



**City of Salem**  
**Salem Parks and Recreation Advisory Board**

June 8, 2023

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

Rob Romanek, Parks Planning Manager; Jennifer Kellar, Parks and Recreation Division Manager; Becky George, Recreation Supervisor; Milan Davis, City Urban Forester/Parks Supervisor III; Billy Powers, Recreation Coordinator; Melinda Moon, Recreation Coordinator

**AGENDA**

1. Welcome and Call to Order
2. Approval of May 2023 Minutes
3. Public Comment – Appearance of persons wishing to address the board on any matter other than those which appear on this agenda.
4. Council Liaison Updates
5. Board Items/Presentations
  - a. Deputy City Manager of Community Services, Scott Archer
  - b. Neighborhood Association Engagement
6. Board Member Updates
7. Information Reports – written
  - a. Parks Planning & Natural Resources Update
  - b. Parks Operations Update
  - c. Recreation Services Update

- d. Urban Forestry Update
  - e. Parks Damage Report
- 8. New Business
  - 9. Adjourn

**Next Meeting: July 13, 2023**

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

May 11, 2023

[Online Meeting](#)

**Minutes - Draft**

### **Members Present**

Dylan McDowell  
Keith Norris  
Alan Alexander  
Rick Hartwig  
Alan Holland  
Joan Lloyd

### **Members Absent**

Woody Dukes  
Debbie Miller  
David Fridenmaker

### **Staff Present**

Rob Romanek  
Jennifer Kellar  
Becky George  
Mitchell Jones

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#### **1. Call to Order**

Welcome and call to order by Chair McDowell at 5:38 p.m.

#### **2. Roll Call**

Woody Dukes, Debbie Miller, and Dave Fridenmaker were marked absent. All other members were present.

#### **3. Approval of Minutes**

**Member Hartwig moved to approve the April 13, 2023 minutes. Member Alexander seconded. The motion passed unanimously.**

#### **4. Public Comment**

None.

#### **5. SPRAB's City Council liaison, Councilor Micki Varney, shared information from the City Council:**

- May 10 was the last budget meeting. All topics were passed, and a revenue recommendation was sent to City Council.
- At the May 8 City Council meeting, she introduced a motion to approve a letter of support for a Glenn Gibson Water Shed Council Grant Application to complete a flood plain species assessment. It was approved.
- The Bond Implementation Oversight Committee for Safety and Livability discussed the Minto-Brown Island Park parking lots and other park enhancements using bond funds. She would like signs installed during a project for the public to know that these are bond dollars at work. Staff received preliminary scores suggesting the City will receive a grant for the Pringle Creek path.

Chair McDowell liked the idea of the signs. Member Hartwig is happy to see the dog park paving lot project moving forward. Permeable pavement is expensive so development of storm drainage for retaining, and treatment of water is included in

the project as well as ADA upgrades for connections to trails and pathways. Bike parking and additional landscaping is anticipated, too.

Chair McDowell asked Councilor Varney to keep the board informed about code updates and SPRAB's involvement in the process. Member Holland wondered about a volunteer coordinator app for the trail volunteers at Minto-Brown Island Park.

**6. Board Items/Presentations**

**a.** City Manager Keith Stahley suggested inviting the new Deputy City Manager of Community Services to the next SPRAB meeting. Scott Archer starts May 22. He will oversee Parks and Recreation, the Public Library, Neighborhood and Youth services, the public art program, and homeless services. Keith Stahley shared his beliefs that Parks and Recreation is the foundation of our community and economic development activities and what brings quality of life to us. The City has a great infrastructure. As an ardent supporter of Parks and Recreation, he looks forward to what the \$28 million public infrastructure bond investment will bring to the City.

Chair McDowell asked about effective strategies/projects from previous experience in Olympia, Washington. Keith Stahley noted that funding matters. Where a community puts its money is where its priorities are. He pointed out the relationship between parks and recreation and transportation opportunities and the importance of accessing sidewalks and trails to help grow infrastructure so more people can access parks. What's missing in the infrastructure is a bike/pedestrian advisory committee to help identify friction points and manage public infrastructure investment from that perspective. He discussed the City's funding application for a grant for a conservation project to purchase 400 acres on the west side of the Willamette River near Wallace Marine Park. The project has economic implications, but the potential opportunities are so great that it is well worth investigating.

Member Holland is encouraged by Keith Stahley's interest in a bike/pedestrian advisory committee. Salem might eventually have biking opportunities similar to Eugene's extensive bike paths.

Vice-Chair Norris asked about unsheltered individuals in the parks and next steps in helping to remedy the situation, especially the 200 people living in or adjacent to Wallace Marine Park. Keith Stahley admitted that he doesn't have a solution to this concerning situation. His proposal in this year's budget includes increased funding for park rangers. The Safe and Secure Communities Plan budget proposal increases the operations fee by \$5.50 and adding an employee-paid payroll tax would provide \$20 million per year. This could fund more staff for code enforcement, additional park ranger positions, SOS team expansion and security for parking structures. Parks are for everybody, not just those living in them. He wants visitors to feel safe visiting parks.

