

Comments Provided by October 24, 2018 Town Hall Participants

Purpose of Town Hall

More than 100 people participated the evening of the October 24, 2018 Town Hall at Broadway Commons. The purpose of the engagement was to share progress on the Strategic Plan and 2018 City Council Policy Agenda activities, and to seek input from the community on the progress and other ideas they may have for the City Council to consider as priorities for the 2019 Policy Agenda. Staff were available at each of six result area stations with progress reports for each topic area, flyers for more information, and ways to track comment and input provided. The following pages show input received at each station.

Safe Community

- The lights for the new police station should be specified to NOT flicker at all – and to emit essentially NO blue light – to avoid injuring and killing (via cancer) the staff who work there
- Drinking fountain with dog watering station, green space and no waste bags.
- The biggest danger we face is climate change. Salem needs a climate action plan to build resiliency.
- We need something more than emotional appeals (re Build Bridge). Where are the facts?
- If you build it they will come and traffic congestion will be worse than ever.
- “Build the Bridge Now” flyer with public safety highlighted
- Build another bridge. If you don’t like the current “preferred alternative” promote another one. Just get going!!!
- Need to develop resiliency plans for future natural disasters /threats

Welcoming and Livable Community

- Continue to work on CAP for Salem, begin initial GHG inventory. Climate change is here. It will drive everything to insignificance.
- Please continue with plan to support sobering center. This will help address short term and longer term issues. High yield impact.
- Please ensure staff resources and funding to explore more ways to address homelessness. Housing first. Please review homeless task force recommendations.
- Please mix housing with parks and walking paths that lead us to our work places. We can then get cars off the roads and reduce congestion
- Please think about remodeling buildings that are not being used into low income housing
- Please prioritize avenues to reduce homelessness consistent with the Downtown Homeless Task Force recommendations: lockers for homeless people to store things, open Marion park bathrooms ASAP, coordinate with partners to have showers for homeless people, coordinate with partners, review city codes enable more affordable housing to be build, legalize some camping, more trash cans downtown, coordinate with partners to create a hygiene center. Please prioritize the availability of restrooms downtown for everyone at all hours, coordinate with partners to have showers for the homeless, lockers for people to store things. Thanks.
- Bring all the people to the waterfront. Where do they eat? How about food cart pod?
- Develop riverfront
- Ban vagrants sleeping/camping in public areas.
- Two additional FTE for Neighborhood Services to expand neighborhood partners support and services
- Need more multi-use trails for bicycling and walking rather than painted lines on busy streets.

- Consider vacant PO Offices at jail to be housing for shelters
- Encourage safe walking and tricycling
- Reduce traffic congestion by developing more mass transit – work closely with State and Cherrriots
- HRAP program has been beneficial in housing homeless. Giving hope to many hopeless individuals.
- Do more/bigger HRAP
- Approve some camping!
- Tent communities? Any progress?
- Clark creek park master plan – upgrade
- Mobility chairs to use/rent at Riverfront Park for folks with mobility issue to get to and from the park
- ADA Advisory committee to review construction plans
- Livable neighborhoods need to be walkable, bikeable and transit oriented to help reduce climate change risks and also need to be resilient in the face of climate change impacts
- Use vacant probation office at jail as temporary shelters
- Bus service on wetlands ASAP
- Sidewalks – YES
- Bathrooms like Portland has where bottom is see through so vandalism and other problems are less likely to happen
- More benches downtown -elderly people need resting stops
- Investigate lighting at entrance to McKay Park off Hollywood Drive
- Get going on Environmental Action Plan
- More trash cans downtown
- Support CAP legislation
- Emphasize biking, walking, public transportation, over automobiles
- Address homelessness
- Climate action plan
- Consider public health when setting design standards
- Let's look at the actual facts (Bridge)
- “Build the Bridge” now flyer attached with Economic/Livability section highlighted
- Traffic fact: if you build it, they will come and traffic will be worse than ever
- We need more creative solutions to traffic congestion

Strong and Diverse Economy

- For factory workers, encourage public transportation
- Salem should work with Marion County to develop small grant program that promotes businesses who can take materials out of the waste stream and put them to use (seconded)
- Unemployment – small business fund-federal program with worksource
- Efficient transportation is essential to a strong economy. We need a new bridge -Salem River Crossing needs to be completed.
- Build the quality of the workforce. Jobs follow worker.
- “Build the Bridge Now” flyer attached with economic/livability section highlighted
- Emphasize livability and jobs will follow
- Help homegrown industry/businesses, don't chase out of state corporations and don't offer tax breaks to them

