

**North Lancaster Neighborhood Association Meeting
November 3, 2021 at 6:30 PM
Salem, Oregon & via Zoom**

MINUTES

1. Call to Order / Introductions

The meeting was called to order at 6:26pm, followed by introductions of all present (both in-person attendees and those on the Zoom call).

2. Approval of Minutes

Minutes subject to approval were not prepared at the time of this meeting. Former secretary not present to give an update on when the minutes will be available. Outstanding minutes include September and October 2021.

3. Police Report - Sergeant Baskett

The [Strategic Plan](#) for Salem Police Department (SPD) is a multi-year plan to improve upon services within the agency as a whole. There is still time to provide public input on the final draft before it is presented to the City Council. The final plan will be adopted and in place within 90 days.

There have been reports of increased shootings and violent crimes involving firearms throughout the NOLA and Northgate communities. Several arrests have been made, more arrests are anticipated as more intelligence comes in. SPD is collaborating with multiple agencies including Parole & Probation and Department of Justice to help identify individuals involved and analyze affiliates. SPD is also collaborating with other law enforcement agencies such as Marion County Sheriff's Office (MCSO) and Keizer Police Department (KPD) to increase presence and supplement patrols. SPD is also employing other methods such as working with community leaders to increase positive community interactions. Neighbors are encouraged to report shots fired as they occur. SPD will make every attempt to catch the individuals involved.

Neighbors reported vehicles damaged/crashed into from excessive speeding on Walker Road. This street is residential with posted signs for 25 mph. Speed incidents are also happening during school hours when indicators with flashing lights slow speed limit 20 mph. One family has lost 3 vehicles to damage. Sgt. Baskett will notify traffic patrol team to increase patrols during the most dangerous times (during school arrival & dismissal hours) from Chavez School.

Reports also suggest some of the speeding is committed by staff members from Chavez. NOLA will draft an email message to the current principal of Chavez alerting them to the concerns brought up at tonight's meeting.

Neighbors asked why speed control devices haven't been installed along Walker, as this speeding issue is not new. Councilor Hoy stated there are concerns around access for emergency vehicles. He stated the staff from Salem Traffic Engineering could confirm whether or not this stretch of road is an ideal location for speed bumps. Contact with Salem Traffic Engineering is Kevin Hottman.

Sgt. Baskett stated the homeless individuals who had been camping along Sunnyview & Lancaster were removed. They have returned. Neighbors are encouraged to report the presence of any illegal homeless camps directly to the city website. There is a [portal](#) to report homeless camps; however, there is a city-wide backlog due to the number of reports received. *[More on this topic under Councilor Hoy's report]*

4. Code enforcement Report

Code Enforcement Officer's will try to attend meetings quarterly. We'll see them again in 2022. Use the [portal](#) to submit any reports.

5. Tree planting project - Pilot program

Information presented by Jennifer Mongolo - Natural resources planner with Salem Public Works and Haley Miller - Friends of Trees.

Salem Public Works is collaborating with Friends of Trees to increase the tree canopy in Salem neighborhoods. Friends of Trees is a non-profit organization that organizes community events. The goal is to plant more trees in areas that don't have an established canopy along streets and in parks. Through this project, Friends of Trees is offering free trees for planting in front yards and street frontage properties.

There will be mailers sent out to property owners in NOLA, which is one of the first areas to be a part of this pilot program. The post card will encourage property owners to sign up to receive free trees, as well as resources about available about tree types, their care and upkeep. NOLA Neighbors can fill out the postcard and submit back, then receive access to site to select the approved trees available through the program. Tree options are species that work well for our climate and will thrive in certain temperatures. Trees canopy are proven methods to help slow traffic down according to studies. Planting events are a lot of fun and a way to meet neighbors.

Flyers in both English & Spanish (*see attached*) contain important dates of upcoming events. Events start November 13 continuing through May 2022 and include multiple planting events as well as an informational tree care session.

6. City Councilor Report: Chris Hoy

Chris reports collaborating with county commissioners regarding the homeless situation with intent to get mental health staff involved with this population. Complaints about homeless encampments have increased substantially since the reporting portal opened up. Residents are encouraged to fill it out the online form when they discover any camps pop up in their neighborhood. The more data they have, the easier to quantify the problem; however there hasn't been an established timeframe on how & when each report will be addressed. They have to triage based on need, factors that speed up response include: encampments blocking ada access on sidewalks, public health hazards, open fires, etc.

The Oregon Department of Transportation has begun to take a more systematic approach to deal with their right-of-way properties. They have implemented a schedule to address any problem areas where encampments typically occur, this includes the obscure, out-of-the-way areas.

The redistribution of council ward boundaries is in the proposal stage. There are 3 alternative proposals outlining how the boundaries will be redrawn on the city [website](#). Virtual open houses will be held online to go over the proposals, Tuesday, 11/9 from 4:00 - 5:00pm and on

Wednesday, 11/10 from 12:00 pm - 1:00pm. The proposals will be open for opinion/comment until submitted to the council for a vote on 11/22/21.

The Our Salem process is wrapping up and coming before the council in December. One more opportunity for public testimony before the comprehensive plan is formally adopted by the council. Updates on the Our Salem process [HERE](#). View the most up-to-date rezone map [HERE](#). Review the Draft Comprehensive Plan [HERE](#).

The Salem Climate Action Plan will also be coming before the council this December. Council will be presented the two goals outline by the subcommittee. The public comment period is open through Friday, November 5. Comments can made through the survey tool present online by clicking [HERE](#). Comments can also be submitted after this date via email to: SalemCAP@cityofsalem.net

7. Committee Reports & Board Business

- a. Transit - no report
- b. Traffic - Saphara Harrell from Salem Reporter reached out for opinion on NE traffic concerns.
- c. Land Use - no report
- d. Parks - The Board voted unanimously in support of Shirlene submitting a letter of intent on the association's behalf. Shirlene will follow-up on SPIF funds for this grant cycle.

8. Open Forum

We discussed Our Salem project and neighbors are encouraged to provide further testimony in opposition of the Neighborhood Hub planned for NOLA. It is not a good fit. Neighbors were also encouraged to review & comment on the Climate Action Plan as it will potentially have a negative impact on various parts of our community, population and livelihoods.

Fall leaf haul brochure was shared with those present and available [HERE](#).

The Board discussed goals achieved and set goals for the upcoming year.

9. Close of Meeting

There being no further business or discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 8:19 pm.