**b.** Raymond Joseph has been hired as the new senior park planner and is working on a development project in Fairview Park. Rob Romanek discussed key milestones throughout the plan. Fairview Park is located inside the former Fairview Training Center in the Morningside Neighborhood Association in South Salem. The undeveloped community park will serve the entire city as well as serving nearby residents. The current Parks System Master Plan prioritizes development of a

community park, hence this plan. City staff will be checking in with the community and identifying their priorities. The current site plan's proposed park elements include sports fields, a dog park, a basketball court, a history plaza and a covered gathering space. A designer will be hired to assist with community outreach, design work and a phasing plan, weighing the economic component, the public priority component, and the phased construction of the park to be efficient with public dollars. This is an exciting brand-new park! Rob will report back to SPRAB to keep members up to speed on the progress.

Chair McDowell asked if the outreach will be in-person or via virtual surveys. The consultant will detail the approach, but Rob hopes for an initial in-person event at the park to share the vision and get input with virtual interactions afterwards.

Member Alexander asked about an area that was identified for environmental remediation. Rob clarified that the impacted area is not part of this proposed park property. Environmental assessments are done on property the City identifies as potential park property. This unique area is a "gray field" that has underground steam tunnels lined with asbestos from the former training center that might be encountered during construction. Designers know where they are supposed to be and will attempt to avoid them.

Member Holland asked about the location of the stage and the direction it's facing so the sound doesn't carry to the residences. Good suggestion.

c. Chair McDowell discussed the Neighborhood Association Outreach Assignments as identified by the chart compiled by Rob Romanek and what might be expected from presenters. Rob is happy to make changes to assignments if needed. Member Hartwig noted the difficulty of presenting to a neighborhood with which they are not familiar. Rob suggested using the City's website which has resources on every neighborhood association and the parks located in them. Chair McDowell discussed timing, factoring in the SPIF timeline, and hopefully making presentations during the summer. Member Alexander noted that many associations frequently cancel their meetings during the summer. Best effort is ideal this year. Reach out to Dylan or Rob if presentation changes are needed.

d. Rob Romanek shared updates about the 90 Parks in 90 Days campaign. The communications team is working on drone footage, voiceovers, interviews, and highlights from each park. If anyone has a passion for a particular park, let Rob know and he will note it for a potential interview with the mayor. Chair McDowell, Vice-Chair Norris, and Member Holland identified parks they are enthusiastic about. Chair McDowell thanked Rob for all the efforts involved in this campaign.

## **7. Board Member Updates**

Chair McDowell wanted to let members know about Salem Parks Foundation's Take a Walk in the Park event at Riverfront. Also, the micromobility subgroup received some feedback from Rob Romanek so it can meet to review and move forward.

Vice-Chair Norris will follow up on the discussion on identifying Parks staff to honor and recognize.

**8. Information Reports**

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

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

Rob Romanek is sharing on behalf of Robert Chandler who will provide an opportunity for SPRAB to review the City tree code amendment. Also, the proposed property acquisition north of Wallace Marine Park will be toured by 30 members of the grant review committee.

**b. Parks Operations Update**

Jennifer Kellar shared that the Salem Seeker project with handblown glass birds will be working with the 90 Days in 90 Parks campaign and a scavenger hunt for hidden items in various parks will begin in July.

**c. Urban Forestry Update**

No comments or questions.

**d. Recreation Services Update**

Becky George shared that this weekend is the Salem Kids Relays, featuring third-, fourth-, and fifth-grade students. The event is returning to Bush's Pasture Park for the first time since Covid.

**e. Parks Damage Report**

No comments or questions.

**9. New Business**

None.

**10. Next Meeting**

The next regularly scheduled meeting is June 8, 2023.

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

## **SPRAB Information Reports Packet**

**June 8, 2023**

- 1) Parks & Natural Resources Planning Update**
- 2) Parks Operations Update**
- 3) Recreation Services Update**
- 4) Urban Forestry Update**
- 5) Parks Damage Report**

**Salem Parks and Recreation Advisory Board**  
**Parks Planning and Natural Resources Update – June 2023**

**USDA Forest Service Urban & Community Forestry Grants Program** – The USDA Forest Service is providing up to \$1 billion in grant funding to urban communities throughout the nation to provide multiyear, programmatic, competitive grants for tree planting and related activities. On June 1, the City submitted a funding application seeking approximately \$8.8 million for a tree equity and resilience program. The proposed program includes two interrelated components that collectively serve to support and enhance existing plans and programs. These components include: (1) a community institution and school planting program, and (2) an urban and community forestry apprenticeship program. These programs, if funded, will focus 100 percent in disadvantaged communities, as mapped using specified tools in the grant guidance documents, which qualified the City’s proposal for a full waiver of match requirements. City Council authorized the City Manager to submit the City’s application at their May 22 meeting.

