



CITY OF SALEM

Written Testimony #2

City Council

555 Liberty St SE
Salem, OR 97301

Monday, November 26, 2018

6:00 PM

Council Chambers

5. a. [18-531](#) Motion from Councilor Jim Lewis concerning the Salem River Crossing

Ward(s): All Wards

Councilor(s): All Councilors

Neighborhood(s): All Neighborhoods

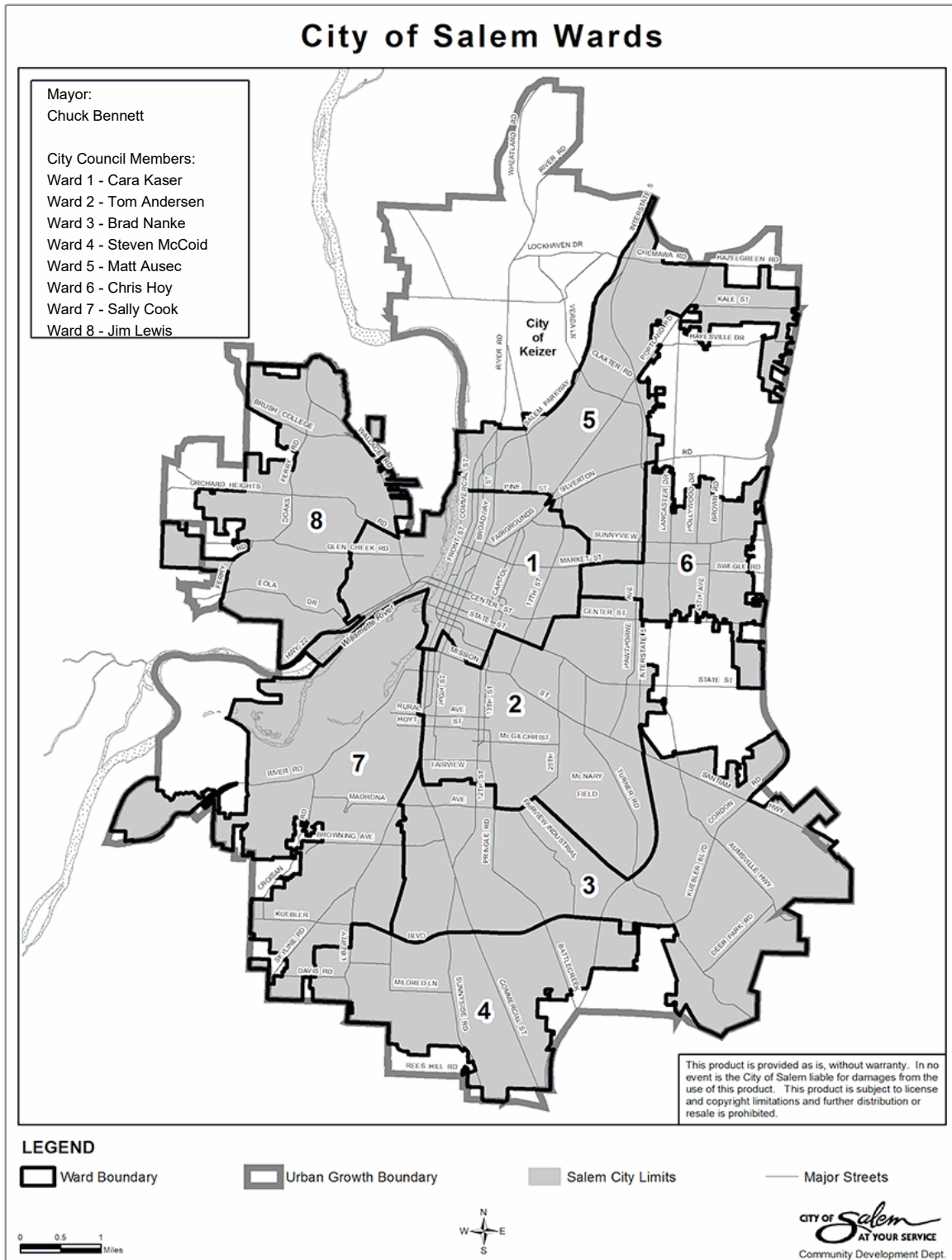
Attachments: [Letter received from City of Independence](#)

[Legal Memorandum Re: UGB Decision](#)

[Written Testimony 1](#)

[Written Testimony 2](#)

Add - Written Testimony.



Amy Johnson

From: Leon Chriestenson <fivecsonz@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 26, 2018 2:49 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Fwd: citycouncil@cityofsalem.net

With all the apartments and new homes being built in West Salem, I believe it is imperative to build a third bridge. I believe that without a new bridge our city will become stagnate. I would think that a new business would think twice before investing in Salem. They will see that our city has spent a bucket load of money and time to pursue building a third bridge only to see it derailed by a city council that appears to be anti-business and growth. Without a third bridge any growth that we have will be mismanaged by a city council that wants to wash all the investment down the river.

