

# PROPOSED SALEM COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE BOND

The City of Salem has referred a \$300 million proposed bond measure to voters. If passed, the measure would fund a ten-year plan including street upgrades, sidewalk construction and repair, construction of bicycle facilities, replacement of old fire engines and equipment, updating information technology and cybersecurity tools, acquiring property for and construction of two future fire stations, affordable housing and two branch libraries; and earthquake safety upgrades to the Civic Center. If passed, the bonds would be paid off over 30 years, and would maintain the City of Salem bonded tax rates at current levels.

## 10-Year Plan

Previous City bond measures will be paid off and removed from the tax rolls over the next decade, refinancing of debt at lower rates, and the increase in the assessed value of Salem properties, would provide up to \$300 million for the current proposed infrastructure bond – while maintaining current tax rates. If the proposed bond passes, the Salem bond rate would remain at \$1.20 per \$1,000 of assessed value. The average estimated tax rate over the life of the proposed bond is \$0.67 per \$1,000 of assessed value or \$134 annually / \$11.17 monthly for an average house (assessed value of \$200,000) in Salem. If the proposed bond does not pass, the Salem bond rate would decrease to an estimated \$0.75 per \$1,000 of assessed value in 2023 and continue to decrease until current outstanding bonds are paid off in 2037. If the proposed measure passes, bond funded projects would provide for or repair existing infrastructure, reduce funds currently spent on repairs and maintenance of facilities and aging equipment, and provide energy efficiency.

## 2022 Bond Proposal

Proposed projects would be citywide, and include projects to improve existing and build new streets, sidewalks, bike facilities, and parks; acquire fire engines and equipment; establish a affordable housing fund; acquire sites for and construct two new fire stations; acquire sites for affordable housing, with funds to establish two branch libraries; construct earthquake safety renovations to the Civic Center; and upgrade information technology to provide cybersecurity for City infrastructure.

Project ideas came from community outreach with Neighborhood Associations, City boards and commissions, other organizations, and City residents. Some ideas came from public testimony during the Bond Steering Committee meetings, others from earlier community outreach in planning park areas or planning of travel corridors for bicycles or vehicles. In building the proposal, the Bond Steering Committee members considered equity and climate. The proposed projects do not address all the streets and parks in Salem. The City's long-term plan for various projects is available on the City's website. If passed, proposed funds would be used as follows:



### Streets and Sidewalks: \$157 million

As funding generated from Salem's 2008 voter-passed Streets and Bridges bond measure is expended, ongoing costs for planned transportation projects exceed available funding. Included in the bond proposal are projects to: provide pedestrian crossings and install sidewalks and bicycle routes; construct new streets and replace or add signals for traffic flow; and repair bridges. Davis Road, SE, Fisher Rd NE, and McGilchrist St SE are some roadways included in the bond proposal. The bond proposal includes funding to complete the Union Street bikeway project.

*This information, except for the website link(s), was reviewed by the Oregon Secretary of State's Office for compliance with ORS 260.432.*



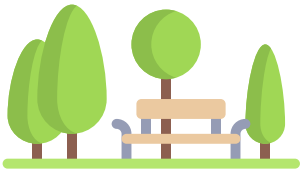
### **Fire Engines and Equipment: \$26 million**

Purchased with bond funds in 2006, Salem's fire engines are 15 years old and have reached 450,000 "motor miles". This is at or past the expected life of the equipment according to the manufacturer and industry standards. The equipment has been maintained, but there has been an increase in the frequency and cost of repairs. The fire engines, ladder trucks, and other equipment such as various types of saws or breathing equipment would be replaced, if the proposed measure passes.



### **Two Additional Fire Stations: \$14 million**

Proposed Bond funds would be used to purchase property for and construct up to two new fire stations. The City may explore whether it would repurpose existing property or otherwise relocate a station.



### **Park Upgrades: \$28.4 million**

If the proposed measure passes, projects included in Salem's park system would replace restrooms at Cascades Gateway, Northgate, McKay School, Bush's Pasture, and Wallace Marine Parks and construct new trails, covered areas, playgrounds, splash pads, pickleball courts and dog parks.



### **Sites for Future Development: Branch Libraries and Affordable Housing: \$7.5 million**

Bond funds would be used to acquire two properties for branch libraries on those same sites as future affordable housing, if the measure passes.



### **Affordable Housing Opportunity Fund: \$10 million**

Bond funds would provide funding to public and private developers for the construction of multi-family housing that would be accessible to lower-income individuals or families.



### **Technology and Cybersecurity: \$17.6 million**

City services to residents and businesses are delivered using technology. If the proposed measure passes, Bond funds would be used to replace outdated financial and accounting systems, create a second data center for recovery after a disaster, and install a redundant fiber ring which would provide resiliency if primary systems were to become nonoperational.



### **Civic Center Seismic Upgrades: \$39.5 million**

The Civic Center was built 50 years ago. To meet current earthquake standards proposed bond funding would be used to reinforce all three buildings which would allow visitors and staff exit options in the event of an earthquake. Funds would be used to replace and support skylights, windows, roofs and other systems, with abatement of hazardous materials and restoration of areas impacted by structural work.

For answers to questions you may have, or to learn more about the Community Infrastructure Bond, look up "Salem Community Infrastructure Bond" on our website.