

MNA Board Meeting 7/12/2023

Minutes

Meeting called to order at 6:34pm by Chair Pamela

Secretary Alan Tocchini absent, Board Member Nathan Soltz will act as Temporary Secretary

Board members present: Pamela Schmidling, Alan Meyer, Muriel Meyer, Janet Bubl, Mark Olson, Geoffrey James, Nathan Soltz, Jenny Hiatt, Sue Reid, Liz Backer. Kurtis Smith is excused.

Quorum is present

Officer Parmer: August 1 is National Night Out, info on city website how to register parties; violent crime has steadily increased, property crime is pretty stagnant; encourage sharing recruitment ads for Salem PD

-Alan Meyer says multi-residence mailboxes in the area are being broken into; asks if a video of break-ins would benefit police; Officer says yes, though no guarantee, vehicle descriptions and especially license plate (even partial) are the most beneficial; recommends signing up for USPS "Informed Delivery," which notifies them of all mail coming and delivered

-Pamela says Wednesday, July 19 meeting with the chief of police – time and location to be announced

Councilor Trevor Phillips report:

-Approved city budget, expands police department, EMS and Fire; paid for by operations fee and new employee payroll tax 0.0184%, would have had to slash all general fund items by 12%; Measures 5 and 50 greatly impair city funding, for example, an equivalent new house built next to an existing house may pay half as much in property tax; Eugene has similar payroll tax, though theirs is less, but their property tax rate is more because theirs was frozen at \$7.20 per thousand, Salem is \$5.83 per thousand, 24% more

-Alan Meyer says that while he supports increasing allocations that result from payroll tax, he is disappointed that the payroll tax wasn't sent to the voters, also that the homeless shelters are getting so much funding; Trevor says that the managed microshelter sites have an outsized positive effect on community, including saving money on providing services to homeless

-\$2 billion in state property that Salem can't tax, \$6-7 million in taxes lost

-Chronically unsheltered rate in Salem is higher than any other city in state

-A ballot referral requires significant resources, very challenging campaign, complicated communication about complicated tax and real consequences of not doing the tax, reductions would have been catastrophic

-Geoffrey James says he supports Trevor's position

-Janet Bubl asks if it's necessary to have legislation for state to pay the property tax; Trevor says that Mayor Hoy, when he was interim State Representative, introduced a bill to do that, but didn't go anywhere, most states have Contribution in Lieu of Taxes (CLIT) for state capitals

-Email Trevor questions about payroll tax so he can get answers from staff

-Nathan Soltz says he supports Trevor's position, understands that part of the reason the tax won't be implemented until next year is just how long it takes to set up logistics of collecting the tax and if this was referred to voters, even if it did pass, it would just be that much longer until it

was collected; also, consequences of not increasing taxes would be drastic and it was incumbent on the councilors to make this decision to support the city, we elected them exactly to make decisions like this

-Trevor says he will look into getting tour of Managed Microshelter Sites and Navigation Center for MNA Members

#### Goal 5 Riparian Corridor Planning Project Phase 1 Presentation by City staff (Jeff and Jen) (appended to minutes)

-In response to question from Geoff, staff says that cities only implement three areas of Goal 5: riparian areas, wetlands, wildlife habitat; only been funded to work on riparian area project at this point

-Trevor says there is only one city long-range planner, asks if it would help with projects like this to have more

-ESEE Analysis = Economic, Social, Environmental, and Energy

-Staff says will be consulting with Keizer and county on if there is a desire to work together on larger project

-Janet asks what the timeframe is, Geoff asks when mapping will be done – staff says mapping will be done “soon,” in the next few weeks

-Liz asks how we/public can be more involved; staff says there will be opportunities for public input/involvement as more internal decisions get made

-Pamela asks if there will be a task force from the neighborhoods, staff says they don't know yet, Pamela says that we'd like one

-Janet asks how they map; staff says they have official state resources, internal resources, and LIDAR technology to help map; there is other mapping that will capture seasonal streams; whether to include seasonal streams in project

-State and federal regulations already about “filling” waterway – this project would not affect those regulations; need permit for “fill” unless below a certain threshold set by regulations

