

North Lancaster Neighborhood Association

Monthly Meeting

July 5, 2023, at 6:30 PM

Salem, Oregon & via Zoom

1. Call to Order / Introductions

The meeting was called to order at 6:36 PM, followed by introductions of all present in person, there were no attendees on Zoom.

Board Member	Position	Attendance
Deanna Garcia	Chair	Present
Doug Rodgers	Vice-Chair	Absent – Unexcused
Christine Potter	Secretary/Treasurer	Present
Shirlene Gonzalez	Parks Chair	Present
Dennis Will	Land Use Chair	Present
Carl Engstrom	Member at large	Present
Denise Currey	Member at large	Absent – Unexcused
Kim Currey	Member at large	Absent – Unexcused
Pamela Blake	Member at large	Present
Bobby Ottis	Member at large	Absent
Patty Tipton	Member at large	Absent
Claudine Shaw	Member at large	Absent

Attendees: Sergeant Baskett (SPD), Ally Gambill & Tyson Cox (Physiq Fitness)

Neighbors: n/a

2. Approval of Minutes

The minutes from June 2023 were submitted for Board review on 6/17/2023.

Shirlene motioned to approve. Pamela seconded the motion. The minutes from June 2023 were unanimously approved.

3. Police Report – Sergeant Baskett from Salem Police Department

- a. In 2021, an Independent Assessment of SPD’s Policies, Procedures and Operations was finalized and delivered to the city. To meet initiatives that were developed based on the recommendations, a significant increase in staffing is needed (estimate of 60 additional officers would need to be hired.) Implementation of some programs is unrealistic based on current staffing as the focus and feasibility of existing resources is call-response rather than community engagement. Some services have been cut. Former SRO officers in schools were absorbed back into patrol positions.

Q – *Why hire two new deputy chiefs?* These are not new hires, there was some restructuring. Chief Womack doesn’t intend to add managerial positions until other hiring needs are met.

- b. Based on city funding, the city outlook isn’t good, even holding the line. Monday, July 10th is the next scheduled city council meeting. People are encouraged to voice concerns and ask questions, as well as research the [proposed payroll tax](#). Note that SPD is not the

only entity struggling, the fire department is also down about 20 positions. The 911 call center is also significantly understaffed, resulting in increased call wait times.

- c. National Night Out is scheduled for Tuesday, August 1st. Registrations for block parties are open and the [related form can be found here](#).
- d. North Salem is seeing a lot of gang related turf warfare and an increase in graffiti. Help tamp down turf violence and keep graffiti out of the community by reporting and removing it quickly. A report can be made by phone at 503-371-4264, via email at graffiti@cityofsalem.net or by use of a print form (see attachments.)

Q – *I received a recent email from the city that related to policing in Salem, but the included link was reported as suspicious. I recall there being an attachment regarding reduced services such as noise complaints. Can we get the message details?* Sgt Baskett couldn't speak to the specific message. [This information regarding Safe Salem 2023 may be relevant](#).

Q – *Will there be a community meeting with Chief Womack this month?* Sgt Baskett will email the chief and follow up with NOLA.

Q – *Was there a ban on fireworks in Salem on the 4th of July?* The city put this message out on social media on the 3rd due to fire hazard and winds.

Q – *Isn't the city going to build another fire station?* Sgt Baskett was not informed on that topic and recommended those interested can research how the proposed payroll tax is to be budgeted, and/or follow up with city council.

Q – *Is a neighborhood watch worth it?* There is a benefit to having the extra sets of eyes out there who observe and report, but some people can be overzealous and insert themselves into situations they shouldn't or report incidents that aren't an issue. It's not known whether any of the associations have an established neighborhood watch.

Homeless encampment reporting portal [HERE](#)

Sergeant Baskett can be reached for questions by email: mbaskett@cityofsalem.net

- 4. Councilor Report: Councilor Julie Hoy – Ward 6 and/or Jose Gonzalez – Ward 5
 - a. Our councilors were not in attendance for 4th consecutive month and did not provide a report to be given in their absence.
 - b. The board is frustrated about the attendance record and lack of reports. Deanna will follow up via email both councilors.

