

City Council Policy Agenda Progress Report

NOVEMBER 2018

SAFE COMMUNITY



POLICY AGENDA



Reopening West Salem Fire Station

Adding response capacity and improving citywide reliability for fire and emergency medical response.

Completed recruitment and hiring academy for 15 firefighter/paramedics. On schedule to put Fire Station 11 back in service 24-hours for continued training in November, with reopening in January 2019.



Constructing the New Salem Police Station

Building a new police station to meet current seismic standards and bring together important police functions in one building.

Police station construction began November 9, 2018 and will be completed by fall 2020. A committee of City Council is monitoring progress in detail, and regular updates are provided through e-newsletter, Building Buzz videos, and community open houses.

WELCOME AND LIVABLE NEIGHBORHOOD



POLICY AGENDA



Our Salem: Today

Guiding future growth and development through an assessment of current conditions, including a greenhouse gas inventory, and scenarios for our future.

Initial data gathering is underway. The Stakeholder Committee met on November 5, 2018 with a 40 person audience. A community meeting is set for December 5, 2018. The analysis and scenario planning is expected to be complete by September 2019.



Homeless Rental Assistance Program

Linking homeless individuals to housing, medical and mental health treatment, intensive case management, food, furnishings, and social services.

Program has reached its goal, as of November 1, 2018, helping 100 homeless individuals get off the street. Program will continue with remaining funding.



Sobering Center

A safe, clean and supervised space to become sober and connect to further treatment.

Site and partners have been identified. Building construction is slightly delayed due to concerns about disturbing cultural resources at the site. Operating costs are not yet fully funded; an \$188,000 annual operating gap remains.



Blight to Bright

Converting the most persistent dangerous and derelict buildings which pose danger to public health, safety and welfare into developable properties with dedicated and replenishing fund.

This new and ongoing resource leverages existing staff and financial resources to remove persistent issues of blight. To date, the program has resulted in the demolition of two dangerous buildings, with each site currently under redevelopment.



Renovating Salem Public Library

Improving the Library's ability to withstand an earthquake, making ADA and other critical improvements.

In October, Council approved a construction contracting method (progressive design build) to engage the construction contractor earlier in the design process. This approach is expected to save time and money, and result in a better overall approach to the building renovation to reduce impact on Library programs and services.



Neighborhood Association Support Services

Provide assistance for Neighborhood Associations to comment on land use issues, and help with community building and outreach efforts.

Neighborhood Association support staff fully trained and operating at capacity. Additional trained staff support available from Neighborhood Enhancement Division staff.

STRONG AND DIVERSE ECONOMY



High-Speed Internet Downtown

Understanding the market for high-speed internet for Downtown Salem.

A consultant-led market analysis will assess the need and demand for a high-speed broadband network and free Wi-Fi Downtown. Contract award is expected in February 2019 and work to estimate the market for high-speed internet Downtown is expected to be complete in September 2019. If the Downtown-focused study shows City broadband is feasible, a pilot project will follow.

SAFE AND RELIABLE INFRASTRUCTURE



POLICY AGENDA



Developing Long-Term Investment Strategy for Municipal Assets

Work with Council Finance Committee and the community to catalogue and prioritize needed investment in City assets.

In Spring 2019, while the work on a broader bonding strategy continues, Council will be asked to consider the possibility of a November 2020 bond measure to replace aging fire trucks and firefighting equipment.



Investing in Safe Drinking Water

Adjusting timing of existing water infrastructure projects to fund a new drinking water treatment system and a second source of drinking water.

Procurement for design of a new drinking water treatment process, an ozone contact chamber, and for a second source of safe drinking water through additional groundwater and water storage is underway. The total cost of the new treatment and second source for drinking water is approximately \$80 million. To fund these priorities, adjustments have been made to the timing of existing water infrastructure projects in the Capital Improvement Program.



Improving Pedestrian Safety

Make it safer for everyone who drives, walks, or bikes in Salem.

Following the March 2018 Pedestrian Safety Study, improvements to dedicated bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure, sidewalks, ADA ramps, and 19 traffic intersections and corridors are in design and/or construction. In September 2018, the City initiated a Safer Crossings Program to recommend further improvement projects to City Council in spring 2019.



Improving Public Transportation

Work with Cherrits to improve bus service and meet the diverse public transportation needs of the community.

Salem's Public Transit Committee's work is complete, and the committee will give its recommendations to Council at a December Council meeting. In fall 2019, Cherrits' service will expand to include later evenings and weekends as a result of new funding approved by the Oregon Legislature.



Relieving Vehicular Congestion

Reduce vehicular congestion and improve vehicular mobility on both sides of the Willamette River.

Task Force recommendations for how to reduce vehicular congestion and improve vehicular mobility on both sides of the Willamette River were presented to Council in a Work Session on November 5, 2018.

GOOD GOVERNANCE



POLICY AGENDA



Budgeting for Community Results

Priority-based budgeting is a decision-making framework for focusing public resources on community-desired outcomes.

Completed initial steps of assessing each of Salem's 400+ programs for alignment with our result areas and basic program attributes (cost recovery, demand, mandate, population served and community reliance). City services, costs and staff resources are cataloged within each result area. Ongoing and iterative effort to align business practice and future operations, including significant effort in FY2020.



Sustaining City Services

Analyze revenue options to sustain City services.

Sustainable Service Revenue Task Force is anticipated to make recommendations to Council in December 2018.

NATURAL ENVIRONMENT STEWARDSHIP



POLICY AGENDA



Greenhouse Gas Inventory

A baseline measure of the community's impact on the environment.

Initial data gathering is underway, as part of the Comprehensive Plan update project called Our Salem. The inventory and analysis is expected to be complete by June 2019.

