

Amy Johnson

From: * RANCH RECORDS <ranchrecords@comcast.net>
Sent: Wednesday, February 19, 2020 1:00 PM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: Cemetery Path

Good afternoon,

My name is Lori Close and I live in the Candalaria neighborhood. I am writing as a huge supporter of the proposed gate at the cemetery that would link Fairmont Hill and Candalaria. I've used the forest path quite a few times and am happy to do so if I have a friend with me. Walking it alone is sort of scary so I avoid it. The other option is to walk along Commercial Street - I avoid that as well due to all the traffic.

Thank you,

Lori Close

Amy Johnson

From: Vanessa Nordyke
Sent: Wednesday, April 22, 2020 11:55 AM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: Fwd: Pedestrian path through Pioneer Cemetery

Vanessa Nordyke
Salem City Council, Ward 7
City phone: (971) 707-3732

From: Allison Boomer <allison.r.boomer@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 22, 2020 11:49 AM
To: Vanessa Nordyke
Subject: Pedestrian path through Pioneer Cemetery

Dear Councilor Nordyke:

We are writing to express our support for creating a pedestrian path through Pioneer Cemetery, connecting Rural and Hoyt Streets. We are avid walkers who live in South Central Salem. Presently, we must walk along Commercial Street to travel between the Fairmount and Candalaria neighborhoods. Commercial Street has heavy traffic, resulting in significant noise, pollution, and risk of injury from cars and bikes traveling along Commercial Street. Developing a pedestrian path through Pioneer Cemetery would allow walkers and joggers to avoid travel along Commercial Street, creating healthier and safer conditions for pedestrians.

Thank you for your consideration.
Allison Boomer and Marshall Dunst

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Annie Francoise <mccuen7691@comcast.net>
Sent: Saturday, March 14, 2020 5:01 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Passage above the Pioneer Cemetery

Categories: Council Dox

Hello, everyone, thank you for your interest in this matter.

We live on Fairmount Hill near the Park. We intended to attend the meeting on Monday evening. Unfortunately, i am 76 and Gary 84 and we were advised to stay home, to be on the safer side, not to contaminate or be contaminated.

I am one of the volunteers who attended the Cert Training with Roger a few years back. At the time, Roger was quite insistant regarding having open passage between our neighborhood and Candalaria in the event of a major earthquake. We were all in agreement. Roger was recommending having a container in Fairmount Park, stocked with emergency food and supplies which could be shared by both neighborhoods as well as an opening which would allow emergency vehicles and first responders to go back and forth. We are still all waiting for such an opportunity!

Also, Fairmount Park is THE park for both neighborhoods and Candalaria was cut off when gates were set up as an overreaction to a one time episode of vandalism. Just not fair.

Both sides of the cemetery would still be protected if the fenced passageway would be open at each end.

Please, pretty please, make this happen this time. Safety and good fellowship could serve us all.

We are so grateful for your efforts to represent us all.

Annie-Françoise McCuen
1825 Fairmount ave s
Salem 97302

Sent from my iPad

Amy Johnson

From: Julie Warncke
Sent: Wednesday, March 18, 2020 10:48 AM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: FW: Pioneer Cemetery connector

- [Julie | 503-588-6211 ext.7338](#)
-

From: Vanessa Nordyke <VNordyke@cityofsalem.net>
Sent: Sunday, March 15, 2020 6:44 PM
To: Julie Warncke <JWarncke@cityofsalem.net>
Subject: Fwd: Pioneer Cemetery connector

Vanessa Nordyke
Salem City Councilor, Ward 7

Begin forwarded message:

From: "bethdayton@comcast.net" <bethdayton@comcast.net>
Date: March 15, 2020 at 5:24:14 PM PDT
To: Vanessa Nordyke <VNordyke@cityofsalem.net>
Subject: Pioneer Cemetery connector

TO: Salem City Council
FROM: Beth Dayton, President Salem Area Trail Alliance
RE: Pioneer Cemetery Connector

I am the president of a large local non-profit that works to help get more people on more trails in the greater Salem Area. Part of SATA's mission is to improve urban connectivity for human powered transportation and recreation, in other words, walking, running and biking. Urban trails and safe places for unstructured healthy outdoor activity are one of the most sought-after amenities in a community, but Salem has lagged behind in creating this type of infrastructure . Little details like opening up the connector across Pioneer Cemetery in south Salem can make a significant difference in the way our residents travel on foot or bike. SATA strongly supports this connection.

