



Attachment

MAYOR'S OFFICE

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February 25, 2019

To Whom it May Concern:

I am writing to express my support for the preservation of the Salem Peace Mosaic, a joyous, beautiful, and treasured landmark in downtown Salem created by more than 600 community members. The mosaic is scheduled to be demolished due to new construction this fall if funding is not available to preserve this treasure in the City of Salem's Public Art Collection. This mosaic, which shares that Salem means Peace, is located a few blocks from the State Capitol and includes an original poem written for Salem by Oregon Poet Laureate Emerita Paulann Petersen.

The Salem Riverfront Carousel has expressed an interest in incorporating the mosaic into their new building in Salem's regional Riverfront Park. This potential location would be an exciting addition to the park and for Salem.

The Salem Peace Mosaic attracts visitors to Salem and has garnered significant community support. A conservator hired by the City of Salem, Architectural Resources Group, Inc., stated, "...the Salem Peace Mosaic is a significant piece of public artwork which can and should be saved." Contributions are being raised by a nonprofit, Save the Salem Peace Mosaic. Thank you for your consideration to help preserve this artwork for future generations.

Sincerely,

Chuck Bennett
Mayor

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