

CITY OF SALEM
Written Testimony #1
City Council

555 Liberty St SE
Salem, OR 97301

Monday, April 26, 2021

6:00 PM

Virtual Meeting

4.a. [21-149](#)

Petitioner-Initiated Annexation of Territory Located at 2527 and 2547
Robins Lane SE - 97306 (Annexation Case No. C-730)

Ward(s): 4

Councilor(s): Leung

Neighborhood(s): SGNA

Result Area(s): Good Governance; Safe Community; Safe, Reliable and
Efficient Infrastructure

Recommendation:

1. Find that the Petitioners have signed a valid triple majority petition for annexation of the Territory, in conformance with Oregon Revised Statutes (ORS) Chapter 222;

2. Determine that the Petition satisfies the criteria of Salem Revised Code (SRC) 260.060(c) and adopt Order No. 2021-1 ANX (Attachments 2 through 5);

3. Apply the City of Salem RA (Residential Agriculture) zone to the Territory from Marion County UT-5 (Urban Transition 5 Acres) and UT-10 (Urban Transition 10 Acres);

4. Withdraw the Territory from Salem Suburban Rural Fire Protection District and Turner Fire District; and

5. Approve the annexation subject to the following conditions:

(a) Any future development of the Subject Property shall require compliance with SRC 808.050 tree planting requirements; however, the minimum diameter of the trees to be planted shall be increased from a 1.5-inch caliper to a 2-inch caliper standard and replacement tree diversity shall be increased by planting not less than five species authorized in the City's Tree and Vegetation Technical Manual; and

(b) Prior to recordation of a final plat for any partition, subdivision, or planned unit development, or occupancy of a commercial development, the applicant shall grant \$15,000 to the Salem City Tree Fund; and

(c) Prior to submittal of any application for a land use approval, limited land use approval, or permit for developing the Subject Property, Applicant shall enter into an agreement with the City of Salem acknowledging and agreeing that the City of Salem will not record a final plat for any partition, subdivision, or planned unit development on or before July 1, 2023.

Attachments: [Vicinity Map](#)[Order No. 2021-1 ANX](#)[Exhibit A - Petition](#)[Exhibit B - Territory Legal Description and Map](#)[Exhibit C - Findings for Order No. 2021-1 ANX](#)[Public Works Department Parks Comments](#)[Fire Department Comments](#)[Public Works Department Comments](#)[Finance Department Comments](#)[Applicant's Mitigation Proposal](#)[Public Comments in Support](#)[Public Comments in Opposition](#)[Additional Comments in Support received by 5:00 p.m. 4-21-21.pdf](#)[Additional Comments received by 2:00 p.m. 4-26-21pdf](#)*Add - Written Testimony.***5.b.** [21-167](#)

Motion from Councilor Virginia Stapleton regarding temporary street closure of Union Street and Winter Street on Saturdays from May through October to benefit the area neighborhoods and the Saturday Market.

Ward(s): Ward 1

Councilor(s): Councilor Stapleton

Neighborhood(s): CANDO

Attachments: [Public comments received by 2:00 p.m. 4-26-21.pdf](#)*Add- Written Testimony.*

From: [Megan Bergevin](#)
To: [CityRecorder](#)
Subject: Development proposal behind Genesis Neighborhood
Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 9:39:49 AM

City of Salem,

We were appalled to hear that there is a chance that the clear-cut property behind the Genesis subdivision is trying to weasel their way into developing before the mandatory 5 year holding period is completed. They chose to clear-cut the property because at the time prices for timber were high and they could make a lot of money from the trees. When they chose to cut down the entire forest, they knew that they needed to wait 5 years before developing the land OR they could leave part of the trees and develop sooner. They chose to make the most money, which is fine, it is their property, BUT they also knew that it would need to wait 5 years to start developing. Now they are presenting the idea that if they plant slightly larger trees in the development, then they can get around the rule. What is the point of a rule, if someone can just buy their way out of it? We really hope that the City of Salem doesn't 'buy' into this scam and approve this questionable proposal by the landowner.

We have faith that you will enforce the original rules and have the landowner continue to wait until the completion of the 5 year wait period after clear-cutting the property.

Sincerely,

Jon & Megan Bergevin

(503)507-2663

From: [Jason Beyrouty](#)
To: [CityRecorder](#)
Subject: Annexation Hearing: ANCX-730 (2527 and 2547 Robins Lane SE)
Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 10:51:12 AM
Attachments: [Annexation Hearing ANCX-730.docx](#)

Please attached letter regarding Annexation Hearing ANCX-730

Jason Beyrouty

Partner, Employee Benefits
Aldrich Benefits LP
680 Hawthorne Avenue SE, #140, Salem, Oregon 97301
P: (503) 485.2481 • C: (503) 910.5653

[Web](#) • [LinkedIn](#) • [Twitter](#)

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April 18, 2021

Pamela Cole

Planner II

City of Salem Community Development Department

555 Liberty St SE, Suite 305

Salem, OR 97301

RE: Annexation Hearing: ANCX-730 (2527 and 2547 Robins Lane SE), Monday, April 26, 2021 Hearing Date

Dear Pamela,

I'm writing in support of the 42 acres located at 2527 and 2547 Robins Lane SE to be annexed.

With the current housing shortage in Salem these lots are badly needed. In addition to providing additional housing options, the new lots will create jobs, add to the tax base, and help strengthen the local economy.

The site is currently zoned Marion County UT (Urban Transition) and upon annexation will come into the City of Salem with an RA (Residential Agriculture) zone. The new City zone is consistent with the approved Salem Area Comprehensive Plan which, designates the site as being appropriate for low density residential use with detached single-family homes.

My understanding is that the next step in the process is an annexation hearing with the Salem City Council scheduled for Monday, April 26, 2021.

Please enter this letter into the record for the above referenced annexation hearing.

Sincerely,

Jason Beyrouty

From: [Tiffany Brammeier](#)
To: [CityRecorder](#)
Subject: Comments in opposition to proposal in Agenda #4.a
Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 12:13:40 PM

It has been brought to my attention that there is a plan to forcefully remove land from an upstanding citizen and their family. I don't think that it is right and I am not sure that it's legal but the increase in all of the creation of these retirement homes is getting ridiculous. The land that is in question is used by not only by the family but by others in the community for an escape to play and run at no charge to them. I am a state worker and I follow the rules the best I can but this is appalling that it would even be suggested to steal land from a community leader and create a road to more housing.

If this passes the 1st round of proposals I will be forced to do everything in my power to bring awareness to the community as the land that is to be stolen is so precious to us here in Salem.

Thank you for your time, you may contact me if needed at this email above.

Sincerely Tiffany Brammeier (lived in Salem my entire life and cherish this home)

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

From: [Spencer Campbell](#)
To: [CityRecorder](#)
Subject: Comments in opposition to proposal in agenda #4.a
Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 1:52:20 PM

To whom it may concern,

I had been a resident of Oregon and in particular the city of Salem for many years. My understanding of the proposal of a forced annex of the private property of one of your residents for the benefit of a housing developer is outrageous. I would plea that you reconsider this proposal and keep the governments hands off the private land of your citizen.