Personally, I have commuted by bicycle from south Salem to Salem Hospital for nearly 20 years. There is an excellent quiet, safe route on neighborhood streets parallel to and west of Liberty Street, but this comes to an end at the Pioneer Cemetery, where the only option is to veer down to Commercial Street which is very busy and frankly not safe for cycling. By opening up a route across Pioneer Cemetery human powered traffic can continue on to the edge of downtown on very safe streets such as Saginaw.

Back in 2006 when the City was debating designation of the Croisan Trail as a recreational trail there was concern from neighbors that this could bring in crime, litter and other unwanted use. This in fact has

not happened and today the trail sees extensive use from walkers, joggers, bird watchers, etc. I predict that allowing public access through the cemetery during daylight hours will likewise create a steady presence of legitimate and caring citizens who will vastly outnumber those who might abuse this privilege. Public access trails and walking routes through historic cemeteries is actually quite common in cities and towns across the country, and can be an excellent use of a public resource, as well as raising awareness of the historical significance of the area. In my home town of Bozeman, Montana, trails through a large cemetery are an integral part of a fantastic public trail system that encourages walking, running, cycling and cross country skiing and adds greatly to the livability of the town.

Please do not let the voices of a few fearful residents drown out those of a community that seeks appropriate and healthful use of public space. The logistical challenges of making this connection are all very solvable and this project should proceed with full support of the City Council.

Beth Dayton MD
1362 Kashmir Drive South, Salem, OR

Amy Johnson

From: Julie Warncke
Sent: Wednesday, March 18, 2020 10:48 AM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: FW: Proposed Pioneer Cemetery Connector

- [Julie | 503-588-6211 ext.7338](#)
-

From: Vanessa Nordyke <VNordyke@cityofsalem.net>
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2020 9:37 AM
To: Julie Warncke <JWarncke@cityofsalem.net>
Subject: Fwd: Proposed Pioneer Cemetery Connector

Vanessa Nordyke
Salem City Council, Ward 7
City phone: (971) 707-3732

From: Bryan Schaap <bryan@alcsoftware.com>
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2020 9:36:18 AM
To: Vanessa Nordyke <VNordyke@cityofsalem.net>
Subject: Proposed Pioneer Cemetery Connector

Hello,

I support the proposed Pioneer Cemetery trail connector. I encourage city leadership to approve the proposal, as it fits with a vision of increased human powered transportation, use of resources, and outdoor recreation.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Bryan Schaap

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Brian Goforth <mrg-force@comcast.net>
Sent: Tuesday, March 24, 2020 5:01 PM
To: citycouncil; salemrecorder@cityofsalem.net
Subject: Proposed pathway through the Pioneer Cemetery

To whom it may concern:

My name is Brian Goforth and I live in Vancouver, Washington. My connection to the Pioneer Cemetery is a very dear one. My great-grandparents, Thomas Marshall Eckhart and Rose Mary Eckhart, are buried there. Thomas Eckhart is a name etched in Salem history, as he was an officer with the Salem Police department in the early 1900's. On October 1, 1909, he was shot in the line of duty and subsequently died the next day from the wounds he sustained from the shooter. He left behind his wife Rose, who I just mentioned, plus 5 children, including my grandmother Opal Eckhart Goforth, who was only age 5 when her father was killed. To my present knowledge, he is the only Salem Police Officer who has ever died in the line of duty. While my grandmother barely knew him, and my father, his grandson, never had the chance to know him, his grave represents the life he lived and gives our family tangible proof of his existence.

While the graves of my great-grandparents are not near the proposed pathway, I have great concerns about creating a passage through the old cemetery. I have visited the cemetery on a number of occasions and I have noticed that there are many large stones in varying stages of wear and some that lean precariously. I worry about their stability. Among the reasons supporting the creation of the pathway is that it will allow children from the neighborhoods on either side of the cemetery to have a better connection for visiting. I think encouraging children to pass through the cemetery is a dangerous suggestion. Children may decide to play among the tombstones, games such as "hide and seek," "cops and robbers," or ride their bicycles among the markers, and, being children, could be careless and unaware of the dangers the heavy stones could present. Older children and youth may see the stones as a great place to place graffiti or otherwise deface the stones. In my opinion, the cemeteries are not that large and it is not a very great inconvenience nor does it take that much time to go around them.

