



NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION
555 LIBERTY ST. SE RM. 305 SALEM OR 97301 • 503-588-6207 • WWW.CITYOFSALEM.NET/NEIGHBOR

Meeting Minutes February 8, 2024
SOUTH GATEWAY NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

SGNA met via Zoom due to Covid-19 pandemic.

Board Members

Present _____ Absent

Dynee Medlock Chair
Jackie Leung Vice chair
Dave McKenna Secretary
Jerry Sachtjen Treasurer
Mike Hughes
John Ledger
Kathleen Lempka
Glenn Baly

Community members:

John Miller
Greg MacDonald
Andrew Hull (Rep. Tom Andersen)
Charey Cooke
Lisa Anderson
Paula Wilson
Luke Poling
Jerry Bennett
Gery Amos
Amy Teegarden
Kari and Scott (Pivot Architecture)
Gloria Phipps
L
Ron Vergara
Steve
Deb Cozzi
Jan Seely
Steve Woodward

Guests

Vanessa Nordyke, City Councilor, Ward 7
Deanna Gwyn, City Councilor, Ward 4
Kevin Hottmann, Traffic Department, City of Salem
David Trimble, Deputy General Manager, Cherriots

Melissa Kidd, South Salem Transit Center Capital and Project Control Manager

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chair Dynee Medlock. Members of the Board introduced themselves and a quorum was declared. Approved minutes from January meeting with date changes.

2. Board Elections

Dynee Medlock and Jackie Leung were elected as Co-chairs. Jerry Sachtjen was elected as Treasurer. Dave McKenna was elected as Secretary. Mike Hughes, John Ledger, Kathleen Lempka and Glenn Baly were elected to stay on as Board members. No one in the audience was interested in becoming a Board member.

3. Vanessa Nordyke - City Councilor Report

Councilor Nordyke gave report.

There will be a Superhero Fun Run on June 2nd at 11 AM in Salem Riverfront Park. Registration for the event begins on April 1st. Sponsored by CASA.

City snapshot of Council meeting:

- Council reviews and approves applications for Revenue Task Force
- Council approves traffic safety project for Liberty and Davis Roads
- Council approves MOU with Salem Baseball Club and Willamette University to negotiate turf and lighting improvements to Bush Park
- During snowstorm, the Salem Warming Network hosts 100s of people during snowstorm while city crews work 24/7 to plow roads

Traffic safety improvements at the intersection of Liberty and Davis Roads

Council Vote: City Council voted to create a transportation project, including a new traffic signal and other intersection improvements, at the intersection of Liberty and Davis Roads.

Why and How Would We Pay For It? Increased traffic. City will use bond funds previously approved by the voters. Developer pays the rest.

Next steps: Project design first, construction tentatively scheduled for 2025.

City funded mobile outreach van to support persons experiencing homelessness

- Funding of a mobile outreach van and staffing to help persons experiencing homelessness. City invested \$135,000 towards
- Acquisition of a dedicated vehicle for mobile crisis outreach and
- Personnel costs associated with mobile crisis outreach
- Support was provided to 417 people, during the grant period which was February 1 - June 30, 2023 at locations where people are experiencing unsheltered homelessness.

More affordable housing opening soon

- Sequoia Crossing provides 60 affordable housing units for persons who were experiencing homelessness
- Case management services available on site

Baseball field upgrades coming to Bush Park

- Council approves Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to work collaboratively with Salem Baseball Club and Willamette University for the renovation of the Willamette baseball stadium and softball stadium and make them available for use for a potential summer-league baseball team comprised of collegiate players.

Benefits of upgrading the baseball fields

- Artificial turf and lighting upgrades increases play time
- Artificial turf is accessible to Special Olympics athletes
- Creates more baseball/softball opportunities for local youth
- Artificial turf generates less maintenance, noise and pollution without gas-powered mowers
- Local baseball/softball tournaments boots local economy

Warming network hosts hundreds during snowstorm

- The Arches Day Center averaged 151 people for the last five days that visited the day center, and 101 people for the last five days that stayed in the warming shelter overnight.
- Seed of Faith Ministry averaged 80 people for the last three days that stayed in the warming shelter 24/7.
- Please consider volunteering for a shift at one of our warming network partners.

City snow response - Thank you crews

- Snow and ice crews began operating 24 hours a day on the afternoon of Friday, January 12
- Crews treated more than 3,000 lane miles of roadway with sanding rock and deicer.
- Almost 1,700 cubic yards of sanding rock and more than 3,200 gallons of deicer were applied directly to Salem roadways.
- 1,000 gallons of deicer were applied to sanding rock prior to its deployment to increase its effectiveness.

Minto Brown dog park paving project

- Under 2022 Safety and Livability Bond project will provide new paved and striped surfaces at Parking Lot #2 (dog park area) and Parking Lot #3 (main lot), including stormwater drainage improvements and stormwater treatment, accessibility upgrades, landscaping around the new perimeter of the lots, and bicycle parking. These heavily used parking lots currently contain gravel surfaces that deteriorate as weather conditions worsen throughout the year, increasing maintenance costs and flooding issues on nearby paths and trails.
- This project will alleviate flooding issues around the parking lots, improve pedestrian circulation and parking efficiency, and increase the availability of spaces serving the dog area and popular trailheads. Contractor bids were advertised earlier this week. Bids will be opened on February 20 with construction planned to begin as soon as weather permits in the spring.

There was a question from the neighbors on where the council stands on Tina Kotek's bill to expand the UGB without a need for it. Vanessa said that the council has a committee to study the effects of legislation on the City and that she will confer with them to see where the City stands on this issue. These meetings are open to the public.

4. Salem Police Officer Report

There was no police officer present to give report.

5. South Salem Transit Center Update - David Trimble and Melissa Kidd

Cherriots gave an update on the South Salem Transit Center Project. They gave a description of the project with showing the proposed facilities. Before they proceed they need to get concurrence from NEPA for the project. The next steps for the project are:

- Land acquisition
- Final design and development of construction documents
- Bidding process for the construction contract
- Board approval; and
- Begin construction

They provide a schedule for the facilities for design and construction. The proposed opening date is set for May 2026.

The contact information for the project are:

- David Trimble - Deputy General Manager david.trimble@cherriots.org
- Melissa Kidd - Capital and Project Control Manager melissa.kidd@cherriots.org

There was a question about whether there will be public restrooms at the facilities and that they will be maintained. Cherriots said that there would be restrooms and that they will be maintained by them. There will also be security posted at the facilities.

There will be Park & Ride facilities. They expect the hours to be similar to the facilities downtown.

The neighborhood requested that they please come back after NEPA approval for another update.

6. Kevin Hottmann, Traffic Engineer, City of Salem

Kevin gave a short presentation and said that he will come back in the future to go into more detail since the meeting was going past the deadline.

He said that there have been revisions to the Traffic Management Plan for the City. People can now request on-line for traffic control devices in their neighborhoods. This can be used to recommend traffic control devices such as speed bumps and traffic signage.

He had two handouts on where some of the improvements are scheduled and they are attached to these minutes. This included stop signs that are proposed in the area around Soapstone and Pike's Pass.

7. New Business

There was no new business.

8. Adjournment.

The next meeting is scheduled for March 14th at 6:45 PM at Baxter Hill Community Hall and will be a hybrid meeting with Zoom.

Neighborhood Traffic Management 2024 Proposed Projects



