



## **City of Salem**

### **Salem Parks and Recreation Advisory Board**

September 8, 2022

5:30 p.m.

[Online \(Zoom\)](#)

Si necesita ayuda para comprender esta información, por favor llame 503-588-6211

Para asistencia en español, llame al 503-540-2489

### **PARTICIPANTS**

#### Board Members

Dylan McDowell, Chair; Keith Norris, Vice-Chair; Alan Alexander; Woody Dukes; Rick Hartwig; Alan Holland; Joan Lloyd; Debbie Miller; Dave Fridenmaker

#### Staff

Robert Chandler, Assistant Public Works Director; Mark Becketl, Operations Division Manager; Jennifer Kellar, Parks and Recreation Services Manager; Rob Romanek, Parks Planning and Natural Resources Planning Manager; Becky George, Recreation Supervisor; Milan Davis, City Urban Forester

### **AGENDA**

1. Welcome and Call to Order
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Approval of Minutes
  - a. July 14, 2022 (no August meeting)
4. Public Comment - Appearance of persons wishing to address the Board on any matter other than those which appear on this Agenda
5. Board Items/Presentations
  - a. Recognize Toni Whitler and Patricia Farrell with certificate of recognition for outstanding dedicated service to the Salem Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
6. Board Member Updates
7. Information Reports – written
  - a. Urban Forestry Update
  - b. Parks & Natural Resources Planning Update
  - c. Parks Operations Update
  - d. Recreation Services Update
  - e. Parks Damage Report

8. New Business
  - a. Annual Report Planning
  - b. SPRAB Retreat in October
9. Adjourn

**Next Meeting: October 13, 2022**

This meeting is being conducted virtually, with remote attendance by the governing body. No in-person attendance is possible. Interested persons may view the meeting online on [YouTube](#). Please submit written comments on agenda items, or pre-register to provide Public Comment on items not on the agenda, by 5 p.m. or earlier one day prior to the day of the meeting at [nharrington@cityofsalem.net](mailto:nharrington@cityofsalem.net)

Special accommodations are available, upon request, for persons with disabilities or those needing sign language interpretation, or languages other than English. To request accommodations or services, please call 503-588-6211 (TTD/TTY 503-588-6439) at least two business days in advance.

It is the City of Salem's policy to assure that no person shall be discriminated against on the grounds of race, religion, color, sex, marital status, familial status, national origin, age, mental or physical disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, and source of income, as provided by Salem Revised Code 97. The City of Salem also fully complies with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, and related statutes and regulations, in all programs and activities.

## City of Salem Salem Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

July 14, 2022  
Online Meeting  
Minutes - Draft

### Members Present

Dylan McDowell  
Keith Norris  
Alan Alexander  
Woody Dukes  
Rick Hartwig  
Alan Holland  
Joan Lloyd  
Debbie Miller

### Members Absent

Dave Fridenmaker

### Staff Present

Jennifer Kellar  
Rob Romanek  
Becky George  
Mitchell Jones

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#### 1. Call to Order

Welcome and call to order by Chair McDowell at 5:31 p.m.

#### 2. Roll Call

Dave Fridenmaker was marked absent. All other members present. Chair McDowell introduced new member, Debbie Miller.

#### 3. Approval of Minutes

##### a. Approval of the June 9, 2022, minutes.

**Motion: Member Rick Hartwig motioned to approve the minutes. Vice Chair Keith Norris seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

#### 4. Public Comment

None

*Chair McDowell made an agenda change to move up the Parks Operation update to accommodate a staff schedule adjustment.*

#### 7. Information Reports

*(Information reports provided as written reports ahead of the meeting.)*

##### d. Parks Operations Update

Chair McDowell invited Jennifer Kellar to provide verbal updates in addition to the written report. Jennifer Kellar shared details about the formation of an 18-month limited duration community sanitation response team that will focus on providing five-days-a-week homeless cleanups (replacing the once-per-week current service). The team is comprised of Homelessness Liaison Gretchen Bennett,

Supervisor Jacob Snell, a crew lead, three Parks maintenance operators and two designated Salem police officers. Jennifer Kellar discussed that on July 1 the City adopted a new administrative policy and procedure relative to boards and commissions and public meeting requirements that all boards and commissions meetings be conducted virtually. Chair McDowell requested a Board retreat. Jennifer Kellar will facilitate a request for approval from Public Works Director Peter Fernandez to hold the retreat in-person.