Another supporting reason for the pathway is that it would provide an opportunity for families to walk through the graveyard and teach the children about people who lived in Salem in its early years. I maintain that such an opportunity already exists and I would wonder how many families are doing such a thing now. There is an easily accessible entrance to the cemetery, even if it means walking or driving a few extra blocks to reach it.

I have always been impressed by how the cemetery is a open, quiet space in the middle of a busy city, even with Commercial Street bordering it! I believe it should be preserved as such. I believe that making a pathway through it will compromise its reverence and serenity. While I appreciate the sentiments and intent of the proponents of the pathway, I believe the harm and potential harm a pathway will create far outweighs the proposed benefits.

Please reject this proposal. I am sure there are many other ways the City of Salem can spend money to improve connection and livability of these neighborhoods.

Thank you for allowing me to present my opinion,

Brian Goforth
7110 Louisiana Drive
Vancouver, WA 98664

Amy Johnson

From: Vanessa Nordyke
Sent: Tuesday, April 21, 2020 1:23 PM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: Fwd: Pioneer Cemetery Pate

Vanessa Nordyke
Salem City Council, Ward 7
City phone: (971) 707-3732

From: Vanessa Nordyke <VNordyke@cityofsalem.net>
Sent: Tuesday, April 21, 2020 1:23:04 PM
To: Christine Chute <cachute@gmail.com>
Subject: Re: Pioneer Cemetery Pate

Amen! Thank you for sharing!

Vanessa Nordyke
Salem City Council, Ward 7
City phone: (971) 707-3732

From: Christine Chute <cachute@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 21, 2020 12:57:18 PM
To: Vanessa Nordyke <VNordyke@cityofsalem.net>
Subject: Pioneer Cemetery Pate

Councilor Nordyke,

We support the creation of a path for pedestrians through the Pioneer Cemetery. The path would really encourage foot traffic to the retail areas south of the cemetery because walkers and bikers could avoid Commercial Street (which is noisy and unpleasant). Encouraging people to walk in the cemetery might also decrease opportunities for mischief in the cemetery due to an increase in eyes on the place.

Thanks for considering this request,

Christine

--
Christine Chute
1415 Saginaw Street S.
Salem

Amy Johnson

From: Vanessa Nordyke
Sent: Wednesday, April 22, 2020 9:44 AM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: Fwd: Pedestrian Path through Pioneer Cemetery

Vanessa Nordyke
Salem City Councilor, Ward 7

From: Comcast <dawngienger@comcast.net>
Sent: Wednesday, April 22, 2020 9:35 AM
To: Vanessa Nordyke
Subject: Pedestrian Path through Pioneer Cemetery

Dear Councilor Nordyke,

I am very much in favor of a pedestrian path through Pioneer cemetery connecting my neighborhood south of the cemetery with the Fairmont neighborhood.

My house sits On the corner of Sunrise and Lorida, directly across from the park in Fairmont—an easy walk if there was access. Yet, when my two sons were small I had to push them in a double stroller down to Commercial over to Rural and up the hill if I didn't want to drive to the park. And when they were in elementary school I never felt comfortable allowing them to walk down to that major road without me to access the park or neighborhood. So unfortunate.

Thank you for giving this issue a voice.

Best,
Dawn Douglas-Gienger

Sent from my iPhone

Amy Johnson

From: Diane Nosbisch <scooby.nat15.dn@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 20, 2020 2:55 PM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: John/ Hoyt trail

I am still totally apposed to this gate connection! It is too dangerous and will imposes the criminal element onto my street! It is not visible from Rural St. And is too high in risk for potential pedestrian to get injured!! I already see people looking to cut through from John st to the cemetery. So someone is telling people it already exists!! Really disappointed in the city council and neighborhood association for not coming and talking with home owner prior to proposal!

My daughter home is 2025 John st.

None of the renter or home owner on this street or private drive to the proposed gate trail wants this. Truly unfair for either whom don't live there toward something that's never going to affect their livelihood! How about we come walk in their private court yards!!

