance program will blast out of housing if we just get people into housing there are some who will succeed in there are others who will not without staff on site and so there's kind of there's all these different approaches that are needed depending on the situation and then each need more dollars you know like the waiting list Salem housing authority isn't open right now do the lack of federal funding for.

Section 8 vouchers I met someone in the Parks who is just aching to get into housing but and has a Section 8 voucher but can't find a unit to rent I met another person at Wallace recently who is ready to go and Sounds like she has a place but she needs a state-issued ID and I was working with the lead navigator that Lieutenant Van Meter brought up and the lead Navigator was describing to me the slowness and getting this person a state-issued ID, but was soon as she has that then she'll be able to get into housing.

There are all these different barriers that that are emerging but that is at the heart of our plan. We also presented a plan at city council. All in on January 11th to safely unwind camping at Wallace and Cascades Park and it includes individualized problem solving with each person on okay.

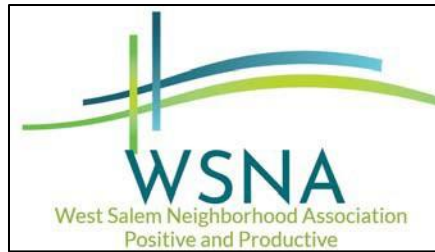
What is the barrier? How can we resolve that in collaboration with our street Outreach teams as well as we're opening locations like the Community Action Agency is opening more Hotel Beds and family promises opening more Sheltering were the to the park organization is opening more managed operations? We are working on opening more locations that we hope will help but that doesn't mean that all of the needs are the particular unique barriers have been addressed by what's out there.

There is our progress will be accelerated dramatically if we had the right solutions that fit the situations and more Revenue to support it and more identities. Or culturally specific Community Partners are organizations that were able to connect particular people to is another huge need in the area.

Beverly> I have a question.

Mike >Go ahead.

Mr. Lewis or Ms. Stapleton. Is it possible that your office? Mr. Lewis? You mentioned the bill that you're looking for it and a hopeful about going through that will give some funding to get things moving for an alternative solution for the houseless population it is there some kind of information or bullet points of what is included in that bill that you could get to the president of our association who can then pass I ton to the membership here that talks about what's in that what the intentions are behind that that would be great I don't know I wouldn't even know where to start to look for that .



Jim> I would I'm currently serving on the city's legislative committee and I don't know if you no but the city has a paid lobbyist who represents the city on in the capital and I can get that information and I'll get it to Michael thank

Mike> Gretchen, we had this conversation. I wanted to bring it up with since we have Jim and Virginia here. I we had the back I said we talked a couple of weeks ago about this and I brought I talked to you about because I have seen I saw it in the news with others other cities in Oregon and I'm concerned.

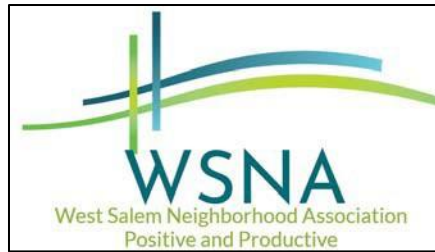
I mean, we have had a dry winter per say and it is going to start getting worse. And having the homeless out there in the park in this weather. I just it is just not it's not a good thing. And I know that I mentioned to you .Like I said, I saw other cities that they use parking garage at least as a place to keep them out of the weather. Now, I know we had this conversation. I know the city owns the parking garage is but it's the businesses that don't want the cities the people down there. Nobody wants the homeless in their backyard.

I mean, I'm sure that you hear that from everybody, but we need to understand that these individuals can't be out in this weather and we need to do something to help these individuals. So I don't understand why we there's got to be some type of structure that surround the can take them out of the weather to help protect them during this winter that we could use some where's and I just I'm looking for if there is why can't we do this, you know, It's just not a you know, I mean, I'm worried about their safety with the weather if it starts to rain starts to flood out there.

Everything's going to get into the river and then we have a you know, we have other issues environmental issues with this garbage going in the river. So it just a it's a it's a catch-22 one, you know the balloon. I'll keep getting bigger and bigger here if we can't stop something. So any thoughts around that at all, yeah,

Gretchen>I can offer to we kind of have a two-part strategy on that particular issue. now that I wouldn't I'll pause of course in case our counselors would have anything to add and you know and maybe would be interested in the garages because the garages are a key part of the Vitality of the downtown we've been trying not to not to open those there it's tempting because we own them and they're indoors absolutely but because of the Vitality that they bring to the downtown core and we have looked at them and from a security standpoint Point aren't excited from public safety security standpoint we predicted some issues could occur when we took a look at it we're just really hungry for locations that do make sense.

