

From: noreply@cityofsalem.net on behalf of austenmcase@gmail.com
To: [CityRecorder](#)
Subject: Submission
Date: Monday, June 12, 2023 10:33:10 AM
Attachments: [ATT00001.bin](#)

Your Name	Austen Case
Your Email	austenmcase@gmail.com
Your Phone	5412701933
Street	3330 Winola Ave S
City	Salem
State	OR
Zip	97302
Message	<p>A concerned citizen's thoughts on the proposed 0.814% wage tax. I am a frontline worker at Salem Health. Our company is already stretched very thin and we have difficulty with staffing as it currently stands. Should this wage tax go through, we will lose staff. I promise you. This measure will drive away workers from our city. And this city needs a hospital. Speaking more personally, with housing prices in the area I am barely breaking even as it is. I am already taxed at an exorbitant rate, and if I had not just purchased a house recently I would be considering moving myself. I could, however, commute to another city that does not take advantage of its workers. Please consider the effect of your proposals before it's too late. Thank you.</p>

This email was generated by the dynamic web forms contact us form on 6/12/2023.

From: [Bryan L. Mansell](#)
To: [CityRecorder](#)
Subject: Proposed Payroll Tax
Date: Monday, June 12, 2023 12:23:12 PM

DO NOT DO THIS!!!!

This is shady government at best. ANY payroll tax should have to be voted on by the city residents. This looks like nothing more than the city trying to sneak a tax in under the radar on the citizen's, and only allows them to vote after it has been implemented several years later. There has been very little advertisement or announcement that this is being proposed, so very few people are even aware of this. This is horrible in every way shape or form. People would rather see a government that knows how to tighten the belt when needed, an ability to recognize and cut programs that are not accomplishing anything, and create a budget that actually works. I understand the city has already made cuts, and tried several alternate methods, but quite frankly, those programs are either being run inefficiently, or the money is going to waste and not producing the results it intended. Either way, government funding for these programs and the programs themselves should be reassessed before taxing the people, and simply throwing more of their hard earned money at it.

NO. NO. NO. NO. NO. DO NOT PUT THIS PAYROLL TAX INTO EFFECT!!!!!!

Bryan Mansell
Senior A/V Engineer
Salem Hospital

SALEM HEALTH
Hospitals & Clinics
bryan.mansell@salemhealth.org
665 Winter St. SE | Solution Center | Salem, OR 97301

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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>

This email was generated by the dynamic web forms contact us form on 6/12/2023.

From: noreply@cityofsalem.net on behalf of goolie34@gmail.com
To: [CityRecorder](#)
Subject: Contact City Recorder
Date: Monday, June 12, 2023 11:38:04 AM
Attachments: [ATT00001.bin](#)

Your Name	Julie Hulburt
Your Email	goolie34@gmail.com
City	Albany
State	OR
Zip	97321
Message	I oppose the employee tax in Salem. Employee's CHOOSE to work here in Salem, even when they have a commute. Employers are having a difficult time as is right now hiring and keeping employees to make sure their businesses stay open to provide for Salem's population. Putting the tax burden on the employees will discourage many from choosing to work in Salem and may close many businesses.

This email was generated by the dynamic web forms contact us form on 6/12/2023.

From: [Kristie M. VanValkenburg](#)
To: [CityRecorder](#)
Subject: TAXATION WITHOUT REPRESENTATION
Date: Monday, June 12, 2023 2:56:13 PM

As an "out of town" employee of Salem Health, Salem's largest private employer, this payroll tax would be demanded of me without being a voting citizen of the City of Salem! I am not represented and therefore, this tax should be unlawful!

Kristie VanValkenburg
503-267-5211

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From: [Kenya R. Walker](#)
To: [CityRecorder](#)
Subject: 6/12/23 City Council Comments- Employee Payroll Tax
Date: Monday, June 12, 2023 12:01:17 PM

Dear City Council Members,

I am writing to express my concern regarding the proposed 1% increase in taxes per year in Salem, Oregon. As a resident of Salem, I have seen firsthand the decline in our standard of living, and I believe that the proposed tax increase is irresponsible and could potentially be the final death nail for our city.

Given the inflation rate raging in the current economic climate, this proposed tax increase is a significant burden on the working poor and other vulnerable groups. Many residents are already struggling to make ends meet and cannot afford additional taxes.

Furthermore, this tax increase is unlikely to address the underlying issues impacting Salem's residents. We need to invest in long-term solutions that benefit our existing community, rather than simply pouring more funds into bureaucratic apparatuses.

Our community needs to provide support and address issues such as crumbling infrastructure, rising crime rates, and homelessness directly. We must also improve our city's attractiveness to new residents who wish to contribute to our community.

