

Northwest Human Services

City of Salem Safety and Livability Session

October 8, 2025

Then-Interim City Manager Krishna Namburi met with a dozen community members, advocates and residents to discuss the City's Safety and Livability proposal during an Oct. 8 meeting at Northwest Human Services.

Namburi talked about City work to engage the community while also working behind the scenes to identify funding and opportunities to pilot potential programs making a Safe, Healthy and Clean Salem.

Mayor Julie Hoy and Councilors Paul Tigand and Micky Varney attended and met with attendees. Members of city staff also attended to listen to neighbor and advocate concerns.

Questions included:

- Whether the Safety and Livability program was just for downtown, or for the entire city
- How long will the pilot program last
- Public toilet installation
- McKay Park improvements
- Business bathroom policies
- Social Service provider updates

Advocates also thanked the City for the opportunity to share ideas about "very complicated situations that don't have easy solutions."

Safety and Livability Presentation

East Salem Rotary at Seymour Center

Oct. 24, 2025

City Manager Krishna Namburi presented an update on the City's Safety and Livability Plan to about 50 members of the East Salem Rotary, homeless advocates, and Neighborhood Association members on Oct. 24 at the Seymour Center.

She detailed the Oct. 13 City Council decision to spend \$626,000 on a six-month pilot program for a Safe, Clean and Healthy Salem. Mayor Julie Hoy and acting in capacity Director of Community Services Gretchen Bennett also attended.

Neighborhood Association members and Rotarians each asked questions about public toilets and toilets in a variety of Northeast Salem parks.

Members of the Northgate, East Lancaster and North Lancaster Neighborhood Associations asked questions about how the pilot would work in Northeast Salem and raised concerns about specific parks. Residents from the Jan Ree neighborhood also attended.

Questions and comments from the group were focused on:

- public toilets in parks
- how the co-response pilot (emergency medical/mental health provider) would work in Northeast Salem
- drug treatment options
- safety concerns at Marion Square Park
- a proposed donation from the Salem Area Chamber of Commerce and Main Street Business Association.