Many of you have asked about the fairgrounds for example and we are very actively talking with the fairgrounds and are in and kind of an agreement development stage to be able to use one of the larger buildings and parking lot on the Here of the fairgrounds. So as to minimize impacts to the neighbors there and take advantage of some of that appropriate indoor space it will of course be temporary



because we need to be able to be ready for a different solution when they're able to reopen events again, but I'm hoping that that'll buy us a little bit of time while we look for other suitably large properties that might be available.

We have some active research happening to look for other locations and then and then we are I'm doing a feasibility study on a couple of other locations that we hope are ultimately in a better position to serve this population and not have the impact to the downtown by taking over the garages. I will pause in case anyone wants to add.

Jim >Yeah, couple of things one. There are actually people sleeping in the in the garages they use them for their bathrooms, and it has become very problematic and that's why the city Doesn't tend to that just like we don't want them on the sidewalks in downtown. I am going to say that if nothing else one thing we have learned about the rainy season is that you cannot have campers park next to the river.

And so, we need to push them back so that they will never ever be affected by flooding no matter no matter where they are. And that is something that I think we can accomplish now that they have been pushed back and quite frankly the river and the Creek Mill Creek do not have cash. Uppers many on The Creeks are the river itself. And so we need to enforce that but this would be a good time to put out the plea because we've been doing this for over two years.

Gosh, if you know anybody who has an empty building that would let us lease it or rent. It will look at anything. We will look at anything not everything works, but we are willing to look and we are asking a been asking if there is anybody that has any suggestions let us know.

Jason> And I am like to add that it would be helpful commissioner Lewis and Stapleton if we just had a list like how do we support you during the legislative session? What type of letters do you need from our association to help push forward; you know getting those the funding Michael II do love the idea of those garages downtown. The services are closed. It makes sense. And since we have lost Nordstrom, I don't know that I would really call it downtown. But you know, I the degradation of downtown has been occurring for so long. I say well, let us just, you know use the resources that we have especially since it just makes sense that the Union Gospel Mission is right their arches is right there just such proximity. And then to have development of resources so far away from those institutions. To me that doesn't make sense and I do as a local business owner. I also understand the other argument and I don't necessarily know what the solution is either.

Mike> Virginia wanted to have some stuff there.

Virginia>Yeah, I just I just really thank Louis and Bennett for all their things that they are saying tonight. I could not agree with the more, but I wanted to add I just a couple of things. This is you know, when I ran this last time this was the number one issue for all of us and I think that it's the number one issue for every counselor right now on Council and so it is taken very seriously and I also want to say that it took us a really long time to get here to this place in our society where we have this kind of problem and it's



going to take time sadly to get out and I share your frustration about you know, winter was coming, of course.

As we knew there was rain coming in flooding coming why didn't we have a plan, but I think the city does their plan is just always changing it's like we're on a really steep learning curve and every time we try something and maybe it doesn't work then we kind of have to adjust but the good thing is that all of that Playbook is being recorded all of the things we've tried are being recorded and we're fine tuning

Our approach and I think that as this continues and we're going to get even better and better at at how to handle some of these problems and I also want to say that there's just a lot of hope I think in this so many things have been ramping up over the last two years the housing that we're building the different things that councilor Lewis was talking about and the funding opportunities people are talking and we're trying to figure this out so I'm really hopeful even though it seems really quite dire right now so yeah I just And add that to the conversation.

Mike>I appreciate that, and I appreciate what is going on and what you are trying to do in the city. One of the things that I am going to throw out here is transparency.

I'm very big on transparency and to the city is doing things but you put all your stuff in on the website in you know, it's from special meetings in this and that it would probably you know, and I'll be one of me be the only person the Salem website is not an easy website to navigate least. I have difficulty trying to find things in that website.

But you know, I would love to see a monthly update on here is what the activities going on so I can share with the neighbors out here. What is going on? Here is what the city's working on. Here is what is going on.