-The Board gives kudos and thanks to the staff for a great presentation

#### Committees:

-Traffic – Alan Meyer:

-Three bushes blocking view on Pringle (before Battle Creek) have been removed

-During Annual Meeting, Bennie mentioned issue with Natural Grocers parking lot, there's a lane but no light to turn in from Commercial; Assistant City Signal Engineer, Eric, sent Alan a very thorough email about costs and logistics, said it would cost about \$50,000, also said that there are a number of similar issues all up and down Commercial

-Goal 5 presentation by Liz Backer:

-Goal 5 handout put together by Liz

-Salem in compliance with wetlands category, just starting to work on riparian (as presented by staff guests), not doing anything with wildlife habitat

-Trevor says not having additional long-range planners a major issues with compliance here too; by comparison, Salem has one and Eugene has eight

-We are 50 years out of compliance, glad to see ball might finally be starting to roll

-Land Use – Geoffrey James:

-Application for Meyer Farm development, would have caused significant loss of trees; planning administrator administratively approved subdivision adjustment; MNA agreed we should appeal it, we sent a letter to the city, though the city didn't respond or recognize MNA's appeal letter; Geoff reminded the city we sent it, then was told that the applicant withdrew the application

-There is a new application for the subdivision property line adjustment, staff told him this is a smaller property line adjustment, therefore not required to have public notice and hearing

-Staff told him that ordinance does not require notification of public comment for subdivision property line adjustment; land use action is listed on city website; deadline for comments is 5pm this Friday

-Trevor asks if this application is materially different from the one that they withdrew; depending on scope of application, there are tiers of public notice required, this may be a minor adjustment

-Trevor says he wants to get current structure and surrounding 4-5 acres included in Hilfiker Park; there may be funds from the City of Salem to purchase the property

-Jenny Hiatt brings up issue of proposed street names are based on Trail Blazers, could we do something to better recognize Meyer family and local tribes

**-Nathan Soltz moves that we support Councilor Phillips' proposal for putting the additional 4-5 acres mentioned from the Meyer Farm into Hilfiker Park. Seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

**-Nathan Soltz moves that we oppose the current proposed street names in the Meyer Farm development and request that all of the street names honor the Meyer Family and the local Indian tribes. Seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

-Parks – Muriel Meyer:

-MNA did not get parks grant

-Update from Matt Johnson on Morningside Park (appended to minutes)

-Kudos to Matt for his work and responsiveness

-Trevor says currently only one city park ranger, new budget has three

-CERT – Pamela:

-Met new CERT manager

-Liquor License Applications: none

-Hours – 20 for Muriel Meyer, 1 for Alan Meyer, 2 for Geoffrey James, 6 for Liz Backer, 4 for Jenny Hiatt, 3 for Sue Reid, 12 for Pamela Schmidling

-Communications – Jenny Hiatt

-500 stickers, got a banner, got three lawn signs

-General support for trying hybrid meeting, e.g. with Zoom

-40% increase in engagement on Facebook page

**-Liz Backer moves that we set up an Instagram account; seconded; motion approved unanimously.**

**-Liz Backer moves that we have our August meeting in Morningside Park and provide**

**refreshments, using communication funds if needed; seconded; motion approved unanimously.**

-Alan emailed Salem Reporter to send reporter to attend our annual meeting, was told that there wasn't staff capacity to attend, but then they published big story on SCAN's 50-year Anniversary; Jenny says in her experience, they are more likely to publish pre-written articles, they want to report local news, but don't have reporter workforce to send someone out.

Elections:

**-For Secretary: Pamela Schmidling nominated Nathan Soltz; Nathan accepted, noting that he knows he may be unable to attend a couple meetings in the fall/winter; elected by acclamation.**

**-For Chair: Alan Meyer nominated Pamela Schmidling; Pamela accepted; elected by acclamation.**

**-For Vice-Chair: Janet Bubl nominated Alan Meyer; Alan accepted; elected by acclamation.**

Further announcements:

-Chair reports that campers must leave 36" path on sidewalk per Neighborhood Association Chairs' meeting

-Councilor Phillips says that 60% of residents in microshelters move on to better, more stable housing; Trevor says national goal for "good" is 25%

