

From: [Diane Chavez](#)
To: [CityRecorder](#)
Subject: transit and community paths
Date: Monday, January 23, 2023 1:21:07 PM

Dear Mayor and City Council members,

There are two very good items on the City Council agenda for Monday that I would like to support.

These are:

3.3d Approval to submit two grant applications to the Oregon Community Paths Program to: (1) construct the Pringle Creek Path connection, and **(2) develop a refinement plan for a pedestrian bridge over OR 22 east of Lancaster Drive SE** and

This is a no brainer for me, better walking and bike infrastructure will simply make Salem a better, safer place to live and raise children.

The second is:

3.3f Support for **commuter rail study** proposal to extend TriMet's Westside Express Service commuter line to Salem, in 2023 Oregon Legislative Session
(HB 2662 <https://salem.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=F&ID=11583889&GUID=4502C954-6F50-4F84-9E9D-5E5C3DDFAC9D>).

I have often wondered why there are not better public transit options up and down the west coast, especially between Portland and Eugene

When I lived in New Mexico the Railrunner was established.

The following is from the website;

In 2003, the New Mexico Regional Transit District Act (Chapter 73, Article 25, NMSA 1978) was passed, enabling the formation of multi-jurisdictional transit agencies. The purpose of this legislation was to:

- o Provide safe and efficient regional transit services
- o Reduce congestion, crashes, and pollution caused by single-occupant vehicles
- o Extend the life of the state's roads by reducing traffic
- o Provide transportation alternatives to residents, particularly transit-dependent groups such as seniors, youth, low-income, and mobility-impaired residents
- o Provide residents with better access to education and higher-paying jobs
- o Reduce oil dependence"

Are these not all issues that Oregon needs to address today?

That was twenty years ago and today a round trip ticket from Albuquerque to Santa Fe cost less than \$3 dollars. I think that is an equitable transit option. The Railrunner stops at many

small communities between Belen and Santa Fe.

At the time many obstacles had to be overcome to get this project off the ground. (It cost too much, it was going to impact some neighborhoods negatively, etc. etc.) Now 20 years later there is good connecting infrastructure to the airports, train stations and other places.) If NM can pull off and support a project like this with a much smaller population than Oregon, I think Portland/ Salem certainly can and even needs to.

I also hope that in our current climate 20 years later, this study will also consider electrification options for this project.

Thank you,
Diane Chavez
Ward One

From: [Laurie Dougherty](#)
To: [CityRecorder](#)
Subject: Support for 1-23-23 Council Meeting Item 3.3d Pedestrian Project grants
Date: Monday, January 23, 2023 2:19:42 PM

Mayor Hoy and City Councilors,

I urge you to approve Agenda Item 3.3d 23-13 to submit grant applications for: 1) the Pringle Creek Path Connection and 2) a refinement plan for a pedestrian bridge over OR 22 east of Lancaster Drive.

Since I do not have a car, I really appreciate infrastructure that improves safety and access for walking, bicycling, and other alternative modes of transportation (scooters, skates, etc.) and for people with mobility challenges.

The Pringle Creek Path project will be a welcome completion of access from the south side of downtown to Riverfront Park and its connections to Minto Brown Island Park and Wallace Marine Park.

The pedestrian bridge over OR 22 is a much needed safety improvement. I hope the refined plan will include ADA compliant ramps for people who use wheelchairs and other mobility devices. Ramps will also benefit other users of alternative modes of transportation (bicycles, skates, scooters, etc.)

We are in the midst of a climate emergency and we in Salem must do our part to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Improving safety and access for alternative transportation options will encourage people to drive less and will help Salem achieve its climate goals.

Thank you for your consideration for pedestrian improvements and thank you for the opportunity to comment,

Laurie Dougherty

Ward 1

January 23, 2023

From: [Roberta A](#)
To: [CityRecorder](#); [Virginia Stapleton](#)
Cc: [citycouncil](#)
Subject: Monday's City Council Agenda
Date: Sunday, January 22, 2023 7:31:53 PM

Councilor Stapleton, City Recorder,

I am interested in two particular agenda items:

3.3d It is my hope you'll approve to submit two grant applications to the Oregon Community Paths Program to both construct the Pringle Creek Path connection, and also develop a refinement plan for the pedestrian bridge over OR22 east of Lancaster Dr SE.

3.3f Please support the commuter rail study proposal to extend TriMet's Westside Express Service commuter line to Salem in the 2023 Legislative Session (HB2662).

Thank you for your consideration,

Roberta Cade
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