Q – *Should NOLA explore changing our meeting date/time?* We will revisit the topic at the annual meeting.

- 5. Physiq Fitness - Ally Gambill & Tyson Cox – <https://physiqfitness.com>

- a. Their Lancaster location is open (former 24-hour fitness) at 451 Lancaster Drive. Ally runs the facility, and they are proud to introduce the nice, safe and inexpensive gym to the community.
- b. Physiq Fitness started out of the back of a car as a personal trainer business, and now there are five gym locations in Albany, Keizer and Salem. The owner is a resident of the Salem-Keizer area.
- c. They are interested in partnering with neighborhoods and schools. A lot of youth goes to the gym, which is a safe place to exercise and get together.
- d. The gym has a lot of free weights, circuit equipment and is “super clean”; amenities include childcare, access to trainers, tanning beds, hydro-massage beds, red light therapy and the largest free weight section in Willamette Valley. They also have an outdoor workout area.
- e. Hours: M-F 4am-10pm, Sat 6am-8pm, Sun 7am-7pm

Q – *Do you have fitness classes?* Classes are available from 5am to 7pm for all different fitness levels and include cardio, Zumba, Yoga, BTC (balance-tone-core), etc.

Q – *What did you do with the space where the pool was located?* They built the biggest free weights area in this part of the valley.

Q – *What are your membership packages?* Fees range between \$10 - \$50 per month. Student summer memberships are \$99.

Q – *Are you hiring?* They are probably hiring soon, but currently have a lot of students on staff.

Q – *What type of certifications are held by your staff?* CPR, tanning, food handler, and personal trainers have different certifications related to their programs.

NOLA invited Physiq Fitness to participate in our NNO event scheduled for August 2nd.

6. Committee Reports & Board Business

- a. Update from Quarterly Chairs Meeting – Refer to full recap in attachments for details.
 - i. Salem’s Customer Service Center is now open. This is the one-stop place to do your business with the city.
 - ii. Marion Polk Food Share resources are available, and the program has several opportunities to volunteer. Pauline Memorial AME Zion at 3593 Sunnyview Rd NE (crossroad Fisher) is NOLA’s nearest food pantry. It is open on Tuesdays from 10:30am-2:30pm.
 - iii. West Salem’s mural is being painted now. NOLA still has grant funds to be used by the end of summer for our own mural which is intended to provide traffic calming on Hollywood near the entrance to McKay Park.

Q – *Can we request an extension so this can be completed after the construction on Hollywood which is scheduled to be completed in November?* Deanna will follow up. An alternative location was suggested on Brown Road. Ultimately, the response regarding the expiration of funds will influence our decision. If needed, this will be handled as board business in August.

- b. Transit – Doug Rodgers - no report--- visit [Cherriots web page](#) for details.

- c. Traffic – Deanna Garcia – Construction for crosswalk on Lancaster near Watson/Judy has begun.
 - d. Land Use – Dennis Will – Walmart wants to add new signage.
 - e. Parks – Shirlene Gonzalez - \$6,000 of our \$8,000 grant request will be funded for four sport benches and one picnic table at Lansing Park.
 - f. Bylaw Update – No report available.
 - g. National Night Out Planning Update
 - i. 4-5 organizations confirmed their intent to participate.
 - ii. Food trucks still needed.
 - iii. Planning Meeting scheduled for Wednesday, July 12th via Zoom.
 - iv. Physiq will donate a few memberships, outreach for additional raffle prizes is ongoing.
7. Open Forum for any discussion
- Q – *Is NOLA's annual meeting in September or October?* It is September, but NOLA may want to update bylaws so annual meeting is in October and election is in November.
 - There are currently two campers in McKay Park. Observers are recommended to report in the portal (see Homeless Encampment Reporting portal link above.)
8. Close of Meeting / Adjournment
- There being no further business before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 8:06pm.

Graffiti Abatement Report Form



Please fill out this form to the best of your ability and be as descriptive as possible.