The two program components included in the application build on and fill gaps in our existing urban and community forestry program and address goals and strategies in both Salem’s Community Forestry Strategic Plan and Climate Action Plan. The components are described as follows:

- **Community Institutions & School Planting Program** – This program would focus on providing assistance to schools, churches, and similar property owners in low income and low canopy areas in Salem to preserve and increase tree canopy cover on their properties. The grant would subsidize the cost of a Program Coordinator. The Program Coordinator would work with trained apprentices (see “Urban and Community Forestry Apprenticeship Program” below) to collaborate with property owners and caretakers to identify planting locations, hire private contractors to address problematic or hazardous trees, acquire and plant new trees, and assist with maintenance and monitoring tree health. This program will require substantial targeted outreach to identify willing participants, develop the UCF Apprenticeship Program, and manage agreements with local nurseries and contractors. The Program Coordinator would create curriculum for schools and work closely with schools such as Salem Keizer Public Schools to implement this material in conjunction with implementation of tree planting and maintenance.
- **Urban and Community Forestry Apprenticeship Program** - The Urban and Community Forestry (UCF) Apprenticeship program would recruit candidates from local schools and other community partners to work for the City under the guidance of Urban Forestry and Parks Planning & Natural Resources staff. Through this program, apprentices would learn all facets of arboriculture and urban forestry and work with staff to increase their knowledge over the course of the internship, with a goal to become ISA Certified Arborists. Apprentices would work to identify and overcome barriers to establishing and maintaining tree canopy in disadvantaged communities with low canopy, engage with local residents and private property owners, and provide support to the City’s Yard Tree Pilot Program.

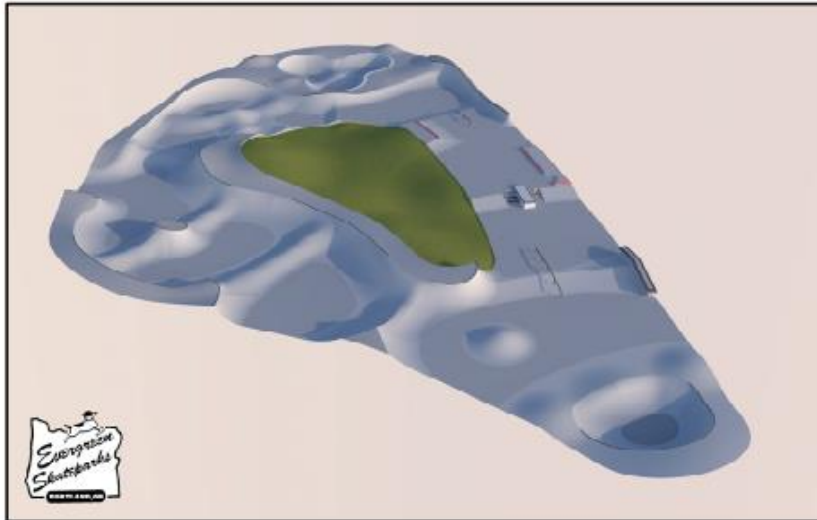
**Fairview Park Master Plan Refinement and Phase 1 Concept Development** – Fairview Park is a mostly undeveloped community park property located at 2220 Strong Road SE. It is approximately 27 acres in size. The surrounding area has recently experienced a boom in development with a mix of housing types. The park is currently home to hikers, dog walkers, and community members seeking respite.

The project will be the first phase of formal improvements to the park following the preparation of a [master plan in 2016](#), and subsequent purchase of the property by the City. Given the time that has passed since the community first engaged in the development of this vision, Parks Planning staff are preparing to re-engage the community to confirm priorities, refine the design of master plan elements (i.e. schematic design), and obtain current probable cost estimation for development of park facilities. The work will include robust public engagement, with community feedback driving all site programming decision and design refinements of master plan elements.

The City has received proposals from landscape architectural consultants for services that will directly support the project work. Staff are currently reviewing and scoring the submittals to select the most qualified consultant. Staff is also preparing to engage Morningside residents at the Morningside Neighborhood Association Open House on June 14<sup>th</sup> to encourage their participation in the upcoming outreach efforts.



**Geer Park Skate Park and Pathways Grant** – In April, staff successfully submitted a \$500,000 funding request to the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD) Local Government Grant Program. As a final requirement of the application, staff and the project design consultant will present the project to the OPRD Local Government Grant Advisory Committee on June 27<sup>th</sup>. The funding, if awarded, would contribute to a project to add the following: (1) a skate park; (2) improve pedestrian and bicycle circulation and access within the park; (3) interpretive elements about the historic natural landscape; (4) expanded access to natural features, and (5) a new picnic shelter. While not part of the grant funding request, several park improvements funded by the Safety and Livability Bond will be delivered concurrently, including a fenced dog park, a second picnic shelter, and rehabilitation of four existing sports fields.



2 VIEW 2  
PERSPECTIVE

*Figure 1 - Geer Park skate park design perspective*

**Fisher Road Park Master Plan** – The City is initiating a master plan project for Fisher Road Park, an approximately 6.8-acre undeveloped neighborhood park property located at 4350 Fisher Road NE. The site-specific master plan will be developed through a vibrant public process involving neighbors, internal and community stakeholders, and the Northgate Neighborhood Association. As a first step, Parks Planning staff are scoping the project and beginning the process of selecting a professional planning and design consultant.