**5. Board Items / Presentations**

**a.** Rob Romanek gave an update on Geer Park Phase 2 Development and shared a skate park design concept. The concept is the result of a public engagement and involvement process that began in fall of 2021. Construction planned for 2024. Vice Chair Norris asked Rob Romanek about the placement and programming of the skate park within Geer Park. Vice Chair Norris followed-up with a question about increased liability to the City from the development and operation of a skate park. Chair McDowell commented on the use of online engagement tools to facilitate community involvement in the project.

**6. Board Member Updates**

Member Alan Alexander enjoyed the recent lunch get together for Parks Operations staff at Pringle Park. Vice Chair Norris represented SPRAB at the Salem Public Library Strategic Planning Committee meeting where the two groups considered ways parks and libraries can overlap in work and engage the community.

**7. Information Reports (Continuation)**

(Information reports provided as written reports ahead of the meeting.)

**a. Mission Street Park Conservancy Quarterly Report**

Christine Chute provided the update for Mission Street Park Conservancy, then she introduced a fellow board member, Maureen McGee.

**b. Urban Forestry Update**

No questions or comments.

**c. Parks & Natural Resources Planning Update**

Rob Romanek shared information about the Downtown Salem Streetscape Design, which is a pilot project testing the use of a suspended pavement system that can allow lightly compacted soil to be made available for tree roots beneath sidewalk and other paving. The technology may lead to a healthier street tree and may avoid or reduce damage to sidewalks from impacted root systems.

Rob Romanek shared updates on open staff vacancies and recruitments in the Parks and Natural Resources Planning section. He also announced that, as of Monday, July 11, 2022, the Emerald Ash Borer beetle has been identified in Oregon. Rob Romanek also discussed biological monitoring that took place for the Ironman event on held on Sunday, July 10, 2022. Chair McDowell asked Rob Romanek about the park upgrade projects that would result if the Salem Community Improvement Bond passes. Two dog parks, parking lot improvements, playground and restroom replacements are some of the projects planned. Members asked about beaver activity at Riverfront Park and gave feedback on the

city's new website.

**e. Recreation Services Update**

Becky George gave updates on the very successful Ironman event and the Salem Art Fair & Festival and extended invitations to the group to check out Movies in the Park and the USA Softball Girls' 10B Fast Pitch Western National Tournament.

**8. New Business**

Chair McDowell asked the group for their opinion about recognizing Toni Whitler and Patricia Farrell for their efforts with SPRAB. Rob Romanek will coordinate creating a certificate and invite both to the next meeting. Chair McDowell also suggested forming a committee to identify and publicly recognize community members who make exceptional contributions to parks. The July 25 letter requesting more collaboration with the City Council will go to the council and feedback will be addressed at the next meeting.

**9. Next Meeting**

The next regularly scheduled meeting is August 11, 2022.