Address of graffiti: _____

Location (car, garage, fence, business, etc.): _____

Contact information (email for phone): _____

Are you the complainant? Yes No Are you the victim? Yes No

Description of graffiti: _____

Cost of damage to repair, if known: _____

Please return this form to the Salem Police Department via fax, mail, or in person.

Salem Police Department
ATTN: Graffiti Abatement
555 Liberty Street SE #130
Salem, OR 97301
503-588-6243
503-588-6135 fax



Quarterly Chairs Meeting Recap: June 30, 2023

Welcome and Introductions

Mayor Hoy welcomed Neighborhood Chairs and guests. He began introductions to new employees or employees new to their roles, including:

- Scott Archer, Deputy City manager for Community Service (since May 2023). The Community Services Department brings together community-facing services including Neighborhood Associations, Parks and Recreation, Center 50+, Library, Homelessness programs, youth development, and public art.
- Brian Martin, PE, is Salem’s new Public Works Director. Brian has served in other Public Works leadership roles for about 17 years.
- Joe Hutchinson is Salem’s new Emergency Manager (since June 2023), attached to the Salem Fire Department.
- Sarah Baldwin has joined Salem Housing Authority as their new public information officer (since June 2023).

Mayor/Councilor/Manager Comments

Mayor Hoy invited Councilors and the Deputy City Manager to offer comments.

- Mayor Hoy shared his interest in getting out to everyone’s Neighborhood Associations at least one each year. He asked Chairs to let Irma know of their interest in his joining their future meetings.
- Scott Archer shared the July 4th event this year will be at the Fairgrounds, with a smaller version of the State Fair beginning at 3 pm and fireworks at 10 pm.
- Salem’s Customer Service Center opens Friday, June 30 at 10 am at Civic Center. This is a one-stop place to do your business with the City.

Presentations

Marion Polk Food Share. Megan Rivera shared information about [Marion Polk Food Share](#), the area’s regional food bank with about 9 million pounds moving through its warehouse distribution center. She explained that Food Share also runs the Meals on Wheels Program, a Youth Farm at Chemeketa Community College, Farmshare RX, congregate meal sites, pantries, home delivery food boxes, and other programs with community partners. Megan shared that, in March, our region saw the highest number of food pantry visits in Food Share history at 18,000 visits. The network of 45 public food pantries at local nonprofits and churches are as barrier free as possible – just asking name and zip code. More than 70% of last month’s 16,000 visits are occurring in Salem. Pre-Pandemic, visits were about 10,000 each month. Megan asked Neighborhood Chairs to share information about Food Share resources available. [Find a food pantry in your neighborhood](#). You can also volunteer – Meals on Wheels always needs drivers; if you have more produce in your garden at home than you can use, you can take it to a pantry near you.

Q: Is Food Share still involved in Spring break or Summer lunch programs at schools?

A: Food Share is focusing on rural areas, where districts need more support to make food available.

Q: If a homeowner can’t keep up with a fruit bearing tree, is there some place to get help and put that food into the distribution network?

A: Salem Harvest is the best contact for that.

Neighbor to Neighbor Program. Jared Rogers shared information about the [Neighbor 2 Neighbor Program](#) which offers free mediation throughout Salem through its 70+ volunteers throughout Marion, Linn, and Benton counties. They offer mediation for almost everything between willing parties – except in divorce or court-ordered custody. If interested, they offer training with apprenticeship that allows individuals to become full-fledged mediators, per Oregon statutes.

[Polk County Mediation Center](#) serves West Salem.

Q: Do you help with landlord disputes, particularly with seniors?

A: Yes, we could help with that – with the preface that participation is still voluntary – we’d be happy to facilitate a conversation between the parties.

Q: Can you work with larger groups?

A: Our big focus is mediation but, we can offer group facilitation with enough advance planning.

Q: Are any of the 70+ volunteers serving as mediators bilingual?

A: Some are and, we work with professional interpreters who can help, with enough notice.

Q: How about HOA conflicts related to changes in ownership?