**Minto-Brown Island Park Parking Lots #2 and #3 Improvements** – [No Update] As an early project funded by the Safety and Livability Bond, the City is preparing to renovate and pave two heavily used parking lots within Minto-Brown Island Park. The project team is advancing through an aggressive schedule to deliver these improvements as soon as possible. Construction may start in Fall 2023. City Engineering, Parks Planning, Park Operations, Urban Forestry, Current Planning, and Development Services staff have met to discuss preliminary designs and various project objectives and permitting requirements. The project team is now working to prepare a preliminary design plan and application for City land use review. The application materials will be shared with SPRAB at a later time.

**Riverbend (Walling) Property Opportunity** – In April, staff successfully submitted a nearly \$3 million funding request to the Willamette Wildlife Mitigation Program (WWMP) to acquire approximately 373 acres directly north of Wallace Marine Park and Natural Area. Following the submission of the funding application, City staff led a tour of the site on May 12 with approximately 30 natural resource professionals associated with the WWMP. Then, on June 7, City staff presented our application at a meeting of the WWMP Technical Review Team (TRT). As an important next step in the WWMP review process, the WWMP Wildlife Advisory Group will meet on July 12 at the ODFW Headquarters. At this meeting, the WAG will consider the TRT recommendations and will make a final recommendation to the ODFW Director for project funding. The overall vision for the Riverbend property is to establish a multi-function resource site that balances public use and municipal water supply needs while creating, enhancing, and preserving valuable floodplain habitat.

**Candelaria Reservoir Nature Play Idea** – Park Planning staff recently met with the park chair of the Southwest Association of Neighbors (SWAN), Pat Norman to discuss SWAN’s vision of a natural play area at Candelaria Reservoir property. The property, which is partly encumbered by an underground reservoir, is identified in the CPSMP as a proposed neighborhood park. During the meeting, staff discussed the various options available for the design and creation of the nature play area. It was decided that Park Planning staff would design and manage the development of the play area internally. A score of work is currently being developed.

**Parks Planning and Natural Resources Staff** – As part of the recent City reorganization and creation of the Community Services Department, the parks planning and natural resources team has had several structural changes and a slight adjustment in focus. Matthew Johnston and Brian Smith are joining Rob Romanek and Raymond Joseph in the formation of the *Parks Planning and Natural Resources Section*. Matthew and Brian both bring a wealth of knowledge and experience managing natural resources within the City’s park system. Our team will also be responsible for all planning functions, including long range planning (park system planning and site-specific park master planning) and current planning (conceptual design, grantsmanship, development application review, parkland acquisitions, etc.). Section staff will work closely together and with professional colleagues throughout the new department and City organization, including natural resources planners, Jennifer Mongolo and Jeffery Johnson, who remain with Public Works.

Current Parks Planning and Natural Resources staff:

- Rob Romanek, Parks Planning Manager
- Raymond Joseph, Senior Parks Planner
- Matthew Johnston, Natural Infrastructure Specialist
- Brian Smith, Natural Infrastructure Specialist

## **Parks Operations Update – Jun 2023**

### **Projects**

- Wallace playground (by soccer fields) play equipment installation has been completed and wood fiber material was blown into the play area yesterday (Wednesday May 31<sup>st</sup>). Additionally, new curbing, sidewalk, drinking fountain installations have been completed. Four new benches around the playground area will be installed tomorrow (Friday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>), as well as hydroseeding transpiring on the same date. Construction fencing will be removed the afternoon on June 2<sup>nd</sup>.

### **Unsheltered Clean-Ups**

There was 25 ½ tons of garbage removed in the last month associated with unsheltered clean-ups. Posting was completed on 8 camps at Cascade Gateway Park. Clean-up efforts associated with those 8 postings began last week and will continue through next week.

### **Rehabilitation Project**

The rehabilitation project at Cascade Gateway Park continues. The additional rehabilitation efforts were needed due to recent further and excessive vandalism that took place at the park. Extensive vandalism and graffiti were committed on all amenities in the park, including both shelters, the playground, the restroom, the outbuildings and the signage. Additionally, electrical and plumbing in the shelters was pulled out or cut. Parks staff, contractors and the Marion County Adult-in-Custody crew have been working beginning last week on replacing and rehabilitating those affected areas. The rehabilitation efforts are expected to take a few weeks to complete.

On a positive note, we have had ODFW stocking Walter Wirth Lake at the park with fish again. This practice was suspended by ODFW during the pandemic period and restocking efforts by them have now resumed. Fishing at the lake has actively been transpiring the last three weeks providing positive use at the park.

### **90 Parks in 90 Days**

Drone flyover footage has been completed of the 90 park locations. Mayor Hoy began touring and providing park videos for the first group of parks on Thursday, June 1<sup>st</sup>. The first group will include the parks surrounding the downtown area beginning with the Civic Center Mirror Pond. Visual graphics will be used in some park locations (“D” Street property, Jason Lee Historical Marker, and Mouth at Mill Creek) due to those properties either being undeveloped, small property hosting a sign only, or hard to access. Additionally, some interviews with Parks staff, SPRAB member, etc. will transpire at some park locations to provide an alternate platform to share their park perspectives about those particular parks and to provide an alternate messaging method from the voiceover effort. This process will continue until completion of all the park videos.

