

2023 ANNUAL REPORT TO SALEM CITY COUNCIL



The Salem Parks and Recreation Advisory Board (SPRAB) is pleased to report on our accomplishments enhancing green space and increasing recreation opportunities throughout the city. Our Board hosted a retreat in late 2022 to inform our 2023 work plan and we are excited to share our progress toward achieving our goals and improving our community.

Among our accomplishments from the past year, we would like to specifically highlight:

- **Increased coordination with City Council** through the establishment of a SPRAB Board Liaison position, currently held by Councilor Varney.
- **Raised awareness of the Salem Park Improvement Fund** process, leading to a record number of applications from neighborhood associations.
- **Conducted outreach and listening sessions** through presentations to most neighborhood associations in the community.
- **Supported park access** through engagement with National Walk to a Park Day and the City's proclamation, along with the commitment to the 10-Minute Walk Campaign.
- **Researched policy options** from other communities to inform Salem's e-bike and micromobility rules currently in development.
- **Submitted support letters** for grant applications related to parks and recreation, including Pringle Creek Trail Connection, Miller Elementary to Bill Riegel Park Connector Planning Project, Geer Park Skate Park and Pathways, and Treatment of Invasive Aquatic Plants in Oxbow Slough.
- **Developed coordinated outreach materials** to improve SPRAB communications and connect to website resources.
- **Participated in city hiring processes**, including interviews for the Deputy City Manager and the Chief Communications Officer positions.
- **Joined the University of Oregon Sustainable City Program** events to provide input on projects related to our parks.

We appreciate the support from City Council and look forward to working with you in the coming year on issues related to Parks and Recreation.



General Board Information

Meetings: Second Thursday of each month.

Members: Dylan McDowell – Chair,
Keith Norris – Vice Chair,
Alan Alexander, Woody Dukes, Rick Hartwig,
Alan Holland, Joan Lloyd, Debbie Miller

City Staff: Jennifer Kellar, Rob Romanek, Becky George,
Milan Davis, Leann Moore,
Marlene Cisneros, Katie Whitaker



Information on all City Boards and Commissions is available through the following link:
www.cityofsalem.net/government/boards-commissions