A: Yes, we can help with that.

Q: Where does your funding come from?

A: Our funding comes through University of Oregon, who manages the statewide grant for dispute resolution centers throughout the state.

Camping in Public Spaces and Sheltering Update. Gretchen Bennett shared information about and Salem’s efforts to bring City Code into compliance with recent [statewide law changes about camping in public spaces](#). The new rules are fairly similar to current practice and our focus on outreach, information and referral as a first step. The new rules spell out required notice and retaining property; exclude camping from residential zones, parks, vision clearance areas, and in proximity to existing shelters; and require a 36-inch pathway for travel on sidewalks.

In sheltering news:

- the Navigation Center is now open in SESNA
- an open house is scheduled for July 13 for the Turner Road micro shelter village, serving 18–24-year-olds, in SEMCA
- Salem Housing Authority’s Yaquina Hall is almost all leased up, some of the people moving in are coming from micro shelters.

Q: Are we making a dent in the population living unsheltered in our community?

A: The data suggest we are. We know 60% of those existing the micro shelter villages are existing to positive destinations. We are working on this regionally, through the Mid-Willamette Valley Homeless Alliance and were disappointed to hear that Monmouth’s proposal for a shelter just failed. Inflow into the system is dynamic. We’ll also be doing a performance audit on our sheltering programs to confirm their effectiveness and consider adjustments.

Q: Read in the news that funding for this work wasn’t available in the Legislature session. What do you know about that?

A: Salem didn’t see any funding from the Legislature to continue these programs. We are anticipating support to sustain these efforts from the Safe Salem payroll tax. The proposal includes funding for more Police resources, more Fire resources, and to continue our homeless programs. [Find more about the Safe Salem proposal](#). On July 10, Salem City Council will have a public hearing on the proposal.

Q: I saw a report on social media of a fire at Wallace Marine Park. Did that happen?

A: No one in the room was aware of the report.

Q: Is the new hotel on Fisher Road open only in daytime?

A: The ARCHES Inn is open 24/7. The ARCHES Lodge, on Fisher, isn't open yet and is converting to veterans housing. There are some neighbors camping on ODOT property and we have outreach and the Police Homeless Services Team (HST) on Lancaster daily.

Q: Is an employee tax based on best practice? Are others doing it?

A: Yes. Eugene administers a similar tax, Metro administers an employer tax, and Department of Revenue has experience with this, too. It is a payroll, not an income tax. It will be applied to employees working within the City limits. The Mayor shared his perspectives on the property tax system and the challenge specific to Salem as the Capitol and home to more than \$2 billion in property off the tax rolls. In response to other questions about remote employees, whether a tax on employers (not employees) has been considered, and whether a minimum salary had been set, the Mayor spoke to tradeoffs and choices which led to this proposal.

Neighborhood Chair Discussions

- Lynn Takata gave a big shout out to Police, Federal task force, CAU, and code compliance for the progress and big changes they've seen in the neighborhood.
- The Englewood Forest Festival, in its fifth year, is listed as one of the top Oregon summer festivals. Join the celebration on August 12.
- On August 2, NOLA is celebrating the first year of its merger with Lansing and National Night Out from 6 - 8 pm at McKay Park, there will be a resource fair, food trucks and lots of fun.
- Salem Leadership Foundation has four community partnership teams in Salem and one in Keizer. These are lunch time gatherings, organized around high school feeder areas, that bring together schools, businesses, church, and neighbor folks to amplify great ideas and things Neighborhood Associations are already doing. Salem Seekers came to them for funding. Seekers are at ELNA's Weathers Park (graffiti reports are way down), in July at Woodmansee, in August at Orchard Heights, and at Northgate Park this summer.
- In West Salem this weekend, the street mural will be painted and there will be a block party Sunday night. If your Neighborhood hasn't yet gotten to do a street mural, we have funding for it – reach out to Irma to get yours going.
- A new 90 parks in 90 days video series is being filmed by the Mayor. He's taped 26 so far. Contact Irma if you have a person or a park, you'd like featured.
- Ted Burney mentioned a recent successful event in SWAN where neighbors removed overgrown ivy and blackberry from a small, out of the way area in the park. The area has been reclaimed as a butterfly garden and now, neighbors are coming out all the time to keep an eye on the plantings.