**10. Adjourned at 6:52 p.m.**

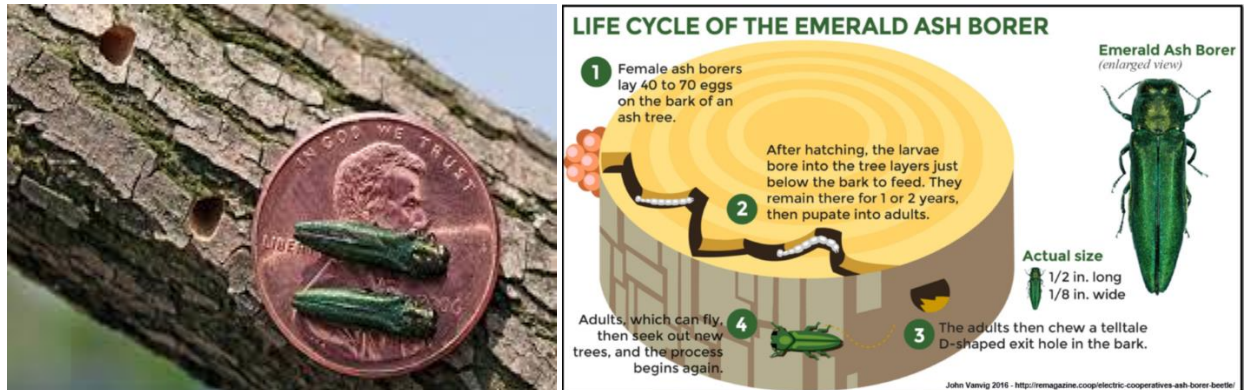
## **Information Reports Packet**

### **SPRAB meeting September 8, 2022**

- 1) Urban Forestry Update
  - a) August 2022 report
  - b) September 2022 report
- 2) Parks & Natural Resources Planning Update
  - a) August 2022 report
  - b) September 2022 report
- 3) Parks Operations Update (August and September combined)
- 4) Recreation Services Update
  - a) August 2022 report
  - b) September 2022 report
- 5) Parks Damage Report

## SPRAB Urban Forestry Report, August 9, 2022

Reporting for the month of July 2022. The Urban Forestry Division learned the news on June 30 that Emerald Ash Borer, *Agilus planipennis* was spotted in Forest Grove, OR documenting the first known positive identification of EAB in Oregon. The Emerald Ash Borer is a beetle that is native to NE Asia and is the most devastating forest pest in North America. Since being identified in 2002 in Michigan it is responsible for the death of tens of millions of ash trees in over 30 states, and all ash trees native to North America are susceptible to this destructive pest.



Unfortunately, this will mean the loss of thousands of trees in our city streets, parks, natural areas and wetlands. The biggest impact in loss of trees will be to our native Oregon ash, that is prevalent along our streambanks, rivers and wetlands causing ecological changes to our native aquatic wildlife, especially salmon populations due to the change in temperature from a rise in water temperatures.

After learning of this news, we immediately started planning our response to city of Salem and worked with PW communication team, Parks Planning Dept and numerous other staff to get the right materials together to announce this on our city website and on social media. We have met with Oregon Dept of Forestry, Oregon Dept of Agriculture, nearby municipalities, and other entities to begin to understand our response and action plan development. The Urban Forestry Division and the Parks Natural Resources Planning Department are working together to come up with our EAB Management Plan that will include developing outreach materials, creating a stakeholder group, detailed removal and replanting efforts and preventative treatment plans including biological control methods, organic pesticides, as well as chemical trunk injections and soil drenches. We will take the lead from ODF and ODA on many of these control methods.

The Urban Forestry Division is currently working on tree removals, tree pruning, stump grinding, tree watering, service requests, tree inventory and permit inspections. Currently there are over 1800 open work orders for our division, 26 of those work orders are high priority.





## Urban Forestry Division 2022

From Lto R back row; Tom Bradley, Tom Nonacs, Nolan Rogers, Aidan Anderson, Cesar Estrada, Mike Tyler, Brandon Culcasi & Evan Doney- front row; Makaela Dodds, Don Gunther, David Kahawaii Jr, Milan Davis & Jacob Rybloom



# SPRAB URBAN FORESTRY REPORT AUGUST 2022

Milan Davis – Urban Forester City of Salem

August 24, 2022

Currently there are 1859 open or pending work orders. Of those 182 are HIGH priority work orders of which 20 have been scheduled. During the month of August 20 HIGH priority tree removals have been completed, and 17 tree pruning work orders have been completed. The Ice Storm Restoration team has removed over 200 stumps and prepared those locations for tree planting. The Watering Team has watered over 600 trees with 10 gallons of water 10 times now since May, that's over 6000 visits and 60,000 gallons of water to help our newly planted trees get established. Our tree inventory team is adding about 400 new points a day and the total Street Tree Inventory is up to 35,819.

We are scheduling interviews for our open Tree Trimmer position and have 7 qualified applicants, by far the best pool we have had for this position over the last few years. We hope we can find a candidate who fits well with our current program.

