



Meeting Minutes: July 14, 2021. Meeting hosted in person at Paradise Island Park, 3100 Turner Rd SE, 19 people in attendance.

June 8, 2021 meeting minutes motion to approve by Kathy and seconded by Ron, unanimous vote to approve.

Code Officer Hinkle was not able to attend, will attend in August.

**City Councilor Andersen** gave an update on the City's Climate Action Plan. The City of Salem has begun a community-wide effort to develop a Climate Action Plan for Salem. More information can be found here: <https://www.cityofsalem.net/Pages/climate-action-plan.aspx>.

Homeless update: Signs have been posted and ODOT will start cleaning under the I5, Market Street overpass and Hawthorne Ave. Salem Industrial Drive on July 19. City of Salem staff and service providers will be on site to help get people into housing and offer social services. City has purchased the property at 22<sup>nd</sup> St and Mission St (previously DHS building). The navigation center will provide 50 low- barrier shelter beds with case management and access to basic needs. More can be found here: <https://www.cityofsalem.net/Pages/salem-navigation-center.aspx>. Neighbor asked Councilor what the main reason for homelessness is. He pointed out four main reasons; 1) mentally ill, 2) drug abuse, 3) can't afford housing, 4) can't cope in society. June 1<sup>st</sup> was the end of the emergency park camping use. Neighbor asked about City using vacant buildings for more shelter options. Councilor explained that Gretchen at City of Salem, Homeless Liaison does her research and tries to find all possible locations and buildings within Salem but very few property owners are willing to allow the use for sheltering.

**Cory** emphasized the need to move the homeless out of Cascade Gateway Park as soon as possible. Showed a map to the group the areas to stay away at Cascade Gateway Park as he has witnessed large camps, armed people, and illegal activity.

**Salem Police Sergeant Matt Gill** will make it a priority to attend each SEMCA monthly meeting. Sgt Gill has been with SPD for 16 years and grew up in Salem. He oversees a group of six staff members who are assigned with helping City staff clear Cascade Gateway Park. He is involved in higher level City discussions on where to move people, planning, and provide City staff with security. Mobile mechanic will help get cars moving to get them out of the park. He and PD staff have made this their number one priority park. Within a week or two, City staff and SPD will be working at the park and start at the back of the park to get people to move out of the park instead of pushing them back into the park if they were to start at the front of the park. Sgt Gill expressed his sympathy for the neighbors of the park but must also follow the law and work with the homeless when moving them out. He reminded the neighbors that homeless people have always lived at the parks in bushes and brushy areas, they are just now more noticeable and will always have some. He hopes he and his crew will have cleared the majority of the homeless from the park within a few months so families can enjoy their park again.

Two car park locations coming soon, Commercial St at Windows to The West next to City Hall and N. Portland Rd. These locations are in addition to Church at The Park and 2640 Portland



Rd. SE car camps. More information can be found here:

<https://www.cityofsalem.net/Pages/safe-vehicle-parking-and-living.aspx>.

**Alan Rasmussen** presented new Land Use projects:

- 5260 Gaffin Rd SE, SKSD purchased the site and plan to build a new school bus storage facility and office building, Class 3 and 2 adjustments to allow for additional parking on 26 acres. City Project Planner contact: [bpik@cityofsalem.net](mailto:bpik@cityofsalem.net).
- 3595 Aumsville Hwy, construction of two new industrial buildings.
- 1610 Lancaster Dr, two story new apartments, six units. City Project Planner contact: [bpik@cityofsalem.net](mailto:bpik@cityofsalem.net).
- 3200 Boone Rd, 15 new apartment building complexes containing 210 dwelling units on 27 acres. City Project Planner contact: [apanko@cityofsalem.net](mailto:apanko@cityofsalem.net).

A motion was called by Ron S. and Jerry seconded a unanimous vote to support neighbors to not extend Gaia St SE through to Culver SE S.

Motion to ask that we be included as a stake holder for planning development of Cordon Rd and Hwy 22 interchange. Ron S. called motion; Alan seconded. Unanimous vote in support.

Meeting adjourned.