I know you have it on websites, but you know a communication that comes out from us and in from the city councilors or from Gretchen herself here's what's going on here's what the plans are so that I could pass it on to our community out of here and say Here's what's going on folks here's what they're looking at feedback that I could turn around and give you that feedback back and provide a backup that's we want to have this partnership will working together to try to solve this problem and work as a team so if what I'm asking is reach out to us so that we can share it and try to get the community to give some ideas and come back I mean we'll put out again we'll put out make sure that in that if anybody has any property available that could house individuals please let us know and we'll get you know we'll get them with the right people to contact you so go ahead Mr. Lewis

Jim> yeah, I perfect timing because Gretchen and I talked about this exact thing and she has volunteered to do a communication with not just the West Salem neighborhood but all of Everyone associations on a monthly basis. I hope I'm not speaking out of turn Gretchen but on a monthly basis and I think it's a great idea and it sounds to me like that's exactly the addition of communication that you're looking for.



What we need to realize is that their own they will be months where that communication will be long all kinds of things have happened. They will be months where nothing is happened. And so you're going to get the same thing you got the month before but I agree the communication is important. Thank you.

Gretchen> I will add one quick little Thing I see there's other questions. Our web page is going to undergo some changes in the future. It is I believe its current underlying structure won't be supported for much longer. So, it is going to require an update to the webpage. So, if there's ideas or suggestions, I think will be I will not be working on that myself that I believe will be soliciting some input on an update to the page.

Mike> That was just my opinion how many people might love the web page? I am just telling you I have difficulty with.

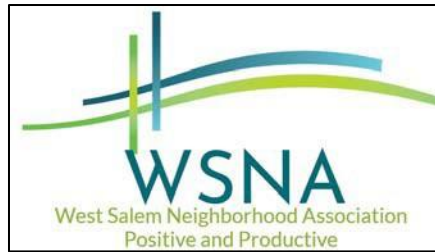
Leroy.> As a businessperson and I'm retired but I do still have a business it bothers me when you say move them into a parking structure moving into the business areas the businesses in Salem are struggling. Okay COVID-19 has really made a lot of businesses struggle and we are not reaching out to help them.

We are doing the best we can because the restrictions but also with the homeless. You know, it was a time. They removed him right into town. Nobody wanted to go down through that town. I went down through there and they were cursing at me, you know, and I do not like that, and we need to spend more effort and West Salem and in Salem to help the businesses grow to keep this a Riff Raff.

I do not want to know what you want to call it out of the area where people are not afraid to come in and Shop. We need the business. We do not want to see it go down. Look at what has happened out on the out on Lancaster. I mean that that that shopping center is going downhill may they their businesses are empty then a lot of it is due to this kind of stuff. So, I want to put my two bits in as a businessperson is come on help us out a little bit here. Let us build a Salem back up. So, people and must go to Albany or to Portland to do the shopping. They should be able to do it right here. And I do not know why Nordstrom left, but this is a part of it. I really do. We got him be careful and Jim II appreciate that. You do support us on the council, and we need more guys like you to help do that because we are suffering businesses are suffering. We need your help.

Mike> Okay. so Gretchen do you want to give us an overall like any kind of what's an update of what is all going on or are you anything you want to add.

Gretchen> certainly yeah but I mean the there's the plan to safely unwind the parks is at the center of it right now respecting and recognizing the camping at Wallace and Cascades is not sustainable so working with our street Outreach teams and with nonprofits to locate solutions that are that makes sense that fit the people that we can work incrementally rigorously to help people find Alternatives and wind down the camping at the park says as the area of focus as well as the garbage project is also one that I'm actively working on. I for all the discussions we have already had there are gaps. There is not there is not a lot of diversity among tour nonprofit provider Community.



There's not the type of Behavioral Health homes group homes locations that fit the needs of the people who are there we've got some significant gaps that that I'm really preoccupied with what to do about and talking with County and state Partners about but that's really the area of Focus right now.

Mike> Yes, Beverly

Beverly >Gretchen and the two counselors. This is best definitely directed at all of you. My biggest concern is and my most direct question. I can ask at this point. Is there a sense of urgency and by that? I mean, it is frustrating over the two-year period to hear were working on we are working on we are working on. I am at the point of frustration. where am I saying Ready? Fire aim is a better option to try anything right.

Now. This situation is dire. It is dangerous for both the houseless and the people in the community that want to be able to use the facilities that have been taken over. It is known there is a ton of bleed over at this point. Now where people have been encouraged to move away from the Riverside because of the weather situation and now you are seeing it start to bleed right back in again to downtown where the businesses are. So, I appreciate Leroy's concern and comments from that perspective so it just seems like we're in this endless chase our tail thing without a lot of urgency this is an emergency situation for these people as far as health and everything goes it's an emergency situation for the businesses and I'm just frustrated and at the point of what do we do and it's no wonder everybody's throwing their hands up because it doesn't seem to be treated with the urgency I think it needs to have so that I know what I'm saying standing on a soapbox for 30 seconds thank you .

