

## East Lancaster Neighborhood Association

Minutes -October 7, 2021 - 7:00 pm - Combination In-person & Zoom Meeting

First Free Will Baptist Church, 1390 45th Avenue NE, Salem OR

Board Chairs/Members Present		Board Chairs/Members Present (Cont'd)	
x	Susann Kaltwasser, Chair - Zoom	x	Patricia Mick, Member-at-large
x	Sue Fowler, Co-Chair	x	Terry Motte, Member-at-large
x	Mary Sarabia, Vice Chair		Mike Sim, Member-at-large - Absent
x	Chesta Bauer, Member-at-large - Zoom	x	Beverly Quiring, Member-at-large
x	Vern Golden, Member-at-large		Broc Thorad, Member-at-large - Absent
x	Clark Hazlett, Member-at-large - Zoom	x	Chuck Westbrook, Member-at-large
	Lynette Horton, Member-at-large - Absent		
			<b>Neighbors Present:</b>
	<b>Presenters:</b> (All on Zoom)		
x	Sgt. Mike Johnson, Salem Police Department		
x	Chris Hoy, Ward 6 City Councilor		

**Introductions:** The meeting was opened by Co-chair Sue Fowler at 7:00 pm and Board members, presenters, and attendees were introduced.

**Police Officer Report:** Sgt. Johnson reported on his research into the questions posed to him at the last meeting.

- Mobile speed-camera vans: This type of van to monitor speed and issue tickets is allowed by a State statute in only certain cities and Salem is not one of them.
- Digital speed sign: This program has been on hold and is just getting up and running again. Jennifer Hingston, the volunteer coordinator for the City, can be contacted to request one.
- Speeding on 45th Avenue and Market Street: The traffic enforcement team will be checking on this more often.

New issues:

- Clark Hazlett mentioned the possibility of having fake speed cameras to slow down traffic. Mike said he would check with traffic enforcement to see if that is something they have.
- Mary Sarabia mentioned that the Walk light to cross Lancaster at Market Street was too short. Mike said to check with Public Works about this issue. Chris Hoy said he would check on this.
- Mary also mentioned that homeless people were putting up tents on the sidewalk on Lancaster so she couldn't get around them in her mobile electric wheelchair. There was a discussion about how to go about moving homeless people from public right-of-ways. There is a lot of confusion about when homeless people can be forced to move. If it is private property, they can be given a ticket and told to move; if it is blocking a public access, then the police can enforce movement from the area. It was emphasized that this is not just a police concern but a concern of the whole community. When sidewalks or public right-of-ways are blocked and it is not an emergency, the Salem police non-emergency number should be called to report the situation. If it is an emergency situation like someone threatening or causing harm, then call 911. Mike also mentioned that the police are very short-handed right now and may have to respond to bigger problems than blocked sidewalks but we should keep calling about these issues.
- There was discussion about the proposed managed homeless camp in West Salem. The final approval issue will go to the City Council. Susann mentioned that the City should be keeping the public informed about the efforts they are making to alleviate the homeless situation.
- Mike shared the Salem police survey that will provide more information about what priorities Salem citizens want to see addressed by the Salem police department and will be used to develop the Salem police strategic plan. The strategic plan community survey can be accessed on the Salem police department website and is available until October 24.

- Mike mentioned the SCRAM program which allows Salem police to view camera footage from private homes who have signed up to share their videos if a crime has been committed in the vicinity of the camera. For people who want to join this program to help Salem police track crime situations, the sign-up form is at: <https://www.cityofsalem.net/CityDocuments/surveillance-camera-registration-mapping-program-registration-form.pdf>

If you have another question, you can email it to Mike, and he will report back at the next meeting.

**City Councilor Report:** Chris Hoy reported on the following:

- **Redistricting:** This process is going on using the results of the 2020 census data. The congressional districts, State districts, and City wards are all being redrawn. Chris gave us the statistics for the Ward 6 district which he represents. Ward 6 has: 15% of Salem residents; 17% of commercial activity; 10% of public institutions; 3% of parks; and, 11% of undeveloped land. There will be a work session at the City Council on October 11 to look at the proposed maps. Most wards are being shifted west and south. There is a proposal to allow no more than three Neighborhood Associations per ward. More information on the redistricting effort can be accessed at: <https://www.cityofsalem.net/Pages/help-redraw-city-council-ward-boundaries.aspx>
- **Access to Strip Mall at 1100 Lancaster:** Clark asked about the access from the Willamette Career Academy parking lot to the adjacent strip mall that was closed off by the Academy. Chris said that there was an agreement in place among the businesses to allow this access as long as none of the businesses did not want the access, therefore, there is no right of public access for this opening. He suggested that someone could talk to Willamette Career Academy about the situation. Susann said that the Willamette ESD runs the program and she will talk to them.
- **Traffic light at Weathers & Lancaster:** Chris said that this probably wouldn't be allowed because of the proximity of the light at D and Lancaster. Traffic lights have to be placed a certain distance from each other.

**United Way Cottages:** This presentation was rescheduled for the November ELNA meeting.

**Senator Patterson, Redistricting:** Senator Patterson was not at the meeting. Chris Hoy said that the State senate and representatives districts will also be affected by the redistricting from the 2020 census data. Ward 6 includes Fred Girod and Peter Courtney in the Senate and Brian Clem in the House of Representatives. More information on this can be accessed at: <https://www.oregonlegislature.gov/redistricting>.

**Committee Reports:**

- **Land Use:**
  - The City is continuing to work on the Unified Development Codes in accordance with the requirements of SB 2001.
  - There are proposed changes to the tree conservation rules. They are more restrictive than in the past and are focused on preservation of more trees. The City Council will have a work session on this.
  - Willamette Town Center is planning to eliminate all interior businesses and make it into an outside entrance-only type of shopping mall. Susann will ask the mall manager to attend an ELNA meeting so we can hear the plans and timelines.
- **Parks:** The Parks Department decided that McKay Park would be the primary focus for tree planting for next year. They will work with NOLA because their area has the least amount of tree canopy in the city. Susann mentioned that ELNA also lost a lot of trees in last winter's ice storm. Many trees were lost at Weathers Park and Royal Oaks Park is barren of trees. The City will be planting native trees in the parks. The urban arborist for the City is looking at city trees and seeing

what their needs are and is looking into putting in place a tree or landscaping plan for new housing developments.

- **Traffic:** One neighborhood association is moving ahead with trying to get reduced speed limits.

**Neighborhood Concerns/Other Business:**

Susann reported on two meetings she had in which all city NA chairs participated. They talked about shared interests and will be meeting every month to share what's happening. Some of the common threads of discussion concerned: speeding; shots fired; homelessness; more community participation at meetings.

- A Marion County crew cleaned up the ice storm debris from the creek running under 45th Avenue.
- Susann reported that the property owned by Broc Thorad received a variance for the fence to be closer to the sidewalk than is required by code.
- Minutes of the September 2, 2021, ELNA meeting: Chuck Westbrook moved and Mary Sarabia seconded the move to approve the minutes of the September 2, 2021, as written. The motion was approved.
- Chuck mentioned that he looked into organizing a neighborhood watch program for his street and he said he was told the program was on hiatus for a while but the City was going to start it up again. Susann mentioned that the police used to have a program where they would come to a person's home and recommend safety modifications to make the home more secure.

**Next Meeting:**

- United Way cottages - update

The meeting was adjourned at 8:21 pm.