- Please include training for new businesses the options for wage supplements (veterans, youth, etc.)
- Please keep Salem clean and beautiful
- Put the bridge back on the table, we need more lanes over the river
- Continue to work on the climate action plan through all phases. It will drive more economic activity
- If you're not allowed to call a City department to report an item that needs to be dealt with then who do you call? Salem at your service.
- Supporting the implementation of a new urban renewal area in the North Waterfront.
- Climate action plan
- Please continue with plans to explore options and support high speed internet
- A climate action plan will support the clean energy economy of the 21st century
- Develop waterfront: restaurants, shops, housing
- In my life time, the "educated elite" have told us "a new age cometh!" Then it was "global warming!" now, the new term is "climate change!" we can't even actively predict this week's weather. Don't be a chicken little. A "climate action plan" is too costly and a waste of time. We need jobs! Work on that.

Safe, Reliable and Efficient Infrastructure

- Improve mass transit
- We need a fix to the LUBA issues and approve the preferred alternative Willamette Crossing
- Where is the \$3.2 million for Marine Drive NW voted on in the 2008 bond measure?
- Salem River Crossing. Address the issues remanded by the LUBA and move the project forward to a record of decision on the final environmental impact statement.
- Additional crosswalks with flashing lights are needed on south Commercial and Cherry avenue – the later north of parkway
- Organize walkable and ridable communities to get cars off the roads so we can walk safely
- Need more dedicated bike paths, not just painted lines on busy streets. Cycling should be safe and easy for all.
- Place bus pullouts when putting in new sidewalks
- Eliminate all LED streetlights. The intense blue causes circadian rhythm disruption that based on the Barcelona Health Study (2018) will cause 130 added breast cancers and 25 fatalities a year and 260 added prostate cancers with 150 deaths per year with a ten year delay.
- Zone Code website should allow download pdfs of SRC. It does not.
- Trolley or dedicated bus downtown
- Public transportation – don't build bridge. Doesn't solve any problems and too much \$\$\$\$
- Make city more bike and pedestrian friendly
- Make EV charging stations free to encourage EV use.
- More bike infrastructure – YES!
- Even more bike lanes
- Have bike riders pay for their lanes and obey all rules of the road
- Sidewalks
- Maple-winter bikeway is wonderful – thank you!
- Develop waterfront -Front Street
- If the city allows more urban growth in West Salem, there needs to e a safe way to move traffic to and from there

- Safe routes to school. Major and minor arterials need sidewalks
- Forget pseudo climate change issues. We need more lanes of traffic over the river
- Improve pedestrian cross walks on Commercial Street in south Salem between Kuebler Street and Trade Joe's. Especially by WINCO. There was a pedestrian fatality the summer of 2017.
- We need the new bridge for safety: Cascadia earthquake will collapse current bridge; daily -any accident near the bridge cuts off West Salem for hours making it impossible to access the hospital
- We need more creative ways to reduce traffic and congestion than a mega million dollar bridge boondoggle
- When it comes to traffic congestion, if you build it they will come and it will be as bad as ever or worse
- Promote more bridges. If you don't like the preferred alternative, at least one of the other options!!!!
- Sidewalks where they don't exist especially at the VA and social security office on McGilchrist
- Infrastructure for bicycles and pedestrians
- 15 "Build a Bridge Now" fliers (see below)

BUILD THE BRIDGE NOW

Franklyn

The number one issue that the city of Salem needs to address is the completion of the Salem river crossing bridge. Efficient transportation systems are a basic function of government and this piece of critical infrastructure has been needed for decades. Now, after 13 years of work and with the support of every other governing body in the region it is time to finish what has been started. Below are some reasons I feel that this project is the top priority:

1 – Public Safety: Cascadia earthquake is overdue and our current infrastructure will not survive. This imperils tens of thousands of Salem residents.

2- Environmental Responsibility: Unnecessary traffic congestion contributes tons of pollutants into our air and water. Pollution caused by idling traffic is unhealthy and disproportionately affects our poor and homeless populations that live closest to the congested areas.

3- Economic/livability: Loss of productivity from wasting hours in traffic costs businesses and individuals valuable time every day. While business loses productivity, our community loses out as individuals are unable to participate in the life of our community while they needlessly sit in traffic.

4- Governmental good faith: As the citizens of Salem have willingly committed themselves to support important community values like seismic retrofit of the library, building a new police station and upgrading area schools, our city council prepares to initiate a task force that will seek additional revenues. At the same time, the council's failure to finalize the process to complete the permitting for the bridge puts our community at risk of having to refund the federal government \$9 million dollars. This risk is irresponsible and unnecessary.