Thank you

Spencer Campbell

From: [Renae Coombs](#)
To: [CityRecorder](#)
Subject: Opposition to proposal in agenda #4.a
Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 1:16:36 PM

As a neighbor to the new proposal off Robbins Lane, I highly discourage you creating yet another large residential subdivision to support builders who are destroying this neighborhood. We play football regularly at a field at that house. We also live here and realize there is so much new traffic already with this terrible mini storage unit. The road and trailer park and residential neighbors already have nowhere to go. To yet destroy a more private property in order to feed the big developers of this area is devastating. When will it stop that we keep letting large builders and developers destroy our forest and housing. Please stop!!

Thanks, Renae Coombs
503-830-3741

From: [Mike Erdmann](#)
To: [CityRecorder](#); [citycouncil](#); [Chuck Bennett](#)
Subject: Testimony submittal for item 4.a on Monday's Council agenda
Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 7:16:56 AM
Attachments: [HBA testimony 4-26-21 4a.pdf](#)

The attached testimony is submitted for Agenda Item 4.a on Monday's Council agenda (annexation of property at 2527 & 2547 Robins Ln SE).

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MIKE ERDMANN | Chief Executive Officer
Home Builders Association of Marion & Polk Counties
2075 Madrona Ave SE, Suite 100, Salem, OR 97302
office 503-399-1500 | cell 503-409-3187
www.homebuildersassociation.org



2075 Madrona Ave. SE
Suite 100
Salem, Oregon 97302

T 503-399-1500
F 503-399-0651

HomeBuildersAssociation.org

April 22, 2021

Mayor Bennett & Salem City Council
City of Salem
555 Liberty St SE
Salem, OR 97301

RE: 4/26 City Council agenda item 4.a
Annexation of property at 2527 & 2547 Robins Ln SE

Dear Mayor Bennett and City Council Members:

The Home Builders Association of Marion & Polk Counties strongly supports the annexation request of the property located at 2527 and 2547 Robins Ln SE.

Oregon's land use system is predicated on a 20 year supply of residential land inside Urban Growth Boundaries, and our system expects that lands inside the UGB and included in our Buildable Lands Inventory will be annexed so that orderly development can take place and our housing supply needs can be met. Undue delays in annexing lands such as these does nothing but negatively impact a seriously underserved housing supply and unnecessarily pushes up housing prices for consumers.

Despite an extraordinarily strong housing market, Salem is increasingly plagued by a significant shortage of building lots. Salem's residential development activity in recent years has been far lower than what is needed to keep pace with demand. Universally, builders report an inability to secure an adequate supply of building lots in Salem, and the shortage of lots is pushing lot prices to the point where it is virtually impossible to build homes affordable to those of even moderate incomes. The lack of building lots has resulted in residential building activity half of what was seen 15 years ago, and never-seen-before new construction inventory levels under one month of supply.

Because of the lack of building lots in Salem, builders and housing consumers are increasingly going to surrounding communities such as Dallas, Independence, Sublimity and Stayton where land is available. Last year, Dallas and Independence, with a combined population of only 25,000, permitted roughly half the number of new homes as were permitted in Salem.

These home buyers predominantly commute to Salem for employment, and as we know from Salem's recent Greenhouse Gas Inventory, transportation is our biggest contributor of GHG emissions. An inadequate supply of building lots pushes development activity out of Salem and

into surrounding communities, increasing Vehicle Miles Travelled and GHG emissions. As Salem works to reduce GHG emissions, we should be taking every opportunity to make sure that we're not pushing home buyers to commute in from surrounding communities.

For these reasons, we urge you to support this annexation request, as well as others that come before you in the future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Mike Erdmann', with a stylized, cursive script.

Mike Erdmann
Chief Executive Officer

From: [Brecken Foulger](#)
To: [CityRecorder](#)
Subject: Comments in Opposition on Agenda # 4.a
Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 1:44:53 PM

Dear City Council,

You may not know, but the football field located at 2447 Robins Ln SE Salem serves many children and sporting teams in our community. It would be a disservice to the community to annex property into city limits and put a road through property.

Cole and Daisha Johnson let community members use at no cost. Multiple football, soccer, and basketball teams/players use daily. As a neighbor, I know personally how wonderful and generous the Johnson family has been.

Annexation should ONLY happen when it is requested- it should never be forced. I don't believe it would be right or fair to put a road through their property to appease a developer. There is other access off Robins Lane, top of Genesis Lane, and Pikes Pass, that is available and ready to open as roadways into new development.

Lastly, 5 year penalty to be adhered to. Otherwise, what is the point of have rules & guidelines?

Thank you.
Kimberly Foulger
2314 Jericho Ct Se
Salem Or 97306

From: [Rick Gaupo](#)
To: [CityRecorder](#); [Pamela Cole](#)
Cc: jswan@livebsl.com
Subject: Annexation Hearing ANCX-730
Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 11:16:35 AM

Pamela Cole
Planner II
City of Salem | Community Development Department
555 Liberty St SE, Suite 305, Salem OR 97301

Regarding: Annexation Hearing ANCX-730

I'm Rick Gaupo, writing in support of the annexation of 2527 and 2547 Robins Lane SE. The property annexation hearing is ANCX-730.

While I'm writing from the perspective of an individual citizen, I am the President of Marion Polk Food Share.

I support this annexation for two reasons. The first is, in general, I am for the annexation of properties within the Urban Growth boundary. I think it is easier to manage a city and services when there isn't small enclaves of land that sit outside of the city, but are very much connected to the city. The second reason is that food insecurity and housing insecurity are closely connected. One of the solutions to affordable housing is increasing available housing in a community. Increased affordable housing leads to increased food security.

Sincerely,

Rick Gaupo

From: [vgonzale729](#)
To: [CityRecorder](#)
Subject: Comments on Opposition to Proposal in Agenda #4.a
Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 11:48:42 AM

I am a resident of Salem. My daughter and son have visited Cole Johnsons home on occasion to do fun things at. Play on the basketball court, trampoline, playstructure. Their home has been such a wonderful place for many to have fun at. Friends, families are always welcome. Please don't add a road through their property. They have worked so hard to make their property such a great place for many.

Sincerely,

Virginia Gonzales
503-851-1363

Sent via the Samsung Galaxy S9, an AT&T 5G Evolution capable smartphone

From: [Jennifer Grimes-Burke](#)
To: [CityRecorder](#)
Subject: Comments in Opposition to Proposal in Agenda #4.a
Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 10:10:43 AM

Hello!

This forced annexation and any future forced annexation of this property would greatly affect the youth in our community. The current property is utilized, free of cost, to the youth of this community, when other arena's are unavailable. The continued sense of community that the Johnson family has offered by allowing the community to use their sport fields is unsurpassed. Stop the nonsense and make the new developers wait the mandatory 5 years!! Please and thank you.

From: [Amber Haider](#)
To: [CityRecorder](#)
Subject: comments in opposition to proposal in agenda #4.a
Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 11:22:27 AM

It has come to my attention regarding the proposal for early annexation of said property, and I wish to add my voice that this is not in the best interest of our city and it's neighbors. At a minimum, current rules requiring a 5 year wait should be upheld.

