

From: noreply@cityofsalem.net on behalf of BernieNichols3@Gmail.com
To: [CityRecorder](#)
Subject: Submission
Date: Monday, June 12, 2023 10:47:04 AM
Attachments: [ATT00001.bin](#)

Your Name	Bernard Nichols
Your Email	BernieNichols3@Gmail.com
Your Phone	503-313-8881
Street	813 Riley Dr.
City	Silverton
State	OR
Zip	97381
Message	<p>Readdress Measures 5 & 50! First, I would point out that you stated there is an operation fee to be included? -- this is just another tax being disguised. We should not have to pay the city a fee to process an imposed tax. Second, not all employees are citizens of the city. The city should only be able to tax their own citizens. And, what about many employees work fully or partially remote. Why tax them? Their footprint or impact on the City is microscopic. Why should the City of Salem be allowed to tax an Oregonian who lives in Portland (who is paying many more City and County taxes to support their community) and never set foot in Salem. Why should an Oregonian who lives in another city be required to Support Salem's Code Enforcement and Salem's Homeless and Sheltering Services? It is my stance that the City of Salem only tax it's own residents. Its sounds like the City needs to readdress Measures 5 & 50. I have shared this comment with the City of Salem.</p>

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From: [SALEM Manager](#)
To: [CityRecorder](#)
Subject: FW: No More Taxes
Date: Monday, June 12, 2023 2:21:35 PM

From: Debby Ruyle <dlruyle@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 12, 2023 2:14 PM
To: Info <info@cityofsalem.net>
Subject: No More Taxes

I just saw the two new tax proposals and want you to know that I am sick of paying for homeless people. So much money is spent on them and nothing changes. The working people are tired of supporting Deadbeats, drug addicts and people that want to suck off the system but not give anything back. Stop taxing us. And stop giving homeless meals places to live free everything. No wonder we have so many homeless as you enable them.

From: [Leilani Slama](#)
To: [CityRecorder](#)
Subject: Tax increase should go to the voters
Date: Monday, June 12, 2023 12:53:58 PM

Mayor Hoy, City Councilors and members of the Budget Committee,

Thank you for your work on the city budget and the analysis demonstrating the need for additional first responders. I do not disagree that public protection in the form of law enforcement and fire/EMS is important at this time. I do disagree that Salem City Council should unilaterally decide to raise taxes at a time when so many individuals and businesses are struggling financially.

When operating a business or managing a household budget, there are always finite resources. When costs increase, one must find a way to reduce costs in other ways. These are never easy decisions. It appears our City is not willing to make the same difficult decisions it expects its citizens to make. To be frank, the City of Salem has been on a bit of a "tax and spend" bender in the last year. Water/sewer rates have increased 5% and garbage rates went up 8.5%. In spite of this, voters still put their faith in the City and passed a \$300 million bond last November. This latest move to, again, increase the burden on the taxpayer feels dishonest and sneaky. It implies the City is not a good steward of these funds. The increasing tax burden makes it more difficult for employers to recruit people to live and work in Salem.

If "Safe Salem" is the objective, and truly cannot be achieved with the funds already established, then go make that case with the voter. Go to the people, explain how you worked hard to determine the need, made difficult decisions to cut spending elsewhere and demonstrate why this tax is both necessary and beneficial to our community.

As you consider your vote tonight, play fair, and let the voters decide. It's the right thing to do.

Leilani Slama

From: [Paul Tigan](#)
To: [citycouncil](#)
Cc: [CityRecorder](#)
Subject: Comment on Budget for Tonight's Council Meeting
Date: Monday, June 12, 2023 2:09:43 PM

Mr. Mayor and City Councilors -

I apologize that I am unable to attend tonight's City Council meeting to lend my full voice of support for this year's proposed budget. The Council knows that I support this budget whole-heartedly, as I voted to send it to you for adoption when we met together last month as the Budget Committee.

It can be difficult to focus on the great things in this budget because we are understandably concerned about the long-term health of the General Fund. I share those concerns, but tonight offer the advice to embrace what is great about this budget and all the good it brings to our community.

The \$750 million in this budget *positively impacts* nearly every single resident of the city nearly every single day. It is a remarkable commitment to the vitality and growth of our city and the safety of its residents. It is also a blueprint for the tremendous investment approved by residents for safer streets, improved parks, and more. This is a budget that residents will *see everyday* when they walk out their doors and enjoy every time they turn on their tap. Celebrate that!

It is no secret that this budget cycle is asking hard questions, and I do not embrace a celebratory tone to sweep them away. But start by acknowledging the incredible good brought by the city and its staff. The future of our city depends on embracing a growth mindset, and that includes in the budget, which is a reflection of our core values as a community.

Thanks for all you do for our city!

Paul Tigan
City of Salem Budget Committee
Ward 1 Representative (2017-present)