Gretchen> I know I'm feeling a tremendous amount of urgency. I think that for everything you just listed for everyone in our community this is untenable and it's an emergency situation absolutely I think that it's been striking to me How slow some of the accomplishments are you know, you hop you kind of have an idea when you start like counselor Stapleton said about like you try something you think okay, we can go in this Direction all we can hope we can't.

Oh shoot. We lost this cannot afford that this person. We cannot compel them to cooperate with this.

There is it's amazing the barriers we hit but I know I'm feeling a tremendous amount of urgency and looking for anything that I can do to solve it. There is a bigger picture of need happening in the community. That is it's going to take a real significant Regional solution. From what I can tell I think I think we're working with what we have but it looks to me like it's the issue is bigger than what we have.

But I do not mean to speak out of turn counselor. Go ahead.

Jim> Yes. I Beverly I could not agree with you more. There is nothing personally more frustrating than the situation. We are in now I am going to tell you it is the priority of the city council. That is the priority of the city.

I have been on Council for six years. I have said this before, but man do I do I long for the Simplicity of land use issues. This is the in my career, this is the most difficult thing that I have ever had had to deal



with and there is no answer. We are searching for it. I believe we are going down the right Road. I think we are moving in the right direction. But as has been said already tonight, it's going to take some time.

It is going to take some effort. But believe me it is the main it is the main issue for the city council and the city. Thank you.

Virginia> I just wanted to Moment to agree with cancer Lewis every conversation. I am having with counselors on the side, you know, Jim and I just had our conversation the other day and this was a huge part of our conversation how to figure this out and so that we can actually make some real progress. So we're all we're all there with you great. Thank you.

Mike>Thank you any other questions for Gretchen on the homeless or Wallace Park so Gretchen let me just ask you if you could give us I think it's your office. If you can't give us an update, maybe Lieutenant Van Meter.

Can how is the audit going for of the Salem Police? And can you just give a quick update maybe or what have you

Gretchen> I can I'm on the staff team that is working on that and there they've been Gathering a significant volume of information. They've had a number of conversations with individuals. And Community organizations and with officers and civilian staff in the Salem Police.

I think civilian staff in the Salem Police Department and have identified a list of themes and are building out more and more what they're seeing and hearing and kind of moving from the listening phase into the development of recommendations phase. They're working towards a report that will go to City Council in a public environment. Environment in partnership with its Community steering committee in mid-march. So, I guess that would be the high level update. There's a you can see the meetings of the steering committee on the web page. And also if anybody is wanting to share information or a specific situations, there is a place to click to be able to do that. So yeah, they're at work.

Mike> All right. Be following up with her Irma because she did meet with we All this neighborhood associations met with the agency doing the auditing and they were going to come back to us with some information later on.

I believe that is what they said Jason right that they were to follow up with us. So I'm going to reach out to Irma see if there's going to be a follow-up discussion with the neighborhood associations prior then posting because I've been following this on the website before they go to the city council. I just was curious Where We Are Our okay.

I want to open this up now and give it some time to both our city councilors if they like to talk a little bit.

I did jot some quick some just some couple of things about how you some of the things that we've got back and I think Mr. Lewis like you said, we're already one of the positives already that came out.



Is that the monthly reporting I mean, you know, I think we want to see some communication. Improve communication between the city council and the neighborhood associations. We want to get more of an open dialogue. I know that 'could be asking a lot because it's could be Pandora's box when you asked us for something because we might give you too much but I like to have your thoughts on how we can get a better working environment between us so they seem it seems like we're in two different boats and I like it get us at least in the same boat and talking a little bit more.

Jim> So I'll start if I could and this is not a cop-out but COVID-19 that has done a number on all of us in many ways. The opportunity for communication was much greater and will be greater again when we get past this but where I used to Offer to meet with any citizen at the urban Grange Coffee House on a Tuesday after the council meeting. I can no longer do that. And that was the one thing I guess other than having my name and email address and phone number out there for anybody to contact me.

That was really the only thing that that I was doing and I feel bad that I can't do that. I'm looking forward to being able to do it again, and I've actually cheated with a couple of folks maybe even on this call. Where we probably were there and shouldn't have been but that's what I can offer.

I'm open to anybody calling me. My phone number is out there. My email address is out there. I never turn down an invitation for a cup of coffee or especially at lunch and so I'd be glad to continue to do that when we're allowed to do that.