The family that owns the property that would have a road going strait through it, have, since they acquired it, donated it's use to families of this wonderful city at no charge. They have hosted teams, individuals, small groups to use their turf field. They have allowed rowdy kids with nothing to do, time each week to play pick-up games.

Personally, when my ballroom dance studio could not find a venue for a show it wished to put on, The Johnsons allowed us to use their field, set up a stage and lights, and entertain people (spreading out on the field which allowed for distancing) during this pandemic season when so many were so desperate to feel normal. They charged us nothing. We asked for donations for their charity, which they said time and time again was unnecessary.

This family gives endlessly to the community and they use their property as only one vehicle to do it. Annexing the neighboring property and building a road through the field we ALL enjoy would be a travesty. Truly.

Please let's use common sense and not disrupt something so beautiful and unifying for our neighbors. Families like the Johnsons are what make Salem the best kept secret in the Willamette Valley.

I appreciate so much your attention to this email and any effort that can be made to uphold current rules.

THANK YOU

Amber Haider

Jeremy Haider

Small business owners of local businesses:

Haider Family Dentistry

Amber Haider Coaching

From: [Jessica](#)
To: [CityRecorder](#)
Subject: Annexation Case No. C-730) Ward(s): 4
Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 9:11:29 AM

I would like to register for this meeting and add my comments.

I live in the Genesis neighborhood and face the property in question. This builder took no care when tearing down the forested area. He did it during spring mating season, displacing tons of animals. He also completely disregarded the cities requirements for relocating and saving trees from the site. His plan has far too many houses for the area and zero green space. His map also shows a road being built through a private property which is not available to be paved over. This builders has shown he does not care about the health of the city and has only profits in mind. Please do not reward him by annexing the property early and allowing him to benefit from his actions.

Jessica

From: [Cole Johnson](#)
To: [CityRecorder](#)
Subject: Cole Johnson - City Council Meeting Comments April 26th, 2021
Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 9:09:19 AM

RE: City Council Meeting (Agenda Item 4.a / File #21-149)

Esteemed City Council of Salem,

I'm writing this in behalf of myself, my family, and my neighborhood. My residence is 2447 Robins Lane and my property is contiguous with the property that was clear cut in 2018 and the proposed new development. The North, and East border of my 5 acre property is directly adjacent to the land in question.

The purpose of this correspondence is to urge the Council to disallow the owners of 2527 & 2547 Robins Lane to neither annex this current county property nor suspend the requisite 5 year waiting period to further develop following the 2018 clearcut of the land to sell the timber.

Without going into great detail about how the clearcut was handled, and the number of issues we as a neighborhood patiently dealt with during that time I would like to mention that - perhaps unbeknownst to the City Council - there were several complaints, proposed civil lawsuits, and attorneys retained due to the manner and nature of this clearcut.

Because of the destruction to my personal property I had to become personally involved. Trees from MY property were initially accidentally cut down while I was out of town and when I got back my wife and I had to walk out there to stop them from continuing the damage. The young man apologized but explained that his supervisor and owners had urged him to 'just keep going'. After a few phone calls they agreed to stop the trespassing and destruction of the 60' trees and in fear of a formal reprimand or lawsuit made the paltry offer of dragging two of the trees that were 'accidentally' fell onto our property with the reasoning that "we won't sell these you can use them as firewood".

I've re-planted dozens of trees that were part of the 'accidental' felling, and then planted an additional 140 more to line/shield my two borders adjacent to the aforementioned proposed build site at a cost of \$40,000. I do hope these trees would be allowed 2 more years of growth as it would benefit both parties.

(Text conversations, attorneys letters, photos, and phone logs are available upon request to verify the above statements)

There is more, to be sure. But hopefully the Council can see that besides the dust, displacement of wildlife, the additional (and severe) flooding to mine and surrounding properties due to the clear cut it was handled poorly, if not unethically. But after all this I must say that the one single consolation to the stress to all of this was that we (the families, wildlife, wetland, and landscape at large) would enjoy at least a 5 year reprieve from further movement on the project.

That they are attempting to skirt this is predictable, but in poor taste, and is not in keeping with the original agreement.

So we, the Genesis/Exodus/Robins Ln community wholeheartedly and humbly submit our request that the owners be required to maintain the original 5 year agreement. I hope that the City will see the fairness in asking the very eager developers to practice the same patience they've asked from us and simply wait the remaining 2 additional (and requisite) years before further developing their property.

Sincerely,

Dr. Cole Johnson



Cole Johnson, DMD
Johnson Family Orthodontics
2755 Commercial Street SE | Salem, OR 97302
(971) 404-7287 | www.LiveGrowSmile.com



City Council meeting - April 26, 2021

Re: File #21-149

Public Hearing - Annexation of Territory - 2527 & 2547 Robins Ln SE, 97306

My name is Kathleen Lempka. I serve on the South Gateway Neighborhood Assn Board and live at 2120 Robins Ln SE in Salem.

Multi Tech's, Mark Grenz, presented information at the April 8, 2021 SGNA Board meeting, stating this annexation project was 'moving forward'. Future development of the land and is expected to add another 180-200 single family homes. These 2 lots are in addition to the other 2 previously-annexed lots of 2518 & 2487 Robins Ln. Mark stated included in the plans is the revamping and continuation of Robins Ln SE, which is currently a dead-end street, and connect into Battle Creek Rd just south of Landau St SE., eventually intersecting with Kuebler Blvd SE.

I have read the existing Public Comments in Support posted for this Project. The majority are from businesses who stand to financially benefit from this Annexation and subsequent development of homes. Neighbors such as myself were not notified of these plans. I am fortunate to be on the SGNA Board and learn of this upcoming action and be here to provide my comments at this Public Hearing. I will keep residents in my community informed as well.

Currently, housing on Robins Ln consists of the multi-family 'Robins Lane Apartment' complex plus 5 other large single-family-home communities: Oak Pointe, Oak Hollow, Genesis, Robin Hood Glen, and my Senior 55+ manufactured-home community of Terrace Lake Park, which in itself has over 200 units and approximately 350 residents. I do not know the sum total of all, but believe home count must be the high hundreds which equates to most-likely well over a thousand residents. There is already a high volume of vehicle traffic and all must travel west on Robins Ln access Commercial St SE. It can be a precarious situation when our senior residents attempt to depart our community onto Robins Ln and encounter a vehicle exceeding the speed limit coming over the blind hill. Pedestrians of all ages use the existing sidewalks on both sides of Robins Ln and also cross the street without the aid of a marked crosswalk.

Many residents currently living on or just off of Robins Ln may not necessarily embrace this pending expansion to our small neighborhood. Conversely, most might get some comfort to learn that because of the annexation and development a secondary access and egress will be created for this neighborhood. This is especially important should an unforeseen emergency or disaster occur.

It is easy to presume the new traffic situation on Robins Ln will exponentially worsen when this street is continued onto Battle Creek. It will most-certainly create a 'short-cut thoroughfare' for many travelers, especially from I-5 and south Commercial St areas to Kuebler Blvd. However, it will substantially worsen the safety issues in our neighborhood. The additional homes planned for the streets of Robins, Battle Creek and Landau is cause for concern even with the eventual extensions of both Genesis St SE and Mistymorning Ave SE to Landau St SE.