Leon Chriestenson

Please support a third bridge

Amy Johnson

From: Kyle Falls <kfalls@fallsinsulation.com>
Sent: Monday, November 26, 2018 2:46 PM
To: citycouncil

City Council,

Please please please We need to focus on making this 3rd bridge happen. I have worked in construction and run a construction business here in town for 15 years. This bridge/downtown/west salem situation has been garbage for as long as I can remember. The logistic failures of making everyone needing to get to hwy 22 west or east, or into west salem all funnel into downtown salem is absurd. Anyone who commutes these areas daily or has business reasons for getting in and out of these areas at peak times know how terrible it is.

Some people say well I don't and wont use this bridge so I shouldn't have to pay for it.. Well to bad, I pay tons of taxes for all kinds things that I don't use but its all for the good of an operational city and society. I have even been sitting in downtown traffic and seen emergency vehicles having a hell of a time getting anywhere because its wall to wall traffic on every main road and side street.

Just my personal experiences my commute in the morning into salem is just under 30 min at 6am , afternoon is regularly 50 min anytime after 3pm . Same exact route I just sit in downtown salem for 20 min almost every day. Wasting time and fuel. Times that by, im guessing the few thousand people daily that move thru this area That hit the morning and afternoon paek traffic times and your talking a whole lot of lost time and money just sitting to get over a one horse bridge system. Not to mention all the people who actually live in or north of west salem.. It is easily bumper to bumper from commercial all the way down onto Wallace and edgewater daily. They probably site 40 min each way daily just trying to commute.

Thanks, Kyle falls

Amy Johnson

From: Paula Fordham <paula@paulafordham.com>
Sent: Monday, November 26, 2018 2:49 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Comments for Tonight's City Council meeting as I am out of town and unable to attend. Thank you.

Importance: High

Unfortunately I am out of town this week and unable to attend tonight's meeting regarding the Salem River Crossing/3rd Bridge. I would like my comments below to be considered when you discuss and decide on the next vital steps.

I have been a resident of Salem since 2004; a Realtor® since 2005. During this time I have had numerous clients state they'd never live in West Salem because of the traffic congestion into and out of the area. Out of State buyers are many times "warned" by others NOT to live in West Salem/Dallas due to the traffic congestion in and out of the area.

In short, many buyers will NOT even consider living West of the River due to traffic problems.

Last month I sat at the Salem Council meeting and listened to the report regarding traffic and delays were mentioned in minutes. The REALITY of our situation is NOT measured in minutes. When there are major issues either side of the river or on the bridges, our entire area becomes gridlocked meaning possible life or death scenarios for anyone needing care immediately. Temporary fixes mentioned in the report will do nothing but delay the inevitable, driving final costs higher & higher.

In February 2019, I will become a grandparent for the first time....my expectation is to leave the world a better place for future generations. As City Councilors I can only assume that your goals are to IMPROVE the livability of Salem which also means the surrounding areas of Marion & Polk Counties.

- ~ Substantial changes HAVE to be made NOW to Salem's congestion problem.
- ~ The NEED for a 3rd bridge has been discussed and researched for decades
- ~ Each subdivision and/or apartment complex built means a larger population
- ~ Each year that passes without action means more vehicles caught in the gridlock

I recognize many people don't want change, they want status quo but that simply is NOT possible. Continued delays and lack of forward planning means homes will HAVE to be lost in order to make the much needed improvements. The longer we wait the worse and worse the entire situation will be. Not to mention MUCH more expensive.

Please, DO THE RIGHT THING and start working towards bettering the lives of future generations of Salem. My soon to be born Grand-daughter will thank you for it.

Thank you for taking my opinions into account.

Paula Fordham
Resident of West Salem
Cell # 503.269.6075

Amy Johnson

From: Melissa Gimby <melissag@firstchoicechiro.net>
Sent: Monday, November 26, 2018 3:27 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Salem River Crossing- the 3rd bridge

I am asking that you vote in favor of the bridge so that the city council staff will be directed to prepare an ordinance and all other necessary land use actions to respond to the issues raised in LUBA's remand of the City's UGB expansion decision concerning the Salem River Crossing.

Melissa Gimby

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Amy Johnson

From: Chane Griggs <chanegriggs@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 26, 2018 2:44 PM
To: citycouncil
Cc: JGriggs@sglaw.com
Subject: Support for Lewis' motion

Dear City Council,

Both Jim and I support passage of Council Lewis' motion to continue the discussion around the third bridge.

Chane and Jim Griggs

Amy Johnson

From: Sharon Nicks <sknicks@icloud.com>
Sent: Monday, November 26, 2018 3:03 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Bridge

As a resident of Polk County, I support the council to FINALLY move forward in developing another bridge! Please, move forward on this. Our current transportation issues are ridiculously antiquated and in dire need of improvement and upgrades.

Respectfully submitted,
Sharon Nicks

Sent from my iPhone

Amy Johnson

From: Jane - Spinnaker Pediatric Dentistry <jane@spinpedo.com>
Sent: Monday, November 26, 2018 2:44 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: 3rd bridge

I move that City Council direct staff to prepare an ordinance and all other necessary land use actions to respond to the issues raised in LUBA's remand of the City's UGB expansion decision concerning the Salem River Crossing. The ordinance and other actions shall be presented for City Council's consideration prior to June 2019.

Jane Sept
Practice Manager
[Spinnaker Pediatric Dentistry](#)
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Salem, OR 97302



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