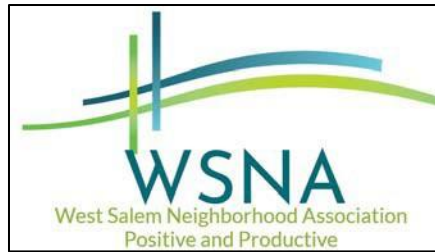
Mik> Virginia Did you want it?

Virginia >Sure? Yeah, it's when it comes to the issue of are unsheltered individuals. I know my feedback to Gretchen when we saw this list come out that report came out was to aim, you know kind of widen the net as far as who we are sending Direct Communications to include those that live directly around these parks that have been heavily affected just That they are really getting the information firsthand and in a timely manner whenever there's going to be a change or whatever it is. So I hope that that is something the city can do that was my two cents.

So when it comes to that that's what I wanted to say there and I'm with Mr. Lewis to like it's so challenging now with COVID-19 but I do hope to you know, do a little town halls or and I think it's vital that we go to our neighborhood association meetings and stay the whole time as long as we can to hear the concerns that people are having and then just always being available by email and phone and just trying to connect people to Solutions as much as we can.

So but I agree with you a great website a Communications team would be fantastic, but we're getting to that point the size of our city that we're going to start kneading just to invest in our communications And see how we can get it better to the people in a more timely manner.

Mike> Well, you know, I like again I want to I do appreciate you both being here today. You're always welcome to join our meetings every month, but I know that you are busy. I mean it's you know, you



have to have a balance of life and I understand that so but maybe a suggestion for the council for the district's you're in is that maybe quarterly you hold your own Zoom.

Town hall meeting and you publicize that that people can attend and previous question. Just giving us an update on what you're working on that might be some where's to connect with the rest of the community that it doesn't always attend these neighborhood association meetings. Just a way of communicating to others out there.

Virginia>That's like that is a great that's a great idea. I would love to start doing that. And I know when the schools are back in session. I'm hoping to attend the school meetings, you know. Are PTC minions or however, they meet every month just so to meet those young parents that cannot get to counsel at 6 p.m. On a weeknight of anybody who has young kids, you know that is the witching hour. So you're not going to be tuning in. So just trying to find people where they are at first and

Jim> I might add to it would be an idea for us to do it a joint town hall because I am technologically challenged.

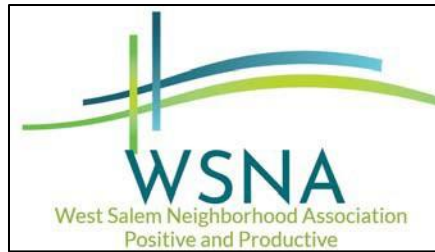
But I know Virginia I am here for you and we can set something up and do it together.

Jason Well, I certainly think that the West Salem neighborhood association could help support you in that process, you know about getting the word out setting up the zoom meeting and just I again I want to continue to say that these neighborhood associations do exist.

And there is so many people that want to help the City of Salem, but We don't know how and it's so often times feel like the City of Salem is in its bubble, but doesn't Reach Out beyond the bubble and into the into the everyday community and I know that's not necessarily the case, but you really truly have to be proactive as a community member to try and figure out where those opportunities are and it's difficult. It's not like there's a communication board like Michael was Saying what the City of Salem website where you can just say. Oh, hey, I have two hours today. And I'd like to see where I could volunteer contribute to my community and my neighborhood. So, I'll just go check that and boom. I'm on my way, you know, or or oh, hey, I can pick up garbage in my community.

I can just go online in the City of Salem can drop off tools right at my front door and then give me a map and I can go to do that. You know, it's like it just feels to me like again, there's still a lot of missing. Negativity pieces between the city and the citizens of Salem and so you know, how do we bridge that? And how do we leverage the neighborhood associations? Because they've been asking for a long time. It's my understanding, you know, I'm new to this but to me, it seems like it's a very old conversation. Thank you.

Virginia> Yeah. I also want to say for those of you who are on Facebook a few of the counselor. Is our Jim, are you on Facebook at all? I don't I don't want to assume. Okay, and you we do Post, you know, like the other day. I was posting volunteer opportunities for warming shelter and so being online with us as well. We're trying to get that information out as soon as possible. And when we do get



communication alerts, you know, we try and copy paste those and put them out on Facebook. So it's a good way to kind of stay connected in this weird world. We're living in

Jason>I would like to reply that people are leaving Facebook every day on an international level and your website with the City of Salem will always be more valuable to you than Facebook. Remember you don't own Facebook owns Facebook. And I think that when you invest more ownership into the city's website and communication there that is really going to be more beneficial in the long run. So just something to think about I agree.

