

**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, and Center 50+ 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 parks 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.

Funds from this levy would maintain these services, and will be restricted to:

- Parks cleaning, maintenance, and programming;
- Recreation Services operations and programming;
- Public Library operations, programming, and restored hours at the main and west Salem branch; and
- Center 50+ operations and programming.

Levy revenue will pay the cost of the services described in this measure and will free General Funds to be used for other services, such as 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