We continue to work with Parks Planning & Natural Resources for our Emerald Ash Borer Management Plan and will continue to provide updates when we have more detailed information to share. We are meeting next week with Lallemand Plant Care out of Canada to discuss the use of TreeAzin, a systemic insecticide owned by the Canadian Forest Service (CFS) and was developed in collaboration with BioForest. TreeAzin is a systemic insecticide produced from Neem tree (*Azadiracta indica*) seed extracts that is injected directly into the base of trees. TreeAzin is not a neonicotinoid and is not from the avermectin family of pesticides. We have met with US based companies selling chemical based neonicotinoids and want to find other non toxic ways we could combat the EAB. TreeAzin could be a great choice for our city street trees. Our latest update of Ash trees in the inventory include 655 in good condition, 807 in fair condition and 54 in poor condition. We have created 35 removal work orders for the trees in poor condition, including trees under power lines and causing sidewalk damage. We will be very progressive in removing ash trees in poor condition and replace them with suitable species over the coming year.

I will be attending the Partners in Community Forestry Conference & the Society of Municipal Arborists Workshop Conference from November 14<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> in Seattle, WA. I look forward to learning, sharing, collaborating, and networking with other city foresters to improve our urban canopy. If you are interested in the event, please follow the link.

<https://www.arboday.org/programs/pcf/>

**Salem Parks and Recreation Advisory Board**  
**Parks and Natural Resources Planning Update – August 2022**

**We're Hiring!** – The City is accepting applications for Parks and Natural Resources Planner I, II, or III through August 22. We intend to hire two professionals with expertise in any combination of park planning, natural resource planning, and environmental management. This recruitment may fill positions as Planners I, II or III, depending on the chosen candidates' abilities, experience, education, and training. [Click here](#) to view the job bulletin.

**Bailey Ridge Park Master Plan** – City Council approved the Bailey Ridge Park Master Plan on July 25. The City will develop the improvements proposed in the master plan in phases. When funding for a phase 1 project is available, additional outreach will be conducted to revisit and affirm residents' priorities. The City's first priority will be to address soil erosion in Chamber's Swale and manage the surface runoff on the southwest boundary of the park.

**Woodmansee Park Phase 1 Improvements** – Construction of the first phase of park improvements in the Woodmansee Park Master Plan began on Monday, June 27, 2022. The contractor has completed construction of a pedestrian access path and has completed grading and placement of the aggregate base material on the tennis court. Paving of the play area is scheduled for Tuesday, August 9, 2022.

**Bill Riegel Park Phase 2 Improvements** – Bill Riegel Park was closed to users and construction began on July 25. The contractor has completed the curb for the new playground area and approximately 75% of the new concrete paths. Storm sewer and electrical work are also underway.

**Brown Road Park Phase 1 Improvements** – Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD) Grant Application – On July 18 staff was informed by OPRD that the City's grant application for Brown Road Park was not successful. OPRD received about \$25 million in requests and they had about \$12 million available for awards. Design of the project is scheduled to begin this winter with construction anticipated in the next two to three years. Park System Development Charges forecasted for the project are adequate to allow it to proceed with minor scope reductions.

**Geer Park Phase 2 Improvements** – Skate Park Design Concept – On July 19 the City hosted an online community meeting to review a preferred skate park design concept with the Salem skateboarding community and other interested members of the public. The preferred design was well received! One participant commented in Zoom chat: "This does look so good, I liked the initial designs, love this one." A recording on the meeting can be found on the [City of Salem Public Meetings YouTube Channel](#). Management of the project is transitioning to Public Works Engineering Division as project-specific planning and design activities continue. Construction is scheduled to begin in 2024.

**Fairview Park Phase 1 Improvements** – The project will be the first phase of formal improvements to Fairview Park following Council approval of the Fairview Park Master Plan in 2016, and subsequent purchase of the property in 2017. Because there is not enough forecasted funding to complete the phase 1 project that began preliminary design several years ago, a new phase I concept is needed. Staff are scoping a planning and community engagement effort to determine what elements of the park master plan should be implemented first. The effort will be supported by a landscape architect consultant of record and it will include public engagement, focused design refinement of the master plan, cost estimating, and a final report. The effort is expected to kick-off in fall 2022.

Currently, there is over \$2 million in Park System Development Charges allocated to the project and an additional \$1 million forecasted. The project package for the proposed bond also includes \$550,000 for a fenced, dual-zoned off-leash dog area, which is an element of the Fairview Park Master Plan.