-Volunteer recognition nominations due in August

-Viva Salem in September

-September 25 – Navy will be visiting Salem on ships

-July 23 – Ironman, watch for road closures

Meeting adjourned at 8:45pm

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Nathan Soltz*

*Board Secretary, Morningside Neighborhood Association*



# GOAL 5 RIPARIAN CORRIDOR PLANNING PROJECT Phase 1 – Inventory

Natural Resources Planning Section

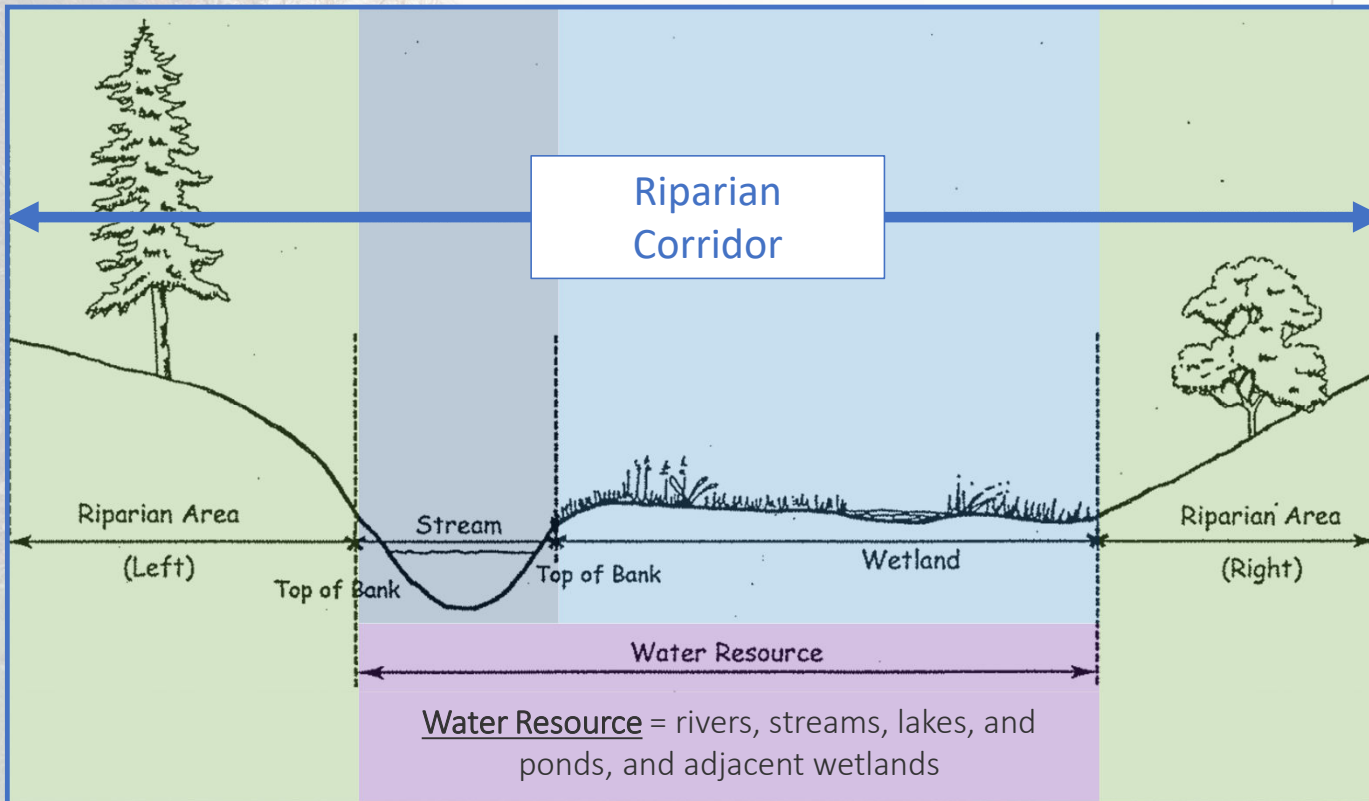
Public Works Department

July 2023

# Definitions (from OAR 660-023)

**Riparian Corridor** = a Goal 5 resource that includes the water areas, fish habitat, adjacent riparian areas, and wetlands within the riparian area boundary.