City Announcements

- Have a project that needs people power, we have a local faith-based group looking to partner in our community. Contact Gretchen Bennett for access to your labor!
- September 25, the Navy will be here. They are also looking for volunteer opportunities during that fleet week. Watch for more!
- Angie reminded everyone of [National Night Out](#). If you are interested in hosting a block party, register soon.
- Josh mentioned that City Council adopted the [FY24 Budget](#), referred everyone to the Budget In Brief, and offered to come to Neighborhood Association meetings if of interest.

- Irma offered yard signs and t-shirts to everyone. You can schedule a photo shoot for more marketing and yard signs if you haven't already. Several [NAs](#) are doing special community engagement projects, reach out to learn more and how you can start your own project.
- Mark asked people to be careful as crews are active during this summer maintenance season. The Airport is ready for commercial air service, and we expect an announcement from an airline soon. The Public Works building will be opening in October.
- Julie passed out a brochure (attached) on the planning work that will be going on for the next three years, as follow-on work from Our Salem in parks, transportation, housing, and climate planning.
- Alice shared that Library hours were added in May. The [Library of Things](#) is up and running – and very popular – with 197 kinds of things being checked out. Summer reading programs is underway and provides incentives for readers of all ages to stay engaged in reading. The reptile program is happening Saturday, June 8th, at 11 am. There are music programs all the time, a Teen cosplay camp, and the pop-up library is always a hit. Keep an eye out for the libraries' book van in your neighborhood!
- Jessica shared that 49 of the 52 units at [Salem Housing Authority's Yaquina Hall](#) are occupied. Sequoia Crossings' 60 units (54 1-bedroom; 6 2-bedroom) are expected to be on-line this winter. Next, SHA will be renovating two buildings – Englewood West and Southview Terrace – with a plan to add subsidies to the properties.
- Heidi shared that the [WOW Van](#) (Wellness on Wheels) is out and about this summer. You can even follow it online. The WOW van allows for pop-up events at locations across the City. Have an idea? Let Heidi know. Also, watch for zucchini racing at events this summer!



YOUR GUIDE TO PLANNING FOR OUR FUTURE

We adopted Our Salem – an update to the City’s Comprehensive Plan – in 2022. Now, our planning work continues.

Our Salem set the policy framework for future growth and development by updating the Salem Area Comprehensive Plan, Comprehensive Plan Map, zoning map, and zoning code.

Now, we're focusing on detailed planning for:

- Healthy streams
- Improved climate resilience and reduced emissions
- Green space for everyone
- Walking, biking, roadways, street designs, and future investments
- More housing choices and walkable centers
- Traffic calming

Equity is central to all we do. Why is equity important?

