

To: City Manager Namburi, Police Chief Womack, Mayor Hoy & Salem City Councilors
From: Business Leaders from within the Mainstreet Street Association & Salem Area Chamber of Commerce
Date: 10/06/25
Re: Funding two downtown City of Salem Police Officers for Six Months

Hello City Manager Namburi, Police Chief Womack, Mayor Hoy, and Salem City Councilors-

On behalf of a group of longtime Salem business leaders, each of whom deeply believes in the importance of a vibrant and safe downtown Salem, come to you with a strategic proposal. The Salem business community stepped forward in May of 2025 to support the Salem Livability Levy, easing the financial burden on the City of Salem, specific to Center 50+, our parks, and libraries. We stepped forward in a similar manner in 2023, with the passage of the City of Salem Safety & Livability Bond. In each case, the Salem small business community, led by the Salem Chamber, endorsed and supported these campaigns to fund critical functions across the entire Salem community.

Now, we wish to formally share with you a unique funding proposal for your consideration. Our group of business leaders and philanthropists wish to provide the City of Salem with full funding for two (2) downtown City of Salem Homeless Service Team (HST) Police Officers for the period of six (6) months, effective November 24, 2025 through April 23, 2026 at an amount not to exceed \$180,000 for this six-month investment. As business leaders, we will reconvene and evaluate the effectiveness of this investment for the consideration of an additional six (6) months of funding resources.

Under the leadership of Mayor Julie Hoy and from the voices of downtown business owners, employees, and customers, it has been recognized that downtown Salem is incredibly deserving of our strategic investment. We believe the HST Salem Police Officers to be thoughtful, engaging, and resourceful as they assist downtown businesses, their customers, and those experiencing crisis. We recognize the efforts of the Salem Mainstreet Association and the Salem Area Chamber of Commerce in their work to place high value on the economic vitality of Salem's downtown area. We hope our collective investment is properly understood as our way of supporting a strong downtown community where businesses and residents may feel safe, customers may enjoy its many shopping, dining, cultural, and entertainment options, and our friends and neighbors on the streets are respected and directed to resources in times of crisis.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer this funding package, in support of our downtown and in partnership with the Salem Police Department.
Our best,

-Your Business Community