**Riparian Area** = the area adjacent to a river, lake, or stream, consisting of the area of transition from an aquatic ecosystem to a terrestrial ecosystem.



**Stream** = a channel such as a river or creek that carries flowing surface water, including perennial streams and intermittent streams with defined channels, and excluding man-made irrigation and drainage channels.

**Wetland** = an area that is inundated or saturated by surface water or ground water at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and that under normal circumstances does support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions.



# Functions of Riparian Corridors

- Filtering sediment, nutrients, and pollutants
- Reducing water temperatures
- Reducing flow extremes by holding and releasing water
- Reducing bank erosion
- Providing aquatic and terrestrial habitat
- Providing flood management functions
- Aesthetics and outdoor recreation opportunities

# Why Plan for Riparian Corridors?

- Facilitates a more locally-appropriate and effective resource protection beyond state and federal permitting programs
- Reduces uncertainty for future development
- Optimizes the recreational, educational, and aesthetic values of Salem's streams
- Ensures consistency with adopted City Stormwater and Floodplain Plans
- Safeguards the functions of riparian corridors
- Satisfies the requirements of Statewide Planning Goal 5 related to riparian corridors



# What is Goal 5?

- One of 19 Statewide Planning Goals
- Adopted 1973
- Concerns about rapid growth impacting the environment, natural resources, industries, and the livability of communities
- Directed local governments to develop and adopt comprehensive plans and revise them periodically
- City Council directed City Staff to begin Goal 5 riparian corridor inventory process

# What is Goal 5?

- Natural Resources, Scenic and Historic Areas, and Open Space
- Project focus is **Riparian Corridors**
- Requires local governments to adopt programs that will:
  - protect natural resources
  - conserve scenic, historic, and open space resources for present and future generations
- Establishes a two-part process for aligning local resource protection with state goals and policies
  1. Local resource inventories and
  2. Comprehensive plan policies (zoning and land-division ordinances)



# Riparian Corridor Planning Process

## Phase 1

Inventory & Assessment

**Safe Harbor**  
Standards in OAR 660-023-0090 for delineating riparian corridors on fish bearing streams & lakes

**Standard Process**  
Select inventory method, conduct inventory, identify significant resources, and justify decisions

## Phase 2

Protection Program

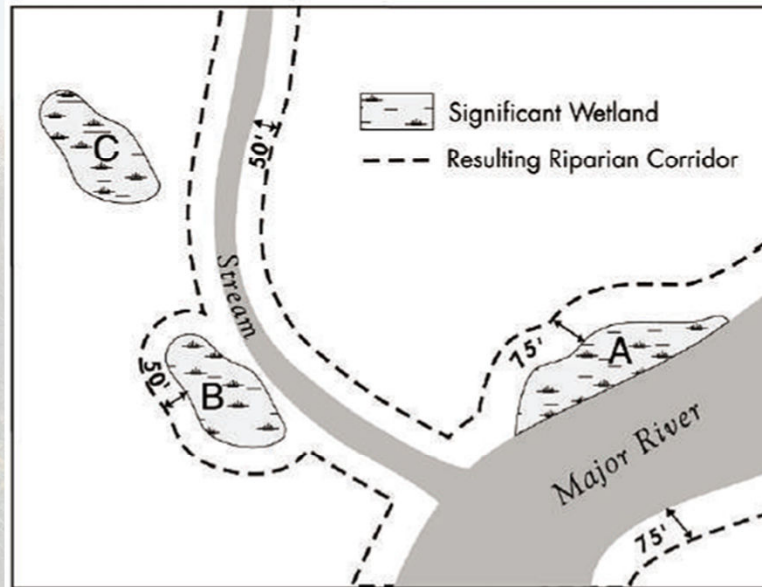
**Safe Harbor**  
prescribed standards in OAR 660-023-0090

- Adopt ordinances that:
- Prevent permanent alteration of riparian corridors with specific exceptions
  - Control removal of riparian vegetation