**Fairview Park, Strong Road SE Missing Sidewalk/Shared-Use Path** – Boundary street improvements around the perimeter of Fairview Park have occurred in recent years as the surrounding master-planned community develops. The work includes advancement of half-street improvements required as a condition of approval of future improvements to the park. One remaining boundary street improvement is a missing sidewalk/shared-use path section on the north side of Strong Road SE. Public Works is preparing to construct the missing section in late-summer 2022. The project will add 10-foot-wide path, covert an existing roadside ditch into a bioswale with street trees and construct a new ditch and catch basin to drain a seep within the park property.

The below imagery shows the southwest edge the park and highlights the missing sidewalk section.



**Emerald Ash Borer Response and Preparedness** – A destructive and invasive insect known for killing ash trees in North America has recently been discovered in western Oregon. The emerald ash borer (EAB), *Agrilus planipennis* (Fairmare), is a wood-boring beetle, and possibly the most destructive forest insect in North America. The EAB presents a significant threat to the Willamette Valley where groves of native Oregon ash (*Fraxinus latifolia*) are abundant. In Salem, ash trees are found along local streams and rivers and used in urban landscapes across the city.

In other parts of the country, EAB has posed a significant threat to ash trees with a mortality rate of 99%, leading to locally significant environmental and economic damage. The Oregon Department of Forestry warns that the establishment of EAB in Oregon will likely devastate ash woodlands as well as riparian zones and has the potential to cause the extinction of the native Oregon ash.

In response to the recent discovery of the pest in Oregon, the Parks and Natural Resources Planning Section has begun supporting the City's Urban Forester with the development of a response plan. The plan will guide actions related to infestations of city-owned ash trees along streets and within parks, including the City's approach to monitoring, mechanical control (tree removal and disposal), and chemical control. We are also beginning to formulate specific policy recommendations in preparation for EAB detection in Salem, including a response strategy to aid private property owners. This policy analysis work will continue through the calendar year.

As shown on the following page, EAB is a small metallic-green buprestid, or jewel beetle, that bores into ash trees, feeding on tissues beneath the bark, ultimately killing the tree. The EAB is capable of infesting all ash trees in the genus *Fraxinus*. The City has published a webpage to assist residents in learning more about this pest: <https://www.cityofsalem.net/community/natural-environment-climate/trees-and-plants/emerald-ash-borer>. Information and resources will be added to the page as they become available.



**Willamette Slough Ludwigia Treatment** – A third year of treatment of the invasive aquatic plant, Ludwigia (or water primrose), in Willamette Slough is underway. An initial treatment for 2022 was completed during the week of July 18. Due to reduced plant growth in the slough, treatment was completed within three days (rather than the originally scheduled two-week period) and consisted of a combination of hand pulling and spot spraying aquatic approved herbicide. A follow up treatment is scheduled for August 22-26.

**Coexisting with Beaver** – The Strategic Operations Plan for Addressing Beaver Activity remains in review by the City Attorney’s office. In the meantime, information from the plan has been utilized to develop a public-facing webpage to provide useful information to Salem residents about how to coexist with beaver. The webpage will be published by the end of August.

**Bald Eagle Chick in the Minto Brown Park** – The bald eagle chick in the Minto Brown Park nest was confirmed to have fledged on July 25. Eagle Watch volunteers observed the nest from February through late July, recording and submitting observations to the City.

A professional biologist was contracted to conduct monitoring of the nest during the Ironman Triathlon on July 10. The monitor reported that the adult bald eagle pair and the juvenile appeared to act normally and showed no signs of being stressed by the event.

**Minto Island Conservation Area** – A professional biologist was contracted to conduct avian monitoring of the Minto Island Conservation Area (MICA) trail during the Ironman event on July 10. The monitor reported that bird behavior was temporarily affected by the race activities, but there is no evidence that it caused adverse impacts to the birds as they likely found appropriate shelter and food in other locations in the Conservation Area. This survey included a relatively short period of observation of bird activity prior to the race. A longer observation period of background conditions prior to future events would improve confidence in the monitoring conclusions.