If we continue to burden our citizens with further taxation, we risk driving them away from our city. We need to invest in strategic, sustainable solutions to solve our problems and improve our standard of living.

Therefore, I urge you to reconsider this proposed tax increase and develop alternative strategies to improve Salem for all its residents.

Sincerely,

Kenya Walker

Breckenridge St NW
503-779-6240

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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: [Latrice Williams](#)
To: [CityRecorder](#)
Cc: latricewilliams2350@gmail.com
Subject: Safe Salem Employee-Paid Payroll Tax
Date: Monday, June 12, 2023 1:36:14 PM

From: Latrice Williams
Sent: Monday, June 12, 2023 7:39 AM
To: cityrecorder@cityofsalem.net <cityrecorder@cityofsalem.net>
Subject: Safe Salem Employee-Paid Payroll Tax

Hello I just learned of this new safe Salem Employee-Paid Payroll Tax. This is not good as a single parent that has no other income and has a single income. I have been working at the hospital for almost a year. I have moved here almost four years ago. This is one more financial issue that is coming along that will make the struggle. You add something that will be taking away from me and not adding to gain a benefit. Now if I was making way more in my income it wouldn't be so bad maybe. This is something that I feel strongly about for the people to vote on and not others who know nothing of my struggle.

We are already dealing with staffing shortages as nurses and CNAs are leaving the bedside in droves after the burnout from serving the community during the Covid-19 pandemic. If this passes, I anticipate Salem will lose many more employees. As someone who doesn't live in Salem, I would not be privy to any of these proposed improvements but would be sacrificing greatly when money is already tight given inflation.

Please do not force more employees out of Salem Health. There are jobs aplenty in Portland and surrounding cities and I will begin looking elsewhere for a job if these passes. Many CNAs have echoed the same sentiments. Please do not ask this of hardworking people who are already barely making ends meet.

Latrice Williams
Certified Nurse Assistant, Trauma Care Unit
Salem Health

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From: [Michele Nelson](#)
To: [CityRecorder](#)
Subject: Safe Salem employee-paid payroll tax
Date: Monday, June 12, 2023 10:35:03 AM

Good morning,

I am reaching out to comment against the Safe Salem employee-paid payroll tax. I live in Wilsonville and commute to Salem. I have no representation in Salem. Under this proposed tax, I would be taxed hundreds of dollars each year with no ability to vote for local candidates or any recourse to city officials to address issues. I am not interested in "stabilizing" law enforcement's budgets.

As someone who did live in Salem for many years, and loves Salem, I urge the city council to vote NO on the Safe Salem employee-paid payroll tax. This is not a solution to the unhoused crisis, and squeezing more money out of people who are already hurting will not help Salem's situation.

Thank you,
Michele Nelson

From: [Tami Carpenter](#)
To: [CityRecorder](#)
Subject: FW: Employee-paid payroll tax proposal
Date: Monday, June 12, 2023 2:51:40 PM

From: Susan Dunfee <sdlinfield@yahoo.com>

Sent: Monday, June 12, 2023 2:48 PM

To: citycouncil <citycouncil@cityofsalem.net>; Virginia Stapleton <VStapleton@cityofsalem.net>; Linda Nishioka <LNishioka@cityofsalem.net>; Trevor Phillips <TPhillips@cityofsalem.net>; Deanna Gwyn <DGwyn@cityofsalem.net>; Jose Gonzalez <JGonzalez@cityofsalem.net>; Julie Hoy <JHoy@cityofsalem.net>; Vanessa Nordyke <VNordyke@cityofsalem.net>; Micki Varney <MVarney@cityofsalem.net>; Chris Hoy <CHoy@cityofsalem.net>

Subject: Employee-paid payroll tax proposal

Councilors and Salem Mayor Hoy,

I am 1000% **opposed** to your proposal for the Salem Employee-Paid Payroll tax.

I am a Keizer resident; however, my employer's office is in Salem. As a Salem area employee, but a resident of Keizer, I am therefore directly impacted by your proposal to place a tax on the Salem employee payrolls. As I am not a resident of Salem, I therefore have no representation and no right to vote for, or against, any one of you. Have you studied US history and heard about the problems that taxation, without representation, has historically caused in this country? Do you think I am the only person who lives outside Salem, but works in Salem, and is therefore taxed, without representation, in your proposal?

Do you believe that taxing wages of those who work in the city is ethical, moral, the right thing to do? Especially those of us who have no legal ability to vote for, or against, such a proposal?

Do you think that small businesses, who have struggled to maintain and/or obtain employees over the last few years, will have an easy time maintaining/obtaining employees if a competing employer is outside Salem and doesn't have the proposed taxation on the employee? It will impact my decisions for employment.

