

**City of Salem Proposed Levy
May 20, 2025 Election**

BALLOT TITLE

CAPTION (10 words):

Five-year Operating Levy for Parks, Recreation, Libraries, and Senior Services.

QUESTION (20 words):

Shall Salem maintain parks, recreation, library, Center 50+ services; with 5-year levy, at \$0.98 per \$1,000 assessed value, beginning 2025-26? This measure may cause property taxes to increase more than three percent.

SUMMARY (175 words):

If approved, levy funds would support Salem park operations, including cleaning and maintenance, more library hours, recreation activities and Center 50+ senior programs for five years, beginning July 1, 2025.

In 2024, due to budget constraints, the City reduced funding to city services by more than \$6 million impacting parks, recreation, library, Center 50+, youth development, public safety, and other services. Additional reductions may be necessary without additional revenue.

Funds from this levy would restore, maintain and be limited to the following these services, and ~~will be restricted to:~~

- Parks cleaning, maintenance, and programs~~ming~~;
- Recreation Services operations and programs~~ming~~;
- ~~Public~~ Library operations, programs~~ming~~, and restored hours at the main and west Salem branches~~es~~; and
- Center 50+ operations and programs~~ming~~.

Use of Levy revenue will for pay the cost of the these services described in this measure and will free General Funds to be used for other services, such as like Police, Fire, and Emergency Response.

The cost of this levy is estimated at \$220 per year for a typical home with an assessed (not market) value of \$224,000.

An oversight committee will review levy expenditures, provide annual reports. Independent audit required.

By fiscal year, this levy is estimated to raise the following amounts:

25-26 - \$14,002,000

26-27 - \$14,611,000

27-28 - \$15,247,000

28-29 - \$15,910,000

29-30 - \$16,602,000

Total - \$76,372,000