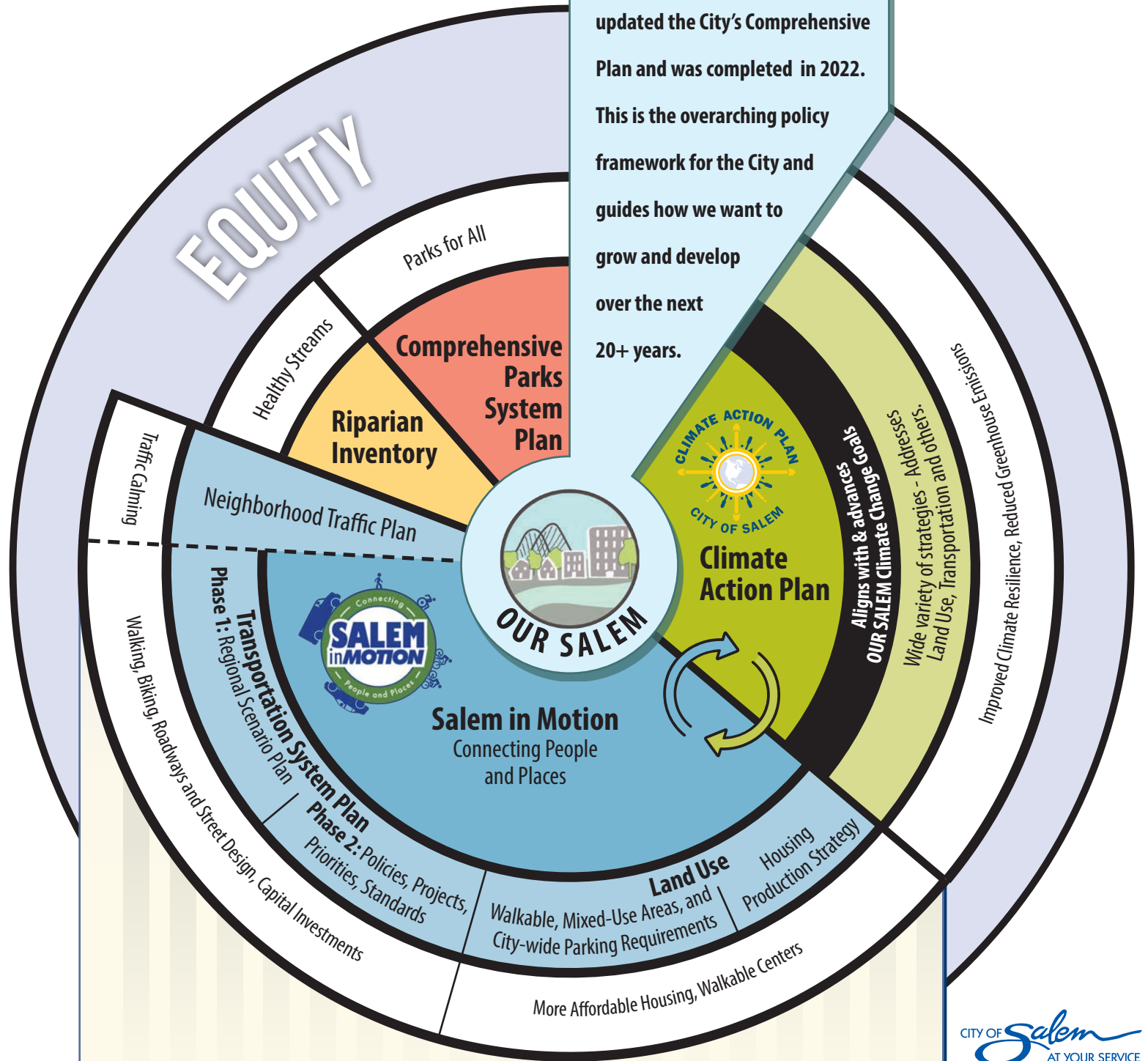
- Equity means all residents have the opportunity to participate and thrive in an inclusive society. This requires rectifying unequal access to resources and opportunities caused by historic and current systems of oppression and exclusion related to race, income, ability, gender, sexual identity, and other factors.
- An equitable community overcomes disparities by providing increased levels of support to community members based on their needs. In Salem, it is a priority to advance equity in decision-making processes and the outcomes of those processes, including policies, investments, practices, and procedures.

CONNECTIONS

OUR SALEM

is the planning process that updated the City's Comprehensive Plan and was completed in 2022.

This is the overarching policy framework for the City and guides how we want to grow and develop over the next 20+ years.



STATE OF OREGON: Climate Friendly and Equitable Community Rules

- » New and amended STATE RULES focused on Land Use, Transportation, and Equity.
- » Direct REQUIREMENTS to cities including Transportation, Land Use, Housing, and Equity.

PROJECT DESCRIPTIONS

Climate Action Plan

2022 Accepted / Ongoing Implementation

Aligns with and advances the Our Salem project



- Outlines strategies and actions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and increase climate resiliency in Salem.
- Includes 183 strategies related to transportation and land use, energy, economic development, natural resources, materials and waste, local food systems, and strengthening our community.