The United States of America was originally founded on the intent of no taxation, especially no taxation of income, except temporarily to pay debts accrued as a result of the Revolutionary War, and later the Civil War, but definitely not for the government to be the largest employer in existence in the Country. Income taxes, as we know them now, did not exist prior to 1913. The USA existed, and thrived, for 137 years without such taxation. Oregon existed, and grew, as an official state, for 54 years before income taxes became such a government staple in 1913. Yet, for the past 110 years, government entities have continuously sought to increase this burden on the citizens. When will enough be enough? Government appetites for the people's hard-earned money appears completely insatiable. Stop!

If you cannot fund the city's "needs" within the current income, then you need to start finding other ways to fund the needs, other than taxation and fees. Maybe cut programs that are not essential, they do exist. Maybe ask for donations. Maybe create fundraisers. Stop the taxes. Stop the fees. Stop believing you know how to spend citizens' money more efficiently, and better, than the citizens can do themselves.

The FED and the Federal government's actions are already sending us into a coming recession, so increasing taxes, when individuals' budgets have already been hit hard this last year with the highest inflation in 40 years, add in a housing shortage, that is exacerbated by local government ordinances and permit fees, and it is all a tremendous sign of greed and a strong indication that you, as the elected officials of Salem, truly don't care about the general welfare of the citizens, let alone those in surrounding communities who work in Salem.

This Keizerite says you need to vote NO, vote in opposition to the proposal for the Salem Employee-Paid Payroll Tax!

Susan Dunfee
Keizer, OR

From: noreply@cityofsalem.net on behalf of tlperksalem@gmail.com
To: [CityRecorder](#)
Subject: Submission
Date: Monday, June 12, 2023 1:07:28 PM
Attachments: [ATT00001.bin](#)

Your Name	Tami Perkins
Your Email	tlperksalem@gmail.com
Your Phone	503.884.6861
Street	1945 Walker Rd Ne
City	Salem
State	OR
Zip	97305
Message	<p>While my current mailing address is in Salem, my new residence is outside Salem. The idea of paying taxes for merely working within the Salem city limits seems, at best, a far reaching solution. Especially when you work remote, as I do. I would be considered a "tourist" of Salem with as often as I am there. I see the statement that "more than 70,000 commuters" do not share in the cost of services. Is that an actual number of commuters? How many of those people work from home and do not drive into Salem but maybe once every 6 months to a year, if that. While I understand that the cost of services isn't growing as quickly as the population, it would make more sense that the population of Salem pay for the services they utilize 24/7 versus those that work remotely. With having the new OPL tax this year and now this possible tax increase, it's making it incredibly difficult to financially stay in this area, which is unfortunate because I feel we have a beautiful state and I am a born and raised Oregonian. I don't envy your positions, and I do appreciate the opportunity to express my concerns. Thank you</p>

This email was generated by the dynamic web forms contact us form on 6/12/2023.

From: lellison38@yahoo.com
To: [Amy Johnson](#)
Subject: Re: Contact City Manager's Office
Date: Monday, June 12, 2023 1:54:31 PM

Vanessa Ellison

Thank you

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

On Monday, June 12, 2023, 10:06 AM, Amy Johnson <AJohnson@cityofsalem.net> wrote:

Good morning, Vanessa:

If you would like your comments added to the record, please provide your last name.

Sincerely,

Amy Johnson
Deputy City Recorder
City of Salem
555 Liberty Street SE, Rm. 225
Salem, OR 97301
ajohnson@cityofsalem.net | 503-588-6091

From: SALEM Manager <MANAGER@cityofsalem.net>
Sent: Monday, June 12, 2023 9:25 AM
To: CityRecorder <CityRecorder@cityofsalem.net>
Subject: FW: Contact City Manager's Office

From: noreply@cityofsalem.net <noreply@cityofsalem.net> **On Behalf Of**
lellison38@yahoo.com
Sent: Sunday, June 11, 2023 11:40 PM
To: SALEM Manager <MANAGER@cityofsalem.net>
Subject: Contact City Manager's Office

Your Name	Vanessa E

Your Email	lellison38@yahoo.com
Message	<p>It has came to my attention that that the City of Salem is wanting to implement a tax increase without voter approval. This is very disturbing considering voters approved over \$300 million in November. Respectfully, it sounds like the city needs to restructure and budget money more efficiently. There is plenty of revenue, taxes and bonds generated by the city to do what is needed. Taxpayers are extremely burdened financially and have been generous as it is. It is very upsetting that those who were voted in by the people to work and represent them, would impose more taxes on their already struggling constituents. Without their input. That is not who or what your constituents voted for. Put this to the voters to decide on. Thank you, Vanessa E. Salem resident, and tax payer.</p>

This email was generated by the dynamic web forms contact us form on 6/11/2023.