As you can surmise, my biggest concern with this annexation and subsequent development project is the lack of planned infrastructure changes, specifically to the roads and traffic control measures. The Public Works report dated January 14, 2019 states "no public improvements are required for annexation" and I loudly disagree. Clearly there are significant improvements that must be determined before any activities move forward on this project.

I am appealing to the City Council to consider approval and funding of at least the following traffic improvements prior to proceeding:

- 1) install speed bumps at regular intervals the full length of Robins Ln,
- 2) install an additional lane, dedicated for right turns, from westbound Robins Ln onto the existing right lane of Commercial St.,
- 3) add a right turn light to the existing signal light at Robins Ln and Commercial,
- 4) install 25 mph speed limit signs on Robins Ln,
- 5) add lane markings to Robins Ln,
- 6) add a new crosswalk with reflective markers at the crest of the Robins Ln hill,
- 6) along Battle Creek Rd, post 35 mph speed limit signs and install stop signs at regular intervals for traffic control.

Thank you for listening and considering this request presented on behalf of your constituents.

Respectfully submitted:

Kathleen Lempka
2120 Robins Ln SE Unit 59
Salem 97306

Cell: 206-518-3005
Home: 503-584-1510

From: [Kathleen Lempka](#)
To: [CityRecorder](#)
Subject: Public Comment - April 26, 2021 City Council Meeting, Annexation
Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 6:10:43 PM

April 23, 2021

RE: Public Hearing - Annexation of Territory located at 2527 & 2547 Robins Ln SE, 97306

My name is Kathleen Lempka. I serve on the South Gateway Neighborhood Assn Board and live at 2120 Robins Ln SE.

I would like to be on the Agenda and provide public comment at this Public Hearing and will pre-register online April 26.

Thank you.

From: [John Lovell](#)
To: [CityRecorder](#)
Subject: Comments in Opposition to Proposal in Agenda #4.a
Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 1:35:06 PM

Good afternoon,

First off, I would say that most rules are put in place for a reason. The 5 year delay in annexation must be there for a reason. However, my biggest concern is the impact the plan would have on the Johnson's property. My family has been blessed with knowing the Johnson's for quite a while, and their generosity with sharing their turf field. I have spent countless hours coaching kids on that field as it was one of the few places we could practice into the night. It has become a home away from home for my kid's football teams. Anything that would jeopardize that field continuing to be a place where kids can go to practice and enjoy their passions, I would be against.

Thank you,
John Lovell

From: [Pamela Cole](#)
To: [CityRecorder](#)
Subject: FW: Letter of Support - Annexation ANXC-730 21-149
Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 4:00:35 PM
Attachments: [Annexation Letter of Support.doc](#)
[image002.png](#)

Testimony for April 26 item 21-149. Thanks.

Pamela Cole

Planner II

City of Salem | Community Development Department

555 Liberty St SE, Suite 305, Salem OR 97301

pcole@cityofsalem.net | 503-540-2309

[Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [YouTube](#) | [CityofSalem.net](#)

From: Jennifer Martin <jennifer@mid-valleycre.com>

Sent: Friday, April 23, 2021 2:21 PM

To: Pamela Cole <PCole@cityofsalem.net>

Cc: Jim Swan <JSwan@livebsl.com>

Subject: Letter of Support - Annexation ANCX-730

Please see attached.

I can most quickly be reached via text or mobile phone at 503.851.9428.

Jennifer Martin, CCIM

A licensed Principal Broker in Oregon



340 Vista Ave SE, #150

PO Box 3001, Salem, OR 97302

503.339.7400 - Office

503.851.9428 - Mobile

www.mid-valleycre.com



Jennifer Martin, Principal Broker

PO Box 3001, Salem, OR 97302

(503) 339-7400 phone

jennifer@mid-valleycre.com

April 23, 2021

Pamela Cole
Planner II
City of Salem | Community Development Department
555 Liberty St SE, Suite 305, Salem OR 97301

RE: Annexation Hearing: ANCX-730 (2527 and 2547 Robins Lane SE)

Pamela,

I am submitting a letter of support for an annexation approval of the 42 acres at Robins Lane and Battle Creek. As you know, there is a housing shortage in our community and this property that will result in the development of new residential lots in the City of Salem that will provide additional housing options and improve the property tax base.

The site is currently zoned Marion County UT (Urban Transition) and upon annexation will come into the City of Salem with an RA (Residential Agriculture) zone. The new City zone is consistent with the approved Salem Area Comprehensive Plan which, designates the site as being appropriate for low density residential use with detached single-family homes. Also, the zone of any site that is annexed cannot be changed for five years, so I am confident of the development of residential inventory on this site.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jennifer Martin". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name and last name clearly distinguishable.

Jennifer Martin, CCIM
Owner and Principal Broker
Mid-Valley Commercial Real Estate, LLC

From: [Angela Miller](#)
To: [CityRecorder](#)
Subject: Comments in opposition to proposal in agenda #4.a
Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 12:10:25 PM

Please do not annex the property. This is not in the best interest of Salem. It would greatly impact the current situation there on.

Angela Miller

From: [Brandy Nunez](#)
To: [CityRecorder](#)
Subject: Opposition to proposal agenda #4.A
Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 11:52:27 AM

I am opposition to proposal agenda 4.a Cole and Daisha Johnson our a prominent family in our community encouraging family morals and values in our children welcoming friends families and strangers to coach, run drills and mold the children of our future this property of the Johnson family has been instrumental for these children and there training please do not take this away from the Johnson family and the community that benefit from there generosity.

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Anne Olsen](#)
To: [CityRecorder](#)
Subject: Comments in opposition to proposal in agenda #4.a
Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 1:32:48 PM

To whom this may concern:

The proposal to put a road in through the turf field area of Cole and Daisha Johnson's property is not in the best interest of the Salem community.

That turf field has served thousands of children in town. Cole and Daisha have kinda allowed teams to come practice and use their field to be able to continue training and moving forward with their athletic endeavors. If destroyed, it will create a huge drought to the facilities that those around town are able to use.

Each of my 5 children have at some point had team practices, camps, drills, scrimmages for different sports. I am thoroughly grateful for all the times Cole has willingly allowed those to come use his private property.

Please reconsider. Thank you.

Anne Olsen

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Pamela Cole](#)
To: [CityRecorder](#)
Subject: FW: Annexation Hearing: ANXC-730 (2527 and 2547 Robins Lane SE) 21-149
Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 4:01:19 PM

Testimony for April 26 item 21-149. Thanks.