Comprehensive Parks System Master Plan

2023-2026

Builds on the Our Salem project

- Outlines goals, policies, and implementation steps to guide park acquisition and development over the next 20 years.

Neighborhood Traffic Management Plan

2023

Implements the TSP

- Outlines how traffic speeds and volume concerns in residential areas are examined, prioritized, and addressed on an ongoing basis.

Riparian Inventory

Dates to be determined

Builds on the Our Salem project

- Inventories of rivers, creeks, and waterbodies and the land along these features known as riparian corridors.
- Leads to updated regulations that increase protections of waterways and riparian corridors.
- Complies with Oregon's Statewide Land Use Planning Goal 5.

INFLUENCES

Climate-Friendly and Equitable Communities (CFEC)

Adopted in 2022 by the Oregon Land Conservation and Development Commission

- State rules that require cities in metropolitan areas to make changes to transportation and land use plans and parking regulations.
- Aims to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from transportation and promote equity.



INFLUENCES

Salem in Motion

2023-2026

Builds on the Our Salem project and Climate Action Plan

- Updates the Salem Transportation System Plan and implements the State's Climate-Friendly and Equitable Communities rules.

► Transportation System Plan (TSP) 2023-2026

Part of the Salem in Motion project

- Outlines policies, programs, and projects to meet transportation challenges and priorities over the next 20 years.

► TSP Phase 1: Regional Scenario Plan 2023-2024

Required by the CFEC Rules

- Establishes high-level strategies to meet the State's climate pollution reduction targets.
- Focuses on changes and investments in active transportation, transit, parking management, streets, and other related improvements.
- Requires regional partnership (with Keizer and Marion County).

► TSP Phase 2: Policies, Projects, Priorities, Standards

Prioritizes projects to align with Regional Scenario Plan

- Updates the Salem Transportation System Plan.
- Implements local priorities through new transportation project lists, standards, and policies.

► Land Use: Parking Reform 2023

Required by CFEC Rules

- Changes to citywide parking regulations required by the State.
- Eliminates minimum off-street parking requirements citywide.
- Revises parking lot regulations.

► Land Use: Walkable, Mixed-Use Areas 2023-2026

Builds on the Our Salem project and required by CFEC Rules

- Promotes compact, walkable, mixed-use development and supports access by people who walk, bike, or take transit.
- Builds on the Our Salem project that rezoned areas to different mixed-use zones.

► Housing Production Strategy 2024-2025

Implements the Our Salem project and is required by the State

- Describes strategies to encourage the production of housing to meet Salem's housing needs.
- Focuses on regulatory, financial, and land-based strategies.



PLANNING FOR OUR FUTURE

RESOURCES AND CONTACT INFORMATION



Resources

SALEM IN MOTION

www.cityofsalem.net/salem-in-motion

OUR SALEM

www.cityofsalem.net/our-salem

CLIMATE ACTION PLAN

www.cityofsalem.net/climate-action

PARK PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

www.cityofsalem.net/park-planning

CLIMATE-FRIENDLY AND EQUITABLE COMMUNITIES

www.oregon.gov/lcd/CL/Pages/CFEC.aspx

www.oregon.gov/odot/Planning/Pages/Climate-Transportation-Planning.aspx

NEIGHBORHOOD TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT PLAN

www.cityofsalem.net/community/transportation-getting-around/traffic-road-conditions/neighborhood-traffic-management-plan

Contact Information

GENERAL INFORMATION

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RIPARIAN INVENTORY

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YA VIENE EL FESTIVAL DE SALEM A RIVERFRONT PARK

GRATIS

SEPT. 23, 2023
12-6 PM



Disfrute de comida cultural, arte, música, danza y actividades para toda la familia. www.cityofsalem.net/vivasalem



SALEM'S HISPANIC FESTIVAL IS COMING TO RIVERFRONT PARK

FREE

SEPT. 23, 2023
12-6 PM



Experience cultural food, art, music, performances and fun family activities. www.cityofsalem.net/vivasalem