The 90 Parks in 90 Days timeframe is July – September 2023.

Parks Operations is spear-heading a scavenger hunt to coincide with the 90 Parks in 90 Days event. Individual glass globes will be blown by Glass Art Oregon and placed in each of the 90 parks. Clues will be provided to

find the globe within each park. Through a raffle process, each individual participating in the scavenger hunt will have an opportunity to win the globe in each of the parks that they visit at the conclusion of the event. The timeframe for the scavenger hunt will coincide with the Mayor's timeframe of July – September 2023.

### **Personnel**

Interviews will be held beginning next week for the Parks Seasonal Maintenance Worker recruitment to support the increase in summer activity within our Parks system.

Interviews will be held in two weeks for the vacant Parks Project Coordinator recruitment. The recruitment closed on May 22<sup>nd</sup>.

The Parks Field Supervisor II recruitment will close on June 5<sup>th</sup>. This recruitment is to fill the vacancy derived from the promotion of Milan Davis from a Supervisor II to Supervisor III level. Interviews for this position will occur the end part of June.

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

### **Recreation Update–June 2023**

#### **1. Events/Facility Use**

- The Riverfront Park facility calendar is filling up for the summer months! Each week through September there are multiple events scheduled. Currently there are thirty events scheduled in June, twenty-five in July, thirty-two in August, and sixteen in September.
- We have our first regular (weekly) vendor in the new Vendor Plaza at Riverfront Park. Each Tuesday Kona Ice will be on hand serving cool and tasty treats to park goers.
- The Movies in the Park series kicks off on Friday, June 30<sup>th</sup> with a showing of “Strange World”. This year all the movies will be held on Friday nights in the Gerry Frank I Salem Rotary Amphitheater in Riverfront Park. The remaining shows are as follows:
  - July 14 – Puss in Boots: The Last Wish
  - July 28 – Black Panther: Wakanda Forever
  - August 11 – The Bad Guys
  - August 15 – Minions: The Rise of Gru
- Winners of the First Friday Concert public vote have been announced. On June 2<sup>nd</sup>, July 7<sup>th</sup> and August 4<sup>th</sup>, from 8-10 pm the chosen band will play a free community concert in the Gerry Frank I Salem Rotary Amphitheater to cap off the Salem Art Walk efforts downtown. The performer line-up is:
  - June 2 – RiverCity Rock Star Royals
  - July 7 – Don Edwards
  - August 4 – Jake and the Hill People

#### **2. Youth Recreation Programs**

- The Recreation Summer Season has begun! We had an appreciated Salem Kids Relays event on May 13, and a record setting STRIDE event on May 20. Mayor Hoy and City Manager Keith Stahley braved 90-degree temperatures along with thousands of other families to cheer on kids in 3<sup>rd</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> grade at the Salem Kids Relays. The following weekend we held our first STRIDE event of the season, with more than 150 youth and adults participating (the highest participation rate we have ever had at a single STRIDE event)!
- We are in the process of onboarding approximately 30 new and returning staff to work in summer programs.
- Registration for summer programming continues to do well with some tennis camps filling up, in addition to Nature Camps and Jr. Ranger programs that have already reached capacity.
- The next special event staff will attend is Salem Service Day (formerly Public Works Day) on June 15 at Riverfront Park. Staff will be on site with fun activities and promoting programs being offered this summer!

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

- Thanks to the nice weather in May we are starting to finish up our spring leagues (6-week season and 12- week leagues are nearing the halfway point).

- Summer leagues are now set! Between league play during the week and tournaments on the weekends the park will be busy nearly every night this summer!
- We hosted our Play for Mother's Day Tournament on May 6 and 7. This was a city organized youth tournament and the first of three Play for a Cure Oregon Fundraiser tournaments we'll host this season. Twenty 10-and-under and 12-and-under teams from Oregon and Washington participated. On top of playing their fastpitch games the girls and their families donated \$884.00 toward the Linda L. Vladka Breast Wellness Foundation. Although the weekend started with a 2-hour rain delay on Saturday morning, the weather turned for the better and we ended up having a great weekend for a good cause!