Mike> So I just want to make sure that I did not create the idea of the zoom meeting. I took it from one of your fellow counsel people Vanessa. Nordyke has she actually has a ward 7 Zoom meeting January 28 that she set out to her neighbors to attend to a meeting.

So just through I want to follow that up let you guys know that some people are already doing that. And when it comes to West Salem is also putting together a web page because we want to move our information to a webpage instead of Facebook. But if you need to get information out to West Salem, if you get Irma anytime Irma wants something posted that like when she suggested let us know about the latest disease that was going through those affecting the dogs out at the park.

She sent me a flyer right away, and we post that up and got that out to the neighborhoods right away. And then that's Read through the neighborhood association through members and they passed it on. So if there's something that you want to get word out that we might not be seeing on your Facebook page get it through her and she knows how to contact me and we'll get it on to our Facebook page and post for you.

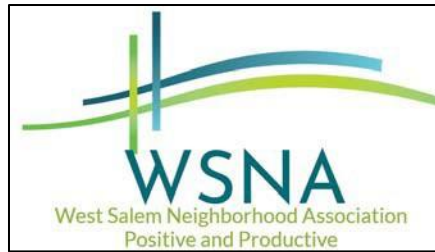
That is what we're all here about following communication back and forth. So everybody knows and try to support everybody.

So, does anybody else have any other questions for the for either? Jim or Virginia tonight All right.

So, does anybody have any questions from any of the reports I send out that since we have the members here any of our reports? Hopefully, I gave you some good night leading stuff that helps you go to sleep this last couple of days.

So, before I close the meeting, I just want to say next month. We're going to have Gregory Walsh who's the emergency preparedness manager for the City of Salem. He's going to be in attendance with us. Had some conversations with him about emergency preparedness for West Salem. And what we're going to do is we're just basically going to take this in smaller chunks instead of what are you doing for us?

We're going to tackle since it's the cold month what's happens? If we get a lot of rain and we start to get flooding over here. We get electrical power outages or it's their snowing. You can't get across the bridge. What going to be happened to West Salem. So we're going to tackle those kind of those that sort of area next month.



We are going to send them some questions and I'll be putting up some questions to ask in the neighbors to ask questions a round that how they can support us.

So, the board and I want to try to have some special meetings with special people to bring answer your questions. I think it's important that we start to communicate with these issues are and hopefully if you guys have some ideas, please feel free to reach out to me or somebody on the board again. I want to thank Virginia and Jim for attending Gretchen.

Again. Thank you for everything for all the communication any of the board members have any questions or anything like that.

Steve.> Go ahead just really quick for everyone from the Edgewater partnership has worked with Salem markets Community Markets, and we're going to have a market again in West Salem this summer. And we will be reaching out to Jim and Virginia to have coffee with the counselors as we did last year. But if you have ideas for people or vendors, please send them our way. We'll be going to be talking with the community about support so that we can continue our support on the snap program for every dollar that's spent there the community people in the snap program will get a dollar a food so we can promote healthy eating in our community but look for the market coming this Thursday and the summertime, and we'll be sharing. More with you as that progresses, but we're excited to offer that again in our community and thank you, Jim and Virginia and our chief officer of the day for your willingness to be part of our neighborhood and represented. So, thank you very much.

Mike> All right. Thank you everybody.

Everybody.Have a nice evening.

Hey Mike.

Yes. Steve Van Pelt> Hey, yeah.I just wanted to throw out there if there is anyone in the neighborhood association or anyone sorry anyone at this meeting who would like more information? Ian about what our neighborhood association is how to get involved what happens at these meetings that they can contact me Steve Van Pelt at tides of the sky at gmail.com. I'm the chair of the welcoming and inclusion committee, or you can stick around, you know, we talked about having likesome sort of an orientation. So, there's anyone that's interested in that. Feel free to message me or message. And we'd love to help people who are new get connected. Okay.

Thank you Steve.

Mike>I forgot all about that. Appreciate you reminding me. So if I could ask for somebody to make a motion to adjourn the meeting, please.



Thank you.

I am second. Well II again all-in favor. Aye.

Thank you. Again everybody.

Mike> I appreciate it, Virginia and Jim will be I'll be glad to have coffee with you guys any time.

So just let me know.

Thank you.