As a condition of the event restriction changes in MICA, a native plant buffer must be planted along the MICA trail by December 31, 2022. Staff are reviewing proposals from two contractors of record and look to make a final decision soon. This project will be funded through the MICA Stewardship Fund. Site prep and plant installation will be contracted first, and maintenance will be contracted separately on an as-needed basis.



**Salem Parks and Recreation Advisory Board**  
**Parks and Natural Resources Planning Update – September 2022**

**Staff Recruitment**— Applications to fill two vacancies in the Parks and Natural Resources Planning section are under review. Interviews will likely occur in mid-September. These vacancies may be filled as Planners I, II or III, depending on the selected candidates' abilities, experience, education, and training.

**The Woods at Fairview/Braden Lane Natural Area** – On August 15, 2022, the City acquired 14 acres of wooded property in the Sustainable Fairview area by donation by the prior owner. The property, which is located at 4180 Braden Lane SE, will be managed as an undeveloped natural area park. With this new addition, the Salem Park System includes a total of 91 sites.

**Woodmansee Park Phase 1 Improvements** – Construction of the first phase of park improvements in the Woodmansee Park Master Plan began on June 27. Work is progressing on the tennis court, multi-use field, and new pedestrian paths. Work is anticipated to be completed in November.

**Bill Riegel Park Phase 2 Improvements** – Construction of the second and final phase of improvements in the Bill Riegel Park Master Plan began on July 25. Work on the new walk, playground area, and shelter is underway. Work is anticipated to be completed by the end of October.

**Emerald Ash Borer Response and Preparedness** – With Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) being found in Forest Grove, Oregon, on June 30, the tree pest will be a priority topic of focus for Natural Resource Planning staff in the near term. We are currently working with the Urban Forestry on an EAB Readiness and Response Plan for Salem. More information will be forthcoming.

**Willamette Slough Ludwigia Treatment** – This year's second herbicide treatment of an invasive aquatic plant, *Ludwigia* (or water primrose), was completed in Willamette Slough on August 22 and 23. Originally scheduled to occur over five days, the second treatment took less time than anticipated due to the limited presence of the invasive plant in the slough. One area was not accessible for treatment due to low water levels and marshy conditions. The contractor will send a small crew back to the site in mid-September to finish treatment when the site is dry enough to access by foot.

**Minto Island Conservation Area Plant Buffer** – As a condition of the event restriction changes in the Minto Island Conservation Area (MICA), a native plant buffer must be planted along the main paved trail by December 31. The City has contracted with a restoration contractor to complete this work. Site preparation will consist of cutting and mowing the planting area on September 13 and herbicide treatment later this fall. Planting will occur in December. For safety purposes, the main MICA trail will be closed temporarily (from 5:30 a.m. to about 3 p.m.) to the public during both mowing and herbicide treatment. Signs will be posted throughout Riverfront and Minto Brown Island Parks to alert trail users ahead of the closure.

**Coexisting with Beaver** – A public-facing webpage ([cityofsalem.net/beaver](http://cityofsalem.net/beaver)) has been developed to provide useful information to Salem residents about how to coexist with beaver. The webpage is active but still needs to be added to website navigation.

**Neighborhood Tree Program (Tree Planting)** – Staff is working with Friends of Trees to determine locations and dates for annual planting events. We will continue our focus on NE Salem while also planning one event in an area of west Salem with low tree canopy. Also looking to advance and improve upon last year's "yard tree" pilot project.

## **Parks Operations Update – August/September 2022**

### **Unsheltered Population Clean-Up Update**

The Community Sanitation Response Team (CSRT) begin their clean-up efforts as a team on August 1, 2022. Statistics for the team since August 1<sup>st</sup> include:

- Camps cleaned up = 47; 27 of which were in parks
- Garbage collected = 16 tons or approximately 220 cubic yards
- Yards of scrap metal recycled = 25 yards
- Camps contacted by SPD = 107
- Unsheltered individuals contacted by SPD = 133
- Unsheltered individuals referred to assistance or housing agencies = 23

### **Cascade Gateway Park Re-Opening Update**

The west side of Cascade Gateway Park re-opened on August 1, 2022; however, many maintenance issues still inside the park continue to be addressed before public access can be restored. The east side portion of the park will remain closed until those projects necessary for reopening to the public are complete.