# Urban Forestry Report, June 2023

City of Salem Parks & Recreation Division  
Community Services Department

Milan Davis, Urban Forester  
Parks & Recreation Supervisor

Reporting for the month of May 2023

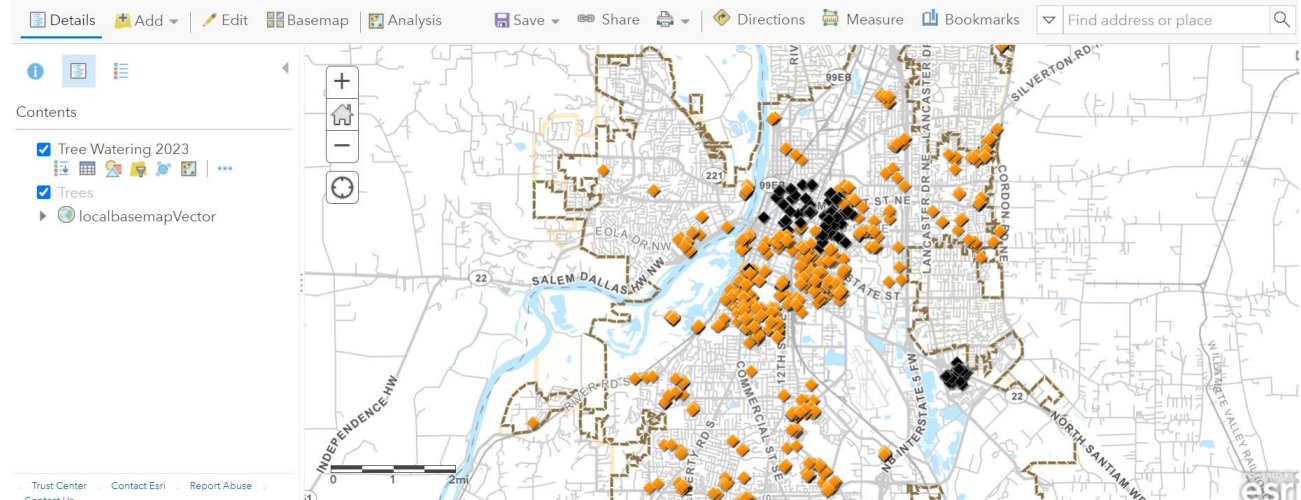
Highlighted projects, maintenance records, staff updates, summer schedule & general updates:

- Working with Parks Planning and Natural Resources to complete our \$9,000,000 grant application for the IRA UCF USFS, where we are focusing on making connections to Salem's lowest income lowest canopy areas as well as working with Salem Keizer schools and other organizations to increase tree canopy as well as provide maintenance where we see a large opportunity to make the most strides to increase tree canopy goals
- Urban Forestry full time staff along with our limited duration staff funded by the Ice Storm Restoration money combined to plant over 900, 1.5" caliper trees in the right of way this season from Nov-May. We typically plant 300-400 trees in a season so having the two additional staff made it possible for us to reach this goal. As part of the Ice storm restoration program, we set a goal to plant 1000 trees over the 18 months of the project. After 8 months we have planted 900 so we are on pace to double our projected number of trees. We were also able to plant over 1100, 1 gallon native trees in restoration areas at Minto Brown and Riverfront.
- We have been able to fill two of our vacant positions with the ice storm limited duration staff, including adding Nolan Rogers, OSU graduate in Urban Forestry with 3 years' experience in climbing and tree maintenance; and Kyle Fowler, ISA Certified Arborist with over 3 years in the tree industry and 10+ years in golf course maintenance. Both with great attitudes, work ethic, and a commitment to our "At Your Service" mentality. We moved forward with hiring a replacement for one of these positions, but due to the funds left in our ice storm restoration project, we won't fill the fourth position. We will complete the remainder of the project with three LD PMO positions, focusing on tree watering and establishment, grinding stumps and planting trees next fall.
- Completed our first official Urban Forestry Team Building workshop, where we focused on safety methods, teamwork, dealing with adversity, effective communication techniques and preparing for the future. We visited the Valley of the Giants and the entire staff contributed to an assigned topic. Overall, a great day and well received by staff. (see outline in the bottom of the report, and attached group photo)
- Urban Forestry staff continue to work on our EAB management and response plan with the Natural Resources team, the Oregon Department of Forestry, and the Oregon Department of Agriculture.
- Recently recruited for two positions with funds from Stormwater, with Parks Planning to have two interns work on GIS Inventory of city parks. They will be trained and supervised by Urban Forestry staff, focusing on selected parks and areas where Parks Planning and Urban Forestry see advantages for having trees in the current City Tree Inventory map. Currently there are over 50,000 trees in the inventory. Several interviews were administered and two candidates selected and will start on June 5<sup>th</sup>. Both interns selected bring GIS and forestry experience and are excited to have them on the team. One is a current Willamette U student and the other is a recent graduate from Southern Florida.

- Watering began in May and we will have two 500 gallon tanks on trucks as well as a 350gallon tank on one of our pick ups to handle the increased number of trees to water this season. We will hire additional Seasonal staff in July to take over these tasks so our full-time staff can focus on tree removals, pruning and maintenance. 1097 trees are being watered with about 10 gallons each visit; we hope to be able to reach these trees at least every 10 days until leaf drop in the Fall.

