



NESCA
North East Salem Community Association

May 31, 2017

Mayor Chuck Bennett and members of the Salem City Council
City of Salem, City Hall
555 Liberty Street SE, Room 220
Salem, OR 97301

RE: Proposed purchase of the D Street Field as a city park

Mayor Bennett and members of the Salem City Council:

NESCA and our many partners are thrilled that the City Council will consider the purchase of the D Street Field located at the northwest corner of the former North Campus of the Oregon State Hospital at the Council's regular meeting on June 12th. NESCA first identified the purchase of this open space as a city park as a priority in December 2013, and we are grateful for the support of the Salem Parks Commission and our many friends and partners, including each of you and the City staff who have worked with us to pursue the purchase of this property.

The D Street Field is a traditional gathering place and recreation area for the broader community due to its central location, available parking, level topography, and square shape that makes it an ideal location for the Salem Spartans Rugby team to practice, the State Softball League to play games, and other organizations and friends and families to gather. This green space will offer the residents of Yaquina Hall, recently acquired by the City as affordable housing, a needed recreation area within walking distance. The park will also become a community attraction that maintains and potentially increases the desirability of the neighborhood and the adjacent property recently offered for sale by the Oregon Department of Administrative Services (DAS).

NESCA urges each of you to vote to approve the purchase-and-sale agreement for the D Street Field. Doing so will make a positive, long-term social and economic investment in our community, and will be the realization of the hopes and efforts of so many.

Sincerely,
Eli Brody, NESCA Chair

cc. by email:

Clint Dameron, City of Salem, Real Property Services Manager
Nikki Paxton, City of Salem, Neighborhood Services Representative