The larger capital projects, such as restroom replacement and fixes to many of the reservable spaces are not required prior to the park's re-opening. The restroom replacement, for example, is scheduled for funding should the Community Improvement Bond pass in November.

Open amenities on the west side include:

- Dog Park
- Disc Golf Course
- Wirth Lake Access

There was significant damage to facilities on the east side of the park, including the removal of a large underground transformer that provides power to the park. Closed amenities include:

- Mill Creek area
- Playground
- Blue Gill Shelter
- Beaver Grove Shelter
- Restrooms

### **Projects**

Parks Operation is utilizing the Marion County matrix program to construct and install informational kiosks for Fircrest Park and the "D" Street Park property. The kiosk at Fircrest is funded through the Salem Parks Improvement Fund (SPIF) program and the kiosk for the "D" Street Park property is funded through the annual Salem Parks Foundation (SPF) award process.

The matrix program through Marion County provides opportunity for individuals under 18 years of age that are currently involved in Marion County's juvenile system to participate in hands-on training toward development of acquiring trade skills.



### **SPRAB Retreat**

Based on the survey monkey results, the SPRAB retreat has been scheduled for Friday, October 28, 2022. Pringle Hall has been secured for the retreat location.

### **2022-23 Budget Process**

The 2022-23 Budget Process is beginning in September. By the end of September, Departmental Sections will be submitting their 5-Year Personnel Plan, as well as, their 5-Year Vehicle and Equipment Replacement Plan. The remaining portions of their operating budget submittals will transpire between the months of October – December 2022. Sectional budget reviews and finalization of budgets with the PW Executive Staff will begin January 2023.

### **Grass Fire at Oak Savannah Property**

On 8/19 a private contractor rough mowing the City-owned Oak Savannah Property managed by the Glenn Gibson Watershed Council sparked a field fire that burned approximately four acres. The fire was extinguished by the Salem Fire Department. Thanks to their good work and the successful use of a 20-foot wide mowed buffer strip completed by Signs and Sweeping right-of-way mowers, no private property was damaged by the fire. About 60 percent of the property was burned. While some sapling white oaks were destroyed, the majority of established trees appeared to have survived with little or no damage.

The burned site will be monitored by Linda and Ken Bierly for erosion this winter and spring and to be prepared to install sediment fence, waddles or straw bales if necessary. The Bierly's also want to study how fast the Savannah regenerates after the fire.

City crews mowed a buffer strip in April, June, and July of this year. Parks Operations removed blackberries along the western border prior to the contractor performing rough mowing services on 8/16.

### **Fatality at Woodmansee Park**

There was a recent fatality at Woodmansee Park during day-use hours by the park entrance adjacent to the shelter area. The fatality was predicated by a domestic altercation between a husband and wife, to which the wife ran over the husband in the parking lot several times with her vehicle. Police arrived on scene at the conclusion of the episode and the wife was arrested without incident.

## Salem Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting

### Recreation Update–July 2022

#### 1. Events/Facility Use

- Ironman is already in the planning stages for a Salem event in 2023 after a successful event this summer.
- National Night Out took place this past week which is always a large collaboration between departments and citizens and is a community favorite.
- Upcoming events include Angry Owl Ultramarathon, Englewood Forest Festival, FISHFest, Civic Center's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, to name a few.

#### 2. Recreation Programs

- The August STRIDE event was held in Bush's Pasture Park on Saturday, August 6. The next event is a 5k and 10k on September 3, and will take place in Riverfront, Wallace Marine and Minto-Island Brown Parks.
- Only 3 weeks left for the bulk of our summer programming! It has been a summer full of camps, led by Recreation Staff, the Park Ranger, along with a handful of contractors. It has been a summer full of athletic opportunities for all ages, like multi-sport camps, volleyball, flag football, tennis, pickleball, basketball, and soccer. There have also been opportunity to learn how to fish, build outdoor shelters, learn how to build moving LEGO pieces, and explore the beloved Minto-Brown Island Park.
- Movies in the Park series is a hit with the community! So far, we have shown two movies, and have two left to go. The new venue is a beautiful setting and is drawing people in, even during the week of high heat. Join us for one or two of our remaining shows:
  - August 6 – The Mitchells vs. The Machines, PG
  - August 13 – Encanto, PG