Home ▾ 2023 Tree Watering Map

Open in Map Viewer New Map 

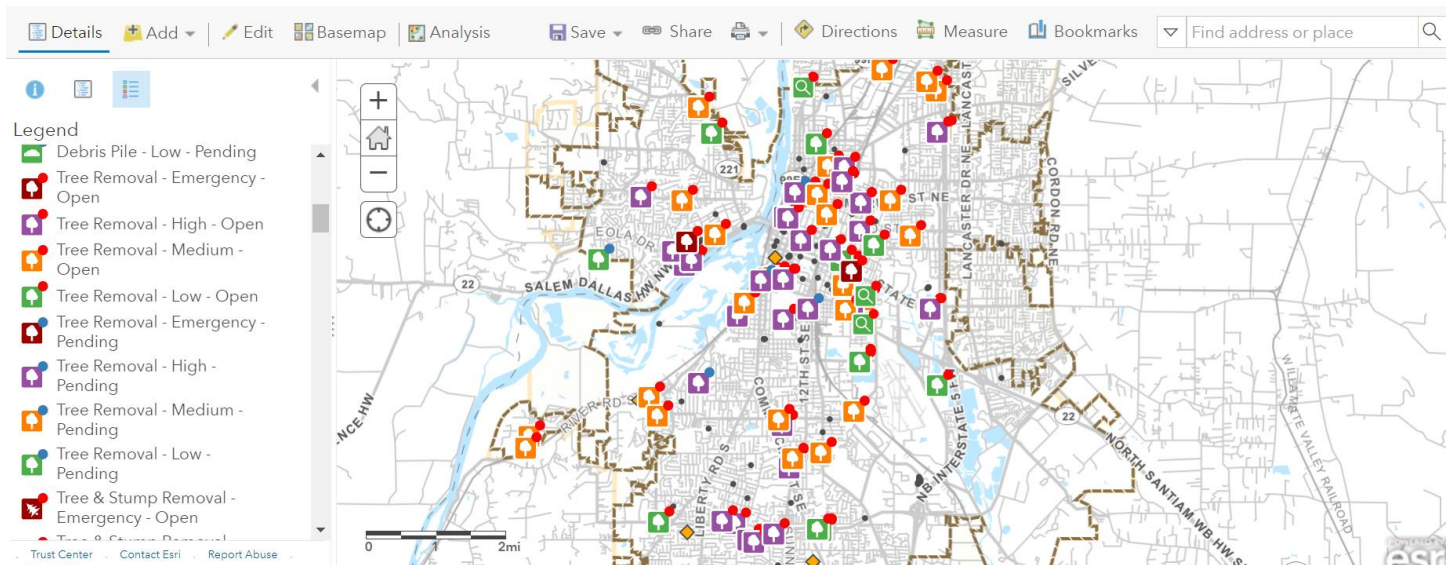


Tree watering map is used by staff to track and identify the routes for watering and changes color once the tree has been watered. We can monitor how many times the trees are watered in this system.

- Ongoing tree maintenance continued in May, and we inspected and closed over 70 Service Requests from the city dispatch center from 5/1-5/27. In the month of May the tree crew completed over 150 tree removal and pruning work orders.

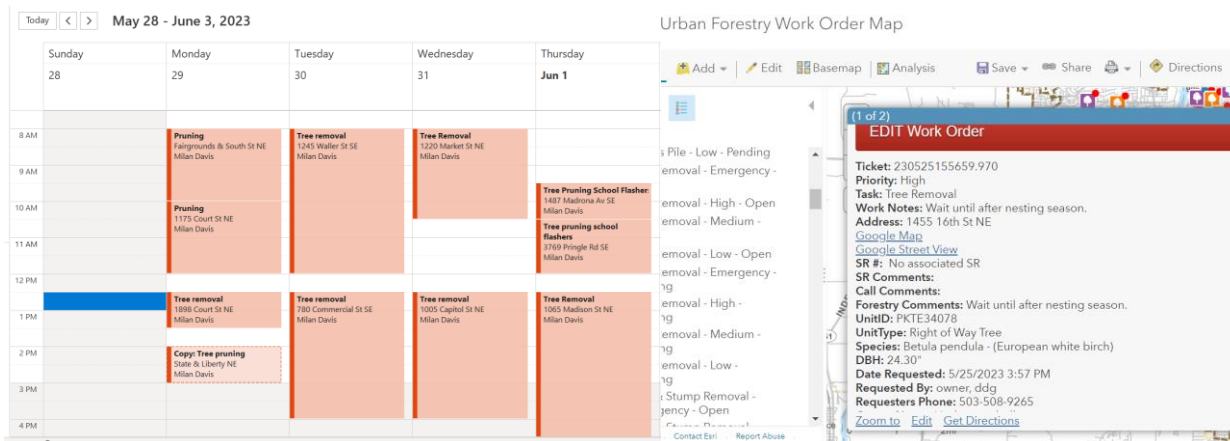
Home ▾ Urban Forestry Work Order Map

Open in Map Viewer New Map ▾ 



105 open tree removal work orders are scheduled on our GIS map





Crews have smart phones and work off calendar assignments, like the one shown above and can edit and close work orders from our GIS map(upper right image). They can also update and edit the map with freedom if they want to assess tree health or create work that should get done.