Pamela Cole

Planner II

City of Salem | Community Development Department

555 Liberty St SE, Suite 305, Salem OR 97301

pcole@cityofsalem.net | 503-540-2309

[Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [YouTube](#) | [CityofSalem.net](#)

From: gabe orso <gabeors09@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, April 23, 2021 3:02 PM
To: Pamela Cole <PCole@cityofsalem.net>
Cc: jswan@livebsl.com
Subject: Annexation Hearing: ANCX-730 (2527 and 2547 Robins Lane SE)

To:

Pamela Cole

Senior Planner II

City of Salem | Community Development Department

555 Liberty St SE, Suite 305, Salem OR 97301

I Gabriel Orso, a member of the Southeast Mill Creek Neighborhood Association, am in support of the annexation of 2527 and 2547 Robins Ln SE (Annexation Hearing: ANCX-73) into the City limits of Salem Oregon. Annexing this property into the city limits would allow for the development of housing to aid in the current housing crisis. Not only would it help bring a solution to the housing problem, but it would also create jobs, add to the current tax base and support the local economy.

As a father to a young family and a lifetime resident of Salem, I know first hand how difficult it can be to find affordable housing, which is adequate to raise a family. I know beautiful South Salem to be an area in need of housing, specifically single family dwellings, and know this area to be an ideal place for new housing to emerge.

I support changing the zone from Marion County UT to Salem RA, knowing this is consistent with the existing approved Salem Area Comprehensive Plan, which allows the property to be developed into single family residences.

Thank you for considering my two cents, as I am hoping to help make Salem a better place to live, play and work.

With Gratitude,

Gabriel Orso



General Contracting — Excavation — Custom Homes

CCB# 195111

April 23, 2021

Pamela Cole
Planner II
City of Salem | Community Development Department
555 Liberty St SE, Suite 305, Salem OR 97301
PCole@cityofsalem.net

Re:

Annexation Hearing: ANCX-730 (2527 and 2547 Robins Lane SE)
Hearing Date: Monday, April 26, 2021

Hi Pamela,

I support the annexation of the above referenced property.

With the current housing shortage these new lots are desperately needed. In addition to providing additional housing options, the new lots will create jobs, add to the tax base, and help strengthen the local economy.

The proposed annexation will help provide new housing stock in the area while helping to meet current housing needs with the Salem Urban Growth Boundary

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Serge Serdsev". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Serge Serdsev

cc: jswan@livebsl.com

PO Box 3550, Salem OR 97302

Phone: 503-990-7003

Email: pndi@comcast.net

Fax: 503-990-7657

From: a.southwell@comcast.net
To: [CityRecorder](#)
Subject: Comments in opposition to proposal on agenda #4
Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 10:06:38 AM

Why would you even consider forced annexation of private property!! The property in question, for which you would like to blaze a trail through, has a football field that kids play and practice on. How is even fair that you can decide to make a road through a private property for your convenience?
Use the already existing road Robins lane and open it up to Brentwood Dr!!!
Do not take property from citizens!!!!

Aubyn Reyes
a.southwell@comcast.net

From: [Pamela Cole](#)
To: [CityRecorder](#)
Subject: FW: Annexation Hearing: ANXC-730 (2527 and 2547 Robins Lane SE) 21-149
Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 10:59:08 AM

Testimony for April 26 Council item 21-149. Thanks.

Pamela Cole

Planner II

City of Salem | Community Development Department

555 Liberty St SE, Suite 305, Salem OR 97301

pcole@cityofsalem.net | 503-540-2309

[Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [YouTube](#) | CityofSalem.net

From: Brad Reynoso <Brad@wv-excavating.com>
Sent: Friday, April 23, 2021 10:13 AM
To: Pamela Cole <PCole@cityofsalem.net>
Subject: Annexation Hearing: ANCX-730 (2527 and 2547 Robins Lane SE)

4/23/2021

To: Pamela Cole
Community Development Department
City of Salem
555 Liberty Street SE, Suite 305
Salem, Oregon 97301
PCole@cityofsalem.net

RE: Annexation Hearing: ANCX-730 (2527 and 2547 Robins Lane SE)
Hearing Date: Monday, April 26, 2021

Pamela:

Please enter this letter of support into the record for the above referenced annexation hearing. Salem needs more residential lots and, this will provide more jobs and housing in our community which we desperately need.

I am one of the owners of Willamette Valley Excavating and am responsible for many people who work here to provide for there families. I would like to reiterate our support for this annexation of this property to create more housing for our community as well as provide jobs for the people that currently work here and for people that we would be able to hire if this project was to move forward. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely, Brad Reynoso

PO Box 12861

Salem, OR 97309

Office: 503-507-9460

Cell: 503-932-7012

Fax: 503-339-1997

[Website](#) | [Videos](#) | [Social](#)



From: [Pamela Cole](#)
To: [CityRecorder](#)
Subject: FW: Support of Annexation - ANXC-730 (2527 and 2547 Robins Lane SE) 21-149
Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 3:59:44 PM

Testimony for April 26 hearing item 21-149. Thanks.

Pamela Cole

Planner II

City of Salem | Community Development Department

555 Liberty St SE, Suite 305, Salem OR 97301

pcole@cityofsalem.net | 503-540-2309

[Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [YouTube](#) | [CityofSalem.net](#)

From: Janel Roden <janel@traditionrep.com>

Sent: Friday, April 23, 2021 2:20 PM

To: Pamela Cole <PCole@cityofsalem.net>

Subject: Support of Annexation - ANCX-730 (2527 and 2547 Robins Lane SE)

Pamela Cole

Planner II

City of Salem | Community Development Department

555 Liberty St SE, Suite 305, Salem OR 97301

I am writing in support of the annexation of 2527 and 2547 Robins Lane SE (ANCX-730) which has a scheduled hearing date of Monday April 26, 2021.

With the current housing shortage these new lots are much needed. In addition to providing additional housing options, the new lots will create jobs, add to the tax base, and help strengthen the local economy. This will help provide new housing stock in the area while helping to meet current housing needs with the Salem Urban Growth Boundary. I am in support of Banner Homes and they will continue to keep things "local", support our community and create jobs

Please enter this letter into the record for the above referenced annexation hearing.

Sincerely,

JANEL RODEN
CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER
Licensed Broker in Oregon

O: 503.877.4653

[WEBSITE](#)

[RES LISTINGS](#)

[CRE LISTINGS](#)

C: 503.508.1550
Janel@TraditionREP.com



[2195 Hyacinth St NE STE 111B Salem, OR 97301](#)

From: [Kristi Rudolph](#)
To: [CityRecorder](#)
Subject: Easement -Road
Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 1:51:19 PM

I am writing this email because I was informed that they are planning to hopefully put a road through my dear friends and close families property-cold and Daisha Johnson.

The field they have built has provided numerous sporting events for my children, community dance receptions, church functions, camping, play dates, and so much more I can't even begin to recall. To put a road through their property would be unfair and completely cruel. It will be affecting more than just one family's property but the lives of too many families to count. They are an asset to this community and that property provides us place for safety, exercise, involvement and community for numerous families all over Salem and Kaiser. Please, reconsider. I think this is devastating on so many levels and can't believe that this is actually a possibility. I strongly oppose placing A road through Cole and Daisha's property.