#### 3. Softball and Kickball Leagues/Tournaments

- The City hosted the USA Softball 10B Fast Pitch Western National Tournament from July 25 to July 31. Thirty teams of youth fastpitch ages 10 and under entered the tournament, including 24 from California and Hawaii and six from Idaho, Washington, and Oregon. Teams played through the record heat week.
- Registration for fall softball and kickball leagues has been extended due to the wet spring. We have filled over 65 teams with a few of the leagues still adding.
- Senior Softball USA hosted their NW Regional Jim Sherman Memorial Tournament July 12-17 with over 70 teams playing from all over the west coast in multiple gender and age divisions from 40 to 80 years old. This event is in partnership with Travel Salem, Senior Softball USA and the City of Salem.
- Lucky Rogers USSSA Midnight Madness was held July 23-24 from 8 p.m. on Friday with the last game completed after 8 p.m. on Saturday. With over 30 teams playing through the 24 hours. This was the **13th Annual** and **FINAL Midnight Madness** (so Lucky tells us).

## **Salem Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting Recreation Update—August 2022**

- Completed all Spring/Summer Leagues first week of August (some over six weeks behind due to wet Spring).
- Completed Fall Ball League signups and schedules for Softball and Kick Ball teams; 66 Fall Ball teams.
- All Fall Ball Leagues started and weather/smoke/heat permitting, should be done by end of first week in October.
- Hosting five more tournaments in September and October (three rentals and two City-hosted tournaments).
- Starting to plan for 2023 league and tournament lineups with staff and potential renters.
- Hosting the final two STRIDE events on September 2 and October 1.
- Currently accepting registrations for fall Owl Prowls taking place in Minto-Brown Island Park and for upcoming holiday Fun Runs.
- Annual Riverfront Holiday Tree Lighting planning begins in September.

Attached is the Parks and Open Space damage report. If you would like to be removed from this list or know if someone who should be added to the list, please let us know.



# MEMO

**TO:** Jennifer Kellar, Parks and Recreation Services Manager  
Public Works Department

**FROM:** Marlene Cisneros-Villalovos, Staff Assistant  
Public Works Department

**DATE:** August 11, 2022

**SUBJECT:** Damage to City of Salem Parks and Open Space

Damage to the City of Salem's parks and landscape maintenance areas caused by malicious mischief, theft, and reckless action is reported by the appropriate law enforcement agency, citizens, and maintenance personnel. The following is a total of these incidents during July 2022. The dollar amount shown represents the estimated repair/replacement cost for the damage sustained.

A total value of \$797.90 in repair/replacement costs occurred from 24 incidents. In comparison, the total from July 2021 was \$6,612.31 from four incidents.

cc: Kristin Retherford, Interim City Manager  
Trevor Womack, Chief of Police  
Chuck Bennett, City Mayor  
Lt. Ben Bales, Commander, SPD  
Irma Coleman, Neighborhood Services Specialist  
Reed Godfrey, SFD, Battalion Chief  
Jim Schmidt, Fleet, AIC Facilities, and Risk Manager  
Jennifer Hingston, SPD, Graffiti Abatement / Volunteer Unit  
Lt. Treven Upkes, SPD, Community Response Section  
Peter Fernandez, PE, Public Works Director  
Robert D. Chandler, PhD, PE, Assistant Public Works Director  
Mark Becketl, AICP, Operations Division Manager  
Robert Romanek, Parks and Natural Resources Planning Manager  
Becky George, Recreation Supervisor  
Skip Miller, Deputy Police Chief, SPD

PARK_NAME	FREQUENCY	COST
Aldrich Park	1	\$20.20
Clark Creek Park	1	\$60.60
Geer Community Park	1	\$10.10
Hoover Park	7	\$398.95
Lansing Park	2	\$25.25
Lee Park	3	\$136.35
Northgate Park	1	\$25.25
Orchard Heights Park	2	\$25.25
Richmond School Park	2	\$30.30
Weathers Street Park	2	\$35.35
West Salem Park	2	\$30.30
	24	\$797.90