- Limited duration ice storm staff will continue to grind stumps through June and will temporarily stop due to the potential of dust from the ground drying over warmer weather. Currently there are 533 open stump work orders. Once a stump is ground it is placed on our tree planting list that would be delivered in Fall/winter of 2023.
- There are 322 open tree pruning work orders and due to the wet spring, we will continue to receive service requests from citizens, traffic engineers, chariots, streets and maintenance and other departments. Once the new fiscal years starts, we will assign some of this work to our contractor of record as well as have the stump crew and watering crew available to have three city pruning crews' mid-summer.
- We are replacing one of our fleet boom trucks this fiscal year and are looking at a replacement track lift. We have demo-ed a 75' Teupen track lift that would be a very versatile machine and give us access to parks and the back sides of street trees that we currently don't have. Currently we have to call contractors to do this work for us, if we need the track lift, which has been a lot over the last three years. See image below of the machine we used for the demo:



# Urban Forestry Team Building Field Trip

May 16th

Travel to Valley of the Giants to do a team building exercise, hike is approx. 1.4 miles, multiple location to stop and gather for planned team building exercises that will be outlined by supervisor and planned by staff. These exercises are based on work related topics that can improve work moral, trust, and safety.

## Team Building Exercises-

- 6:30 am Communication effectiveness and trust- Milan  
*Choose a team leader by secret ballot, have leader take team blindfolded to the van, must stay blindfolded until leaving the shops complex, vote on driver and shotgun*

DRIVE to VALLEY OF THE GIANTS approx. 1 hr

Hike to area along trail to stop and do breakout sessions:

- 8:30 Taking pride in your work- Craig *lead exercise on related topic*
- 9:00 Accountability and connectivity – Don *lead exercise in related topic*
- 9:30 Development and sharing secrets to success – Nolan *lead exercise in related topic*

BREAK – storytelling by Mike

- 10:15 Listening and understanding- Tom *lead exercise in related topic*
- 10:45 Safety and common sense – Cesar *lead exercise in related topic*
- 11:15 Finding calm in the face of pressure – Kyle *lead exercise in related topic*

LUNCH BREAK – bring lunch (potluck style)

- 1:00 Moving forward with setbacks – Matt *lead exercise in related topics*
- 1:30 Knowing your limitations and setting attainable goals – Brandon *lead exercise in related topic*
- 2:00 Awareness and predicting the future – Milan *lead exercise in related topic*

DRIVE BACK TO SHOPS

info

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Valley\\_of\\_the\\_Giants\\_%28Oregon%29](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Valley_of_the_Giants_%28Oregon%29)

trailhead and hike

[https://www.oregonhikers.org/field\\_guide/Valley\\_of\\_the\\_Giants\\_Trailhead](https://www.oregonhikers.org/field_guide/Valley_of_the_Giants_Trailhead)



Urban Forestry Team Building Exercise, Valley of the Giants, next to a 500 year old Douglas fir tree.

Back row L to R :Tom Bradley, Mike Tyler, Nolan Rogers, Brandon Culcasi, Cesar Estrada

Front row L to R: Milan Davis, Craig Capomaggi, Matt Stone, Don Gunther and Kyle Fowler

#### Urban Forestry Team:

Milan Davis, Supervisor, ISA BCMA

Tom Bradley, City Arborist PC, ISA Certified Arborist TRAQ

Don Gunther, City Arborist PC, ISA Certified Arborist TRAQ

Kyle Fowler, Tree Trimmer, ISA Certified Arborist

Nolan Rogers, Tree Trimmer

Mike Tyler, Tree Trimmer

Cesar Estrada, Tree Crew PMO

Matt Stone, Limited Duration Ice Storm PMO

Craig Capomaggi, Limited Duration Ice Storm PMO


Brandon Culcasi, Limited Duration Ice storm PMO




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-Villalobos, Staff Assistant   
Public Works Department

**DATE:** June 1, 2023

**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 list of incidents during April 2023. The dollar amount shown represents the estimated repair/replacement cost for the damage sustained.

A total value of \$818.15 in repair/replacement costs occurred from 38 incidents. In comparison, the total from April 2022 was \$2,067.47 from 51 incidents.

cc: Keith Stahley, City Manager  
Trevor Womack, Chief of Police  
Chris Hoy, City Mayor  
Lt. Ben Bales, Commander, SPD  
Irma Coleman, Neighborhood Services Specialist  
Reed Godfrey, Deputy Fire Chief, SFD  
Michelle Teed, Risk Manager  
Jennifer Hingston, Management Analyst, SPD  
Lt. Treven Upkes, SPD, Community Response Section  
Brian Martin, 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	2	\$90.00
Bush's Pasture Park	6	\$60.00
Englewood Park	5	\$115.00
Harry & Grace Thorp Park	1	\$20.00
Hoodview Park	7	\$95.00
Hoover Park	2	\$30.00
Lansing Park	1	\$10.00
McKay School Park	1	\$15.00
McRae Park	1	\$45.00
Northgate Park	1	\$15.00
Orchard Heights Park	1	\$20.00
River Road Park	2	\$120.00
Riverfront Park	4	\$40.00
Wallace Marine Park	1	\$60.00
Weathers Street Park	3	\$80.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>\$815.00</b>