Kristi Rudolph
Sent from my iPhone

From: [Jackie Leung](#)
To: [CityRecorder](#)
Cc: [Dan Atchison](#); [Lisa Anderson-Ogilvie](#)
Subject: FW: Concern
Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 11:05:11 AM

For item 4a

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

----- Original message -----

From: Kaye Swires <kayeswires@gmail.com>
Date: 4/25/21 9:35 PM (GMT-08:00)
To: Jackie Leung <JLeung@cityofsalem.net>
Subject: Concern

My name is Kaye Swires and I am urging you to deny the request to bypass the five year wait and begin building on the land located off of Robins Lane. I recognize that building on the land will occur but ask that it follow the same waiting period as originally required. The builder made the choice to clear cut the land and should be held accountable by waiting the full five years instead of given a free pass. I am concerned that if he isn't held accountable others will see there is no reason to not clear cut trees destroying environment and animals, especially if they know they will be allowed to build early. There are many members of the community who have seen and experienced the clear disregard for nature and community. I am deeply concerned that should the council allow this request, our community will continue to be negatively impacted. Thank you for your time and representing the South Gateway neighborhood. Please let me know if you have further questions. I have submitted public testimony as well. I hope you will consider doing the right thing and requiring him to wait the full five years.

Thank You!

Kaye

From: [Kaye Swires](#)
To: [CityRecorder](#)
Subject: 21-149
Date: Sunday, April 25, 2021 8:50:24 PM

My name is Kaye Swires and I am a resident at 6190 Genesis St. and we own land on Exodus Street. I am urging the Salem City Council to use their power to deny the request 21-149 Petitioner-Initiated Annexation of Territory Located at 2527 and 2547 Robins Lane SE - 97306 (Annexation Case No. C-730).

While I recognize the annexation and building on the land is imminent I strongly believe that it is only appropriate and just that they honor their requirement to wait the full five years. I am deeply concerned at the incredible disregard for the trees and animals that were a part prior to the land being clear cut just a few years ago and this continues to show as they try to rush ahead in order to build new homes. They made the choice to simply eliminate all trees without any regard for the community. They must in good conscience be required to wait the full five years before they can begin building. It is very concerning as we have already seen movement on the land. When someone has a blatant disregard for community and nature they must be held accountable to the original requirement set forth and not be given special privileges. I am asking the City Council to deny this request and hold true to the values of the city. Instead of allowing special rules and changes for certain groups, please keep the five year wait in place. During that time maybe the builder could consider adding additional trees and parks to his plan. I urge you to do the right thing for Salem and deny this request. Thank you,
Kaye Swires

From: [Pamela Cole](#)
To: [CityRecorder](#)
Subject: FW: Annexation Hearing: ANXC-730 (2527 and 2547 Robins Lane SE) 21-149
Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 7:38:12 AM
Attachments: [Letter of Support for annexation.docx](#)

Testimony for April 26 hearing 21-149. Thanks.

Pamela Cole

Planner II

City of Salem | Community Development Department

555 Liberty St SE, Suite 305, Salem OR 97301

pcole@cityofsalem.net | 503-540-2309

[Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [YouTube](#) | [CityofSalem.net](#)

From: Francisca Tapia <doubleopainting@gmail.com>

Sent: Sunday, April 25, 2021 11:16 PM

To: Pamela Cole <PCole@cityofsalem.net>

Subject: Annexation Hearing: ANCX-730(2527 and 2547 Robins Lane SE)

Good evening,

Please see attached support letter for the annexation hearing stated above.

--

Francisca Tapia

503-779-9805

CCB#206905

4/25/2021

To : Pamela Cole

In reference to the annexation hearing :ANCX-730 (2527 and 2547 Robins Lane SE) Hearing date :
4/26/2021

I support the annexation approval that will provide the development of new residential lots in the City of Salem. We have a great need of new lots with the current housing shortage. As a benefit of not only providing additional housing, the new lots will create more work for my company , add to the revenue received by the city and strengthen the local economy. As a small business owner who relies on the new residential construction industry in Salem, I genuinely support this annexation approval and ask for your approval.

Please submit this letter into the record for the above reference annexation hearing.

Sincerely,

Francisca Tapia Garcia

Double O Painting, LLC

CCB # 206905

From: [Pamela Cole](#)
To: [CityRecorder](#)
Subject: FW: ANXC-730 (2527 and 2547 Robins Lane S.E.) 21-149
Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 7:36:16 AM

Testimony for April 26 hearing 21-149. Thanks.

Pamela Cole

Planner II

City of Salem | Community Development Department

555 Liberty St SE, Suite 305, Salem OR 97301

pcole@cityofsalem.net | 503-540-2309

[Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [YouTube](#) | [CityofSalem.net](#)

From: rojovasend@frontier.com <rojovasend@frontier.com>
Sent: Saturday, April 24, 2021 11:08 AM
To: Pamela Cole <PCole@cityofsalem.net>
Cc: jswan@livebsl.com
Subject: ANCX-730 (2527 and 2547 Robins Lane S.E.)

As a developer of Rock Ridge and Mossy Ridge, a total of 140 lots next to this property, I know there is a large demand for housing lots in this area. The demand for good buildable lots on this section of town not being met at the present time.

This shortage of buildable lots is driving up the cost of housing and making it unaffordable for the middle class buyer. I have been developing subdivisions since 1974 and have never seen such a lot shortage as we have now.

Give this annexation due consideration so developers can fulfil the housing needs for the people of Salem.

yours truly
Roger Vasend

From: [Ken Adams](#)
To: [citycouncil](#)
Subject: 21-167 Version: 1
Date: Saturday, April 24, 2021 10:33:07 AM

Dear City Council & Mayor,

I would like to voice my support for 21-167 [Version: 1](#) on this coming City Council Agenda. I use both Winter and Union streets to bike commute from my home to my volunteer position at KMUZ-FM. It took me a while to discover this route as many other downtown streets are rather nerve racking to say the least for a bike rider.

Thank you Council member Stapelton.

Ken Adams
1695 Chemeketa Street
Salem 97301

From: bamstutz@protonmail.com
To: [CityRecorder](#)
Subject: Support for temporary street closure of Union Street and Winter Street
Date: Sunday, April 25, 2021 6:21:24 PM

Hello,

I am writing to note my support for Council Stapleton's proposal to temporarily close certain streets to vehicular traffic on Saturdays, and thus to open those roads for safe pedestrian, bicycle, and other non-automotive purposes. I greatly enjoyed the street closures downtown last summer and found that it invigorated my appreciation for being downtown. I feel that the proposed temporary closures as proposed will continue and enhance those effects. I greatly look forward to being able to ride my bike down to the Saturday market, having it only for a few hours to enjoy clean air and safe streets with my wife, dog, and all other happy humans of this city.

I applaud this proposal, and strongly encourage the city council to support it.

Thank you,
Brian Amstutz
21st St NE

From: noreply@cityofsalem.net on behalf of mbackoh@yahoo.com
To: citycouncil
Subject: Contact City Council
Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 9:34:08 AM
Attachments: [ATT00001.bin](#)

Your Name	Mary Ann Baclawski
Your Email	mbackoh@yahoo.com
Your Phone	503-884-4192
Street	385 Forest Hills Way, NW
City	Salem
State	OR
Zip	97304
Message	I use the Union Street bridge when I ride my bike from West Salem to the Saturday Market. Please close that street to traffic to facilitate safe bike traffic then as suggested by Councilor Nordyke.

This email was generated by the dynamic web forms contact us form on 4/26/2021.