**Standard Process**  
Environmental, Social, Economic & Energy (ESEE) analysis:  
1) Identify conflicting uses  
2) Determine impact area  
3) Analyze ESEE consequences  
4) Determine whether to allow, limit, or prohibit conflicting uses

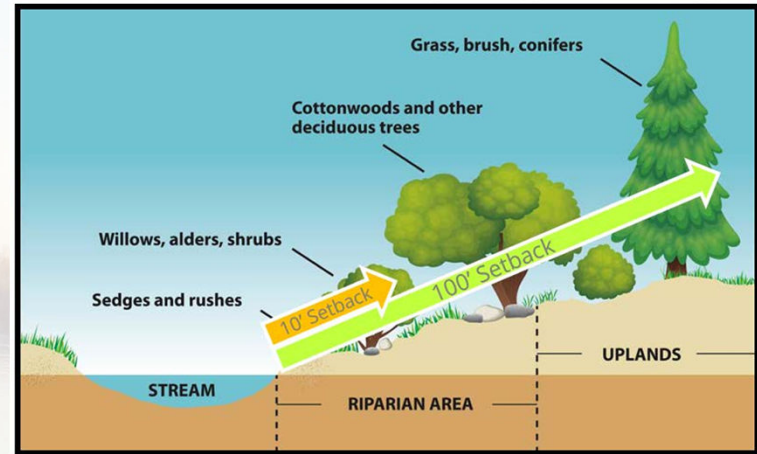
Adopt comprehensive plan provisions and land use regulations with clear and objective standards to implement the decisions made pursuant to the ESEE analysis.

### Safe Harbor Riparian Corridors:



Standard setbacks from top of bank of all fish-bearing lakes and fish-bearing streams

### Urban Riparian Inventory & Assessment Guide method (Standard Inventory):



- Inventory all tributaries
- Riparian setbacks may vary by reach depending on dominant riparian vegetation
- Allows for more specific and site-appropriate protection of non-fish bearing streams and their headwaters



# General Public Involvement Opportunities

## Phase 1 -

- Project Initiation – input on methodology
- Property Owner Access Requests
- Review Draft Inventory
- Review Final Inventory / Significance Analysis

## Phase 2 – Urban and Community Development Department

- Identifying conflicting uses, determining impact areas, reviewing Draft ESEE (if using standard process)
- Reviewing Final ESEE Analysis and Draft Implementation Program
- Reviewing Final Implementation Program

# Next steps...

- Preliminary Mapping (ongoing)
  - Map fish-bearing streams and lakes as defined under Safe Harbor approach
  - Map all streams and waterbodies not included under Safe Harbor approach
- Public Outreach and Stakeholder Engagement
  1. Potentially create an advisory group to guide the process and give recommendations to staff
  2. Provide background information to the community and request input on methodology
  3. Hire consultant to assist with the inventory
- Identification of allowed and prohibited uses for inventoried riparian corridors will take place during Phase 2 of the project



Questions?



## **Morningside Park update from Matt Johnson Natural Infrastructure Specialist**

### **Muriel Meyer MNA Parks Chair July 2023**

- The Hard Path was removed due to numerous tripping hazards. Trees had uplifted the asphalt in a number of spots and created a somewhat twisted surface that was upheaved as well. The West side entrance had collapsed below grade roughly 1 to 2 feet.
- Removal of the path from hard surface to a chip path is because of the trees. The roots would continue to impede any hard surfaces and the area under the trees was not wide enough for a multi-use path and rock compaction is less forgiving on the trees root system than wood chips that still allow the trees roots to breathe.
- The chipped paths will settle into a firmer surface after a couple months of use. We are already seeing that take place from the recent trail use.

All the woodchip paths were top dressed over our standard used chip with a more desirable woodchip specifically designed for trail use.

- The multi-use path with gravel was placed out in front of the trees and out of the trees root zone but still in an area that is shaded and close enough to enjoy the trees.

The gravel path (Multi-use) was plate compacted twice and the paths were rolled by our streets department on June 23<sup>rd</sup>

- While working on the park path we received numerous compliments from the daily park users on how they enjoyed and preferred the softer surfaces to the hazardous asphalt.
- The only complaint I received was that people were not use to the change.