

# City Council Policy Agenda Progress Report

NOVEMBER 2019

## SAFE COMMUNITY



### Sobering Center POLICY AGENDA

The idea of a safe, clean, and supervised space to become sober and connect to further treatment remains a critical need in our community. Challenges with funding have delayed progress on the Sobering Center.



### New Salem Police Station

In 2019, the concrete roof structure was completed. The building will be fully enclosed in November 2019 to protect the interior from winter weather, keeping construction on track for opening in September 2020.



### More Emergency Response in West Salem

Fire Station #11 in West Salem was reinstated to 24-hour service in January 2019, after Council approved re-opening the station in the FY 2019 Budget.



### Safer for Bikers and Walkers

We continue to add and improve bike lanes and pathways, sidewalks, crosswalks, and pedestrian crossing islands, and install flashing lights at crosswalks to make riders and walkers more easily seen.



### Preparing Together for Emergencies

Through the Resiliency Task Force, #2WeeksReady campaign, CPR and AED training to eighth grade students, and the Pulse Point app, we are working together to plan and prepare for situations that may threaten our community's health or safety.

## WELCOME AND LIVABLE NEIGHBORHOOD



### Our Salem POLICY AGENDA

With the first phase complete, community visioning for how we grow in the future is underway.



### Homeless Rental Assistance Program POLICY AGENDA

Through this program with the Salem Housing Authority and community partners, we're providing housing, food, furnishing and health services to our unsheltered neighbors with the long-term goal of housing stability.



### Meeting Housing Needs in Our Community

We're actively working with partners to reduce hardships that lead to homelessness and increase access to affordable housing for those who are unsheltered or at-risk of becoming homeless in our community.



### Library Seismic and Safety Upgrade

In March 2020, construction on a Library seismic upgrade begins. During construction, Library services will be offered at a temporary site on Broadway NE or at the West Salem branch. The Library is on time to reopen in May 2021.



### Pop-up Downtown

Throughout Downtown Salem last summer, through a free Pop-Up Downtown! program, we offered classes for all ages and abilities, including arts and crafts, music, Spanish, fitness, and cooking.

## STRONG AND DIVERSE ECONOMY



### High-Speed Internet Downtown POLICY AGENDA

To explore bringing City-provided high-speed internet Downtown, a market analysis is in progress to assess the need and demand for a high-speed broadband network and free wi-fi downtown. If the Downtown-focused study shows City broadband is feasible, a pilot project will follow.



### Tourism Promotion Area POLICY AGENDA

A tourism promotion area would generate an additional two percent benefit assessment on gross short-term rentals booked within City limits to market and promote Salem for tourism.



### More industrial jobs

The City is constructing 26 additional acres of wetlands through Spring of 2020 to balance job growth and environmental stewardship, making additional sites shovel-ready at the Mill Creek Corporate Center. As a result, PacTrust is constructing two new buildings of more than 110,000 square feet.



### North Salem Food Hub

Based on feedback from residents and businesses in the neighborhood, we are pursuing a public market, incubator, or food hub to foster entrepreneurship and support Latino businesses in the North Gateway Urban Renewal Area.



### Business expansion in West

Urban renewal grants supported a new retail at Wallace and Glen Creek, a new business opening with specialized physical therapy and athletic training services, and a new milling center at an existing business.



### Salem Brewery District

In 2019, we recognized the Salem Brewery District. The new District stretches from 12th Street to 25th Street, from Mission to Madrona, and represents more than 13 brewing operations in our community.

## SAFE AND RELIABLE INFRASTRUCTURE



### Developing Long-Term Investment Strategy for Municipal Assets POLICY AGENDA

Major repairs, upgrades, and replacement for our diverse and valuable network of infrastructure systems, equipment, and properties, out-pace the City's ability to obtain funding. Through the Council's Finance Committee, we'll simplify and streamline the City's capital planning and build a sustainable strategy for bonding.



### Investing in Safe Drinking Water

As a result of added treatment steps to control cyanotoxins in Salem's water source, our water remained clean and safe to drink during the 2019 algae season. The long-term solution for removing algae and toxins is to add ozone as a treatment step by 2021.



### Utility Rate Relief

In March 2019, we added 330 more residents to the Utility Rate Relief Program, joining the 190 customers receiving the discount. For Salem residents, the discount of \$11.80 per month is applied to the account automatically. We continue to work with Mid-Willamette Valley Community Action Agency to qualify new customers.

## NATURAL ENVIRONMENT STEWARDSHIP



### Greenhouse Gas Inventory POLICY AGENDA

Salem's recently completed greenhouse gas inventory will help us track progress toward future emissions reduction targets, understand our community's impact on the environment, and mitigate contributions to climate change.



### Environmental Action Plan POLICY AGENDA

We are auditing City actions, practices, and plans that address climate change and comparing Salem's activities to other cities. This Climate Action Audit will lay the foundation for a Salem-specific climate action plan.



### Buying Green Power

In 2019, Salem joined Portland General Electric's Green Future Impact program to boost the City's use of renewable energy by 60%. By the end of 2021, 80 percent of the energy that powers the City's operations will come from renewable energy.



### Restoring the Willamette River

We're working to daylight Pringle Creek, restore the Willamette Slough by removing an invasive and aggressively growing aquatic plant, and preserve the Minto island Conversation Area by replanting with native trees and shrubs.

## GOOD GOVERNANCE



### General Fund Revenue Strategy POLICY AGENDA

After considering many options and input, the Salem City Council proposed two options for new revenues to support essential City of Salem services. An operating fee proposal would support ongoing essential services. If approved by voters in May 2020, an employee-paid payroll tax proposal would be dedicated to keep pace with our community's public safety.



### Key Performance Indicators POLICY AGENDA

We're formalizing a framework of key performance indicators or data to help show progress toward Council and community priorities.

### Progress Key

Completed



On Target



Underway



Planning