From: [Roberta A](#)
To: [CityRecorder](#)
Subject: Closing Streets for Bikers and Walkers on Saturdays
Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 12:48:26 PM

I support closing sections of streets on Saturdays to accommodate bikers and walkers in the Saturday Market neighborhoods.

Thank you for listening. Roberta Cade
1321 Chemeketa St NE

From: [Diane Chavez](#)
To: [CityRecorder](#)
Subject: Public Testimony on Agenda Item 5b
Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 2:05:11 PM

I support the motion to close certain downtown streets to provide a more bike/pedestrian friendly community. I am a grandparent who would like to bike with my grandchildren but currently do not feel safe doing so in downtown Salem.

This motion would be a step in the right direction toward making Salem a more pedestrian/bike friendly environment and supporting our local economy.

Sincerely,
Diane Chavez
370 19th ST NE
ward 1

From: [Clair Clark](#)
To: [CityRecorder](#)
Cc: [Tom Andersen](#)
Subject: Public Testimony on Agenda Item 5b
Date: Saturday, April 24, 2021 9:24:01 AM

Salem City Councilors and Mayor Bennett,

I support the motion brought forward by Councilor Stapleton for city staff to report to City Council on closing sections of Union St. and Winter St during the fair weather times of year.

This change would give residents an opportunity to walk or bike downtown in a safe, pleasant way one day a week. These closures are unlikely to impede traffic flow through the area since they aren't particularly busy streets.

These types of targeted street closures are an important step in promoting more active transportation in our city. Increasing active transportation is essential for Salem to reach its greenhouse gas reduction goals of net zero by 2050 and halfway there by 2035, since 53% of our city's emissions are from transportation.

Sincerely,

Clair Clark
Ward 2

From: [Robert Cortright](#)
To: [CityRecorder](#)
Subject: Public Testimony on Agenda Item 5b
Date: Sunday, April 25, 2021 10:56:57 AM

Councillors

I strongly encourage you to approve Councillor Stapleton's motion directing staff to explore the feasibility of closing Union Street on Saturdays to provide improved bike and pedestrian access between Riverfront Park and Salem Saturday Market.

Creating a truly bicycle-friendly community is a series of small steps. A key step is to make it easy for interested but less experienced riders to take somewhat longer trips so they can build their skill and confidence cycling on city streets. Closing Union and Winter Streets to auto traffic would create an easy route for lots of folks to explore and try out cycling for longer trips, for example by riding from Wallace Marine Park or Minto-Brown Park through Riverfront Park to Saturday Market on the Capitol Mall.

Making cycling and walking in Salem safer and more convenient is also critical to meeting our greenhouse gas emission goals: state studies tell us we need to double or triple the share of trips made by walking and cycling. (They also show that increasing walking and cycling has additional benefits - such as improving public health and air quality.) Changing how we use city streets to make walking and cycling safe and convenient options for as many trips as possible and giving many of our citizens more opportunities to try cycling are important first steps to meeting these goals. Please take this step!

Bob Cortright

West Salem
(Ward 8)

From: [Sarah Deumling](#)
To: [CityRecorder](#)
Subject: PUBLIC TESTIMONY ON AGENDA ITEM 5 B
Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 9:31:26 PM

My name is Sarah Deumling and my house is at 2667 Orchard Heights Rd. NW.
I think commissioner Stapleton's proposal to limit traffic on portions of Union and Winter streets to bike riders and pedestrians on summer weekend days is an overdue but fantastic start to making Salem a friendlier and safer city - the kind of city I would like to live in. It will be a total plus for those of us in West Salem who enjoy the market and would welcome the walk or bike ride. Please give thoughtful consideration to this fine proposal. If other cities can do such things I think we can too.

Sincerely,
Sarah Deumling

From: [Victor Dodier](#)
To: [CityRecorder](#)
Subject: Re: City Council Agenda, Item 5.b. Motion by Councilor Stapleton regarding temporary closure of Union & Winter Streets
Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 11:21:44 AM

I am writing in support of Councilor Stapleton's motion regarding temporary closure of Union & Winter Streets on Saturdays in support of the Saturday Market.

A feasibility study by City staff is an excellent idea.

I believe that the City should better support bicycling and walking. Temporary street closure in support of the already family friendly Saturday Market would be, I think, a good way of accomplishing that purpose.

Victor Dodier

From: [Kirk Leonard](#)
To: [CityRecorder](#)
Subject: Saturday street closures
Date: Sunday, April 25, 2021 11:14:24 PM

Mayor Bennett and city councilors:

I strongly support Councilor Stapleton's proposal for May through October Saturday street closures to promote active transportation events and the Saturday Market.

Kirk Leonard
Ward 2

From: [Janet Lorenzen](#)
To: [CityRecorder](#)
Subject: Public Testimony on Agenda Item 5b
Date: Sunday, April 25, 2021 4:58:59 PM

I am writing in support of Councilor Stapleton's upcoming motion (4/26/2021) to develop a plan to close portions of Winter and Union Streets on Saturdays to facilitate family-friendly biking and walking to the downtown Saturday Market. I think this is a terrific idea and a good compromise between not closing any streets vs. closing streets permanently.

Thank you,

Janet Lorenzen

Ward 3

1725 John Muir Cir SE

Salem, OR 97302

--

Associate Professor Janet A. Lorenzen, Ph.D. (she/they)
Department of Sociology
Willamette University
900 State Street
Salem, OR 97301

Affiliations: American Ethnic Studies, Center for Sustainability, Women's & Gender Studies

jlorenze@willamette.edu

Office: Smullin 218 (Sabbatical January 2021 – July 2021)

Office Phone: 503-370-6313

Willamette University was previously the Indian Manual Labor Training School in the 1840s and is on the land of the Kalapuya, represented today by the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde and the Confederated Tribes of the Siletz. Support the climate goals of the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians:

<http://atntribes.org/climatechange/>

From: [Barb Lowry](#)
To: [CityRecorder](#)
Subject: Union Street closure for Saturday Market.
Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 10:33:11 AM

I think this is a terrible idea. Why would people walk or bike all that way, then buy stuff they have to cart home? I also believe that public city streets should never be blocked off except for occasional city wide events, and emergencies. Just another reason for me to avoid the downtown core. Barb Lowry

From: [Katja Meyer](#)
To: [Virginia Stapleton](#); [Tom Andersen](#); [CityRecorder](#)
Subject: Public Testimony on Agenda Item 5b
Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 10:54:58 AM

I am writing in support of examining the feasibility of closing Union and Winter Streets on Saturdays to expand pedestrian and bike access to the Saturday Market. This would be a great first step in making Salem a more family and bike-friendly city. It would also be a visible sign of the City's commitment to climate action (and hopefully, expanding the number of bike lanes would be part of the developing Climate Action Plan).

Katja Meyer

April 25, 2021

Dear City of Salem Mayor and Councilors,

My name is Angela Obery

I am a long-time resident of Salem and currently live in Ward 2.

I'd like to thank Councilor Stapleton for her motion "regarding temporary street closure of Union Street and Winter Street on Saturdays from May through October to benefit the area neighborhoods and the Saturday Market."

