



**NOTICE OF PROPOSED ADMINISTRATIVE RULEMAKING**  
**Minto Island Conservation Area Restrictions for Events**

Public Works		109-600-001
City Department		Administrative Rules Chapter Number
Jennifer Mongolo	555 Liberty Street SE, Room 325, Salem, OR, 97301	503-588-6211
Rules Coordinator	Address	Telephone

**ADMINISTRATIVE RULE SUMMARY**

The proposed administrative action to be taken is to adopt amendments to Administrative Rule 109-600-001 *Minto Island Conservation Area Restrictions for Events*.

The Public Works Director is authorized by *Salem Revised Code* (SRC) Chapter 94 and 20J to implement and administer event rules in the Minto Island Conservation Area (MICA) to fulfill the Conservation Easement agreement between the City and Bonneville Power Administration. The current Administrative Rule establishes restrictions and guidelines for events within and through the MICA, including restrictions intended to reduce potential adverse impacts on wildlife. Potential adverse impacts are reduced by limiting frequency, duration, and intensity of events in the conservation area during bird nesting season.

The current *MICA Restrictions for Events* were established as a pilot program in early 2018. Among other things, these restrictions set limits on the number and size of events that could be conducted inside the MICA during the primary bird nesting season of March 1 through August 31. This included a provision that a maximum of one large event exceeding 400 participants but not exceeding 1,000 participants would be allowed during the whole of the nesting season.

At the time the restrictions and guidelines were established, the Peter Courtney Minto Island Bridge and its associated trail had only recently been constructed and little was known about how many people would ultimately be utilizing this trail during nesting season. For this reason, conservative participant limits were set by the City with the intention of revisiting and refining the restrictions at a future date once additional information became available.

From 2018 through 2022, the City measured pedestrian and bicycle activity across the Peter Courtney Minto Island Bridge by using automated pedestrian counters located at the Riverfront Park side of the bridge. In recent years, these pedestrian counters have shown that as many as 2,000 pedestrians and cyclists utilize the Peter Courtney Minto Island Bridge and trail on weekdays through the summer months. The daily average count increases to closer to 3,000 pedestrians and cyclists on weekend days during the summer, with peak days having even higher numbers.

Together, the Peter Courtney Minto Island Bridge and Union Street Pedestrian Bridge provide connections between three popular city parks and more than 20 miles of off-street trails involving south Salem, the Downtown District, and west Salem. This expansive network of trails, of which the MICA paved path is a critical link, has become an increasingly popular location for run and walk events, and there has been increasing demand for the City to host larger events.

All documents, reports, or studies relied upon are available for public inspection by contacting: Jennifer Mongolo, Senior Natural Resources Planner, at 555 Liberty Street SE, Room 325, Salem, OR, 97301, 503-588-6211, [jmongolo@cityofsalem.net](mailto:jmongolo@cityofsalem.net).

Salem Revised Code can be found online at:

<https://www.cityofsalem.net/government/laws-rules/salem-revised-code>

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Interested Persons must submit written comments to Jennifer Mongolo, 555 Liberty Street SE, Room 325, Salem, OR, 97301, or via e-mail to [jmongolo@cityofsalem.net](mailto:jmongolo@cityofsalem.net).

ALL COMMENTS MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN FEBRUARY 7, 2023, TO BE CONSIDERED.



Brian D. Martin, Acting Public Works Director

January 17, 2023

Department Head Signature

Printed Name

Date