Natural Environment Stewardship

- Please build the new bridge to reduce idling traffic. The unnecessary pollution is harmful.
- Ensure watersheds are protected so ponds with waterfalls that look pretty
- Please provide staff references and funding for environmental action plan and CO2 survey
- Get going on Climate Action Plan SOON
- Supporting growth and a new bridge will ease congestion because people will not need to commute from home long distances to school/work
- Salem needs a climate action plan to maintain a livable community for future generations

- The sky is not falling. Climate action plan is \$\$\$\$. Don't do it. Yes, conserve our resources like a good steward of the earth should but don't be chicken little!
- Provide incentives to increase solar panels on tall commercial buildings like South Block.
- "Priority Area: Environmental Action" Goal and Actions for environmental action: prepare a community-wide environmental strategy. Actions/Objectives: Develop a climate action plan that prioritizes reductions of greenhouse gas emissions in collaboration with our local utilities, state agencies, and educational institutions. The Climate Action Plan should include provisions to: make data-driven decisions to prioritize investments that make a measurable impact. Report regularly on progress toward measure to Council and the community. Emphasize equity in terms of access to resources to help all members of our community reduce their individual impact on the environment. Inventory community impact on the environment, to include greenhouse gas inventory. Where's the CAP? Salem needs a CAP – Climate Action Plan.
- Climate Action Plan
- Please follow through on the climate action plan in the Strategic Plan
- More trees
- Fund a staff position to lead planning on climate, natural resources and resiliency
- Climate change mitigation is my highest priority
- When it comes to traffic, if you build it they will come – and there will be more traffic and congestion than ever.
- Build the Bridge Now handout, with Public Safety; Environmental Responsibility highlighted.
- Salem needs a STRONG climate action plan to help keep the earth habitable for humans.
- Need to creatively encourage people to be rewarded for turning in plastic bags to be recycled into diesel oil with zero external input of energy. Ask Agriplas about it, they have the machine
- It IS in the Strategic Plan. Why is it not a priority for 2019-2020?
- Please adopt a climate action plan for Salem, add to the Strategic Plan
- Building the new bridge will reduce unnecessary emissions caused by idling traffic everyday!
- Paper sacks instead of plastics sacks is a terrible solution for carrying anything in Oregon when it rains! Paper sacks fall apart and rip very easily. Food and items fall to the ground and break if they are in glass containers. We don't want to have to pay \$0.10 for every paper sack.
- Please stay on track with the climate action plan for Salem. This is one of the few cities in Oregon without a CAP.
- We don't want to pay 10 cents for every paper sack.
- Revitalize the streams in east Salem along Little Pudding River
- 50 years from now we'll regret not doing this sooner. South Salem 9th grader
- Continue work on CAP as it directly affects every facet of city life. The GHG inventory is just the start.
- Fund the climate action plan! We need a deep, dramatic, rapid transition to renewable energy.
- Salem needs to follow a climate action plan

Good Governance

- Parks department = YAY!!
- Easy public access to review budgets and ongoing accounts
- Website/IT = YAY!!!
- City website needs an email directory

- City of Salem website should be easier to use. I agree with another idea: have a staff directory with email address of all employees.
- Explore use of electric vehicles for City fleet.
- We need to make sure the climate action plan is funded
- The climate action plan in the Strategic Plan should be funded in FY 2019-20
- Please remember to be a good steward of the earth
- All goals should have measurable outcomes so that we know what is working!!!
- Support CAP legislation!!
- Mayor + City Council = YAY!!!
- Police & Compliance = YAY!
- Greater support for citizen engagement through NAs and minority community. City should host events in Spanish, only for the 25% who live and work here!
- Neighborly.com – munibonds, incremental development.org
- ‘Build the Bridge Now” flyer with governmental good faith highlighted
- Planning/Safety Department = Boo Hiss
- No facts to support “Build the Bridge Now” not an effective solution

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

The City is developing an objective, request-driven process that will improve the efficiency and transparency of the decision making process for installing new pedestrian crossings. You can help by telling us what characteristics you think the City should prioritize when allocating resources to pedestrian crossing projects.

Place up to 3 dots next to your biggest concerns

PROXIMITY TO PARKS	2
CROSSING DISTANCE	12
PROXIMITY TO SCHOOLS	11
SPEED LIMIT	10
PROXIMITY TO TRANSIT STOPS	12
TRAFFIC VOLUME	36
COST	4
PEDESTRIAN ACTIVITY	27