Studying the feasibility of this project is closely aligned with the ongoing community work of "[Our Salem Vision](#)." The act of opening these designated bike and pedestrian friendly sections of Union Street and Winter Street one day a week to people walking, biking, and skating would serve as living evidence of the draft vision statement: "Salem is a prosperous, equitable, sustainable city where everyone has access to affordable housing and safe transportation choices, local businesses are thriving, and where open spaces and the environment are valued and protected."

The motion also calls to mind the key indicators used in the document (Pg. 13) planning for Salem's growth. Of the 20 key indicators, this motion effectively links to nine of the indicators: *Affordability, Complete Neighborhoods, Proximity to Parks, Walk and Transit Friendliness, Bicycle and Pedestrian Use, Greenhouse Gas Emissions, Air Pollution from Travel, Traffic and Pedestrian Crashes, and Active Transportation.*

Further review also shows that the motion connects to a great number of the goals proposed by the City as it seeks to build a more livable community for all. (Pg. 22-32)

**Complete Neighborhoods: Encourage housing that provides convenient access to jobs, services, and amenities that meets residents' daily needs.*

**Livability and Sustainability: Enhance Salem's neighborhoods to ensure that they are safe, welcoming, stable, sustainable, and attractive places to live.*

**Access and Livability: Promote a vibrant economy that increases access to jobs, goods, and services.*

**Design: Encourage commercial, mixed-use, and industrial development that creates safe, sustainable, attractive urban environments.*

**Opportunities: Provide a comprehensive network of parks and recreational facilities - and access to these amenities - to serve all ages, incomes, cultures and abilities.*

**Community and Culture: Develop and enhance parks as safe and welcoming public spaces that celebrate cultural heritage and diversity, reflect surrounding neighborhood identity, and provide for community gatherings.*

**Multipurpose: Consider parks as multipurpose infrastructure needed to maintain and improve the quality of life for all community members. Access and Connectivity Provide an interconnected network of recreational opportunities and increase safe and convenient access to them.*

**Environmental Protection: Protect and enhance the quality and function of Salem's natural resources, ecosystems, and environment.*

**Greenhouse Gas Emissions: Reduce greenhouse gas emissions that contribute to climate change and negatively impact the environment, public health, and community resiliency.*

**Recreation and Access: Promote and enhance the recreational and scenic qualities of the Willamette River and adjacent lands and increase access to these areas.*

**Complete Streets: Develop and maintain an integrated, equitable multimodal transportation network that promotes safe, convenient, efficient travel for every user and contributes directly to the health, economic vitality and quality of life of all residents, especially the most vulnerable, and the broader community. Include non-automobile modes of transportation, including bicycling, walking and public transportation, in all transportation planning and projects.*

**Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction: Pursue strategies and investments to reduce travel demand and support non-motorized transportation to help Salem pursue its commitment to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from transportation.*

**Local Connectivity: Provide an interconnected local street system that allows for dispersal of traffic, encourages a mix of travel modes, reduces the length of trips, and increases opportunities for people to walk and bike.*

**Bicycle System: Accommodate bicyclists of all ages and abilities by providing a well-connected system of on- and off-street bicycle facilities that will encourage increased ridership, safe bicycle travel, and active transportation and will support public health.*

**Pedestrian System: Accommodate pedestrians of all ages and abilities by providing a comprehensive system of connecting sidewalks, walkways, and trails that will encourage and increase safe pedestrian travel and active transportation to support public health.*

**Travel Demand Management: Employ strategies to reduce the demands placed on the current and future transportation system by decreasing reliance on single-occupancy vehicles as the dominant means of travel and ensuring that other modes are viable and convenient travel options.*

**Community Spaces and Culture: Foster development of community gathering spaces and other amenities that provide opportunities for people to socialize and celebrate together.*

**Public Facilities and Services: Provide accessible, high-quality public facilities and services to meet the needs of current and future generations and to promote quality of life.*

**Food: Increase access to healthy, fresh food.*

Councilor Stapleton's motion seems like a natural extension of the work already underway by the City of Salem. It moves beyond the theorizing, the grand plans, and mere words on paper. For a small window of time, this is where the "talk" has the opportunity to become "reality" for Salem. It's where 'what might help Salem a decade or more from now' moves to 'enhancing life for those living in Salem today'.

I urge you to support the motion.

Respectfully,
Angela Obery

From: [Ray Quisenberry](#)
To: [CityRecorder](#)
Subject: Saturday Street Closures proposal by Councilor Stapleton
Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 9:55:04 PM

To the Mayor and Councilors

I've read the proposed motion that Councilor Stapleton is planning to bring to the city council on Monday, regarding the closure of Union and Winter Streets in conjunction with the Saturday market, and I want to voice strong support for the idea. Giving priority to walking and biking on only two streets of a large street grid that covers 45 square miles, and for only one day a week in the summer, is a very small ask to make to provide some added safety and enjoyment for families who want to engage in active transportation on their way to the market. In addition, this plan would have the special benefit of eliminating the dangerous pedestrian/auto congestion I see at the intersection of Winter and Union every time I walk to the market. It's a 4 way stop, and too many drivers are weaving through the gaps between families as they nose across the intersection, while also trying to avoid getting struck by another vehicle. It's very dangerous for everyone involved.

I know of, and have been to cities around the world that create these pedestrian corridors in their city cores, and do so on a permanent basis. These areas of town are always vibrant, and always a highlight of the visit. I also strongly suspect that if we elect to close these two streets on Saturdays in the summer, as Councilor Stapleton will be suggesting, local vendors will see additional opportunities to engage with new customers along the route. In any event, It would be exciting to see what develops

I'm looking forward to listening to the discussion.

Ray Quisenberry
Ward 1

Sent from my iPad

From: [Jim Scheppke](#)
To: [CityRecorder](#)
Subject: Testimony on Agenda Item 5b
Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 9:42:24 AM

Dear Salem City Council:

I write in enthusiastic support of Councilor Stapleton's motion to study the feasibility of closing portions of Winter and Unions Streets on Saturdays this summer to encourage safe and enjoyable biking and walking to the Salem Saturday Market.

Other cities have been closing streets on weekends like this for years. I myself have witnessed this in Quito, Ecuador a decade ago! It's a wonderful thing. It will be good for families, good for the Saturday Market — it's a winner.

Thanks to Councilor Stapleton for bringing this great idea forward to the Council.

Jim Scheppke
Ward 2

From: [Brett](#)
To: [CityRecorder](#)
Subject: Public Comment Union St Closure
Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 9:34:00 AM

I am writing as a downtown Salem resident to say that I support Councilor Stapelton's proposal to close a portion of Union St to cars on Saturdays from May to October to increase accessibility to the Farmer's Market. I think that as a society we need to become less car oriented and invest in infrastructure that makes our city more safe and accessible to cyclists & pedestrians, and invest more in public transportation. I think the Farmer's Market is a wonderful part of our community, it makes it easier to support local businesses and farms, and provides a needed opportunity to get nutritious food, and even accepts food stamps so I would support any measure that increases accessibility to this weekly event in any way.

Sincerely,
Brett Stoner-Osborne