Amy Johnson

From: Kathleen Dewoina <Dewoina@bhhsnwrep.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 22, 2020 5:00 PM
To: citycouncil
Cc: CityRecorder
Subject: Rural Hoyt Trail Connection
Attachments: Rural Hoyt Trail Connection April 22 2020.pdf; Exhibit A Cemetery History.pdf; Exhibit B WVMLS Monthly Statistical Report.pdf

Please add attached to public testimony for Rural Hoyt Trail Connection
Virtual meeting scheduled April 27th, 2020.

Thank you,

Kathleen Dewoina



Kathleen Dewoina, Broker, GRI,
CRIS, ABR
Berkshire Hathaway
HomeServices
Real Estate Professionals
1220 20th Street SE
Salem, OR 97302

Office: 503-371-3013 x 1311
Fax: 503-364-1453
Cell or Text: 503-999-4535
Email: dewoina@aol.com
Website: www.dewoina.com

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To: Honorable Members of Salem City Council

From: Kathleen Dewoina

Re: Rural-Hoyt Trail Connection

Date: April 22, 2020

Background/Context. For those members who were not on the Salem City Council in 2012-2013, or 2004-2005, or even as far back as 1985, please be aware that various prior City Councils have ultimately, repeatedly rejected a Rural-Hoyt Trail connection, also known as Pioneer Cemetery Path.

Most of the alley abutting the north side of the cemetery was vacated in 1987 and ceded not to the Cemetery, but to the adjacent properties. The perimeter fence was installed in that same timeframe. The effect of these measures was to control the area, reduce risk of hazards, and stop vandalism. Access today through a gate would defeat the protection the fence was built to provide.

Legal Viability. Should the City Council vote in favor of a motion to reopen a discussion between proponents and opponents, city lawyers should be the first to be consulted for the legal viability of such a trail or path.

The legal posture of the situation has changed since the City Council's last consideration in favor of a stronger position for the opponents. At the outset, the staff report should consider the cost to the taxpayers to pursue a trail or path, a goal that seems to be perpetuated by only a few constituents.

In part, the circumstances have changed: (1) an interim LUBA remand makes it clear that this matter falls under the Goal 5 inventory of historic resource; *see, for example*, Department of Land Conservation and Development OAR 660-00-23-0200; (2) additionally, since the City Council's last consideration, Pioneer City Cemetery has been registered as a State Historic Landmark with the Historic Preservation Plan now a prerequisite to change. Exhibit A

Cost to Taxpayers. The trail or path at this time will substantially impact the market value and use of the abutting properties such that the damages would be required to be paid pursuant to law. The impact would be to significantly decrease the market value of at least three to eight abutting properties. The average market values of homes in the south Salem neighborhood is in excess of \$450,000. Exhibit B.

City Path or Trial Already Exists. Residents of the area have an alternate path, Fairmount Park Trail. Perhaps the City could alert the Citizens and the Schools in the area of the existence of the Fairmount Park Trail. A path through Pioneer Cemetery would be a second path.

As to those who desire to teach children to respect Pioneer Cemetery, the Cemetery already has access from Hoyt Street. The existing access from Hoyt Street fosters peaceful quiet appreciation, serenity, reflection and respect.

In sum. It is time to make this decision and close this book on a path through Pioneer Cemetery because it is extremely expensive to go after this duplicate trail over and over again.



[Find A Record](#)[Cemetery Maps](#)[Contact Information](#)[Cemetery History / Preservation](#)[Photographs](#)[Sources / Credits](#)[Resource Links](#)[FOPC](#)[Home](#)

SALEM PIONEER CEMETERY LISTING IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

Salem Pioneer Cemetery, located at Commercial Street SE and Hoyt Street, was listed in the National Register of Historic Places under its historic name, Odd Fellows Rural Cemetery, on September 11, 2013. The City-owned property of seventeen acres has the registration identification number 13000707. The 72-page nomination document includes, in addition to a narrative, ten exhibits and twenty-five photographs. It is reproduced on our Web site in its entirety courtesy of the Oregon State Historic Preservation Office. When citing the document for research purposes, the recommended form is: Odd Fellows Rural Cemetery, National Register of Historic Places Registration Form prepared by Elisabeth Walton Potter, Friends of Pioneer Cemetery, February 28, 2013.

The burial ground was founded by Chemeketa Lodge No. 1 of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows in 1854 and has been known as Salem Pioneer Cemetery since 1954. Friends of Pioneer Cemetery prepared the application for the City of Salem Parks and Recreation organization, citing the property's significance to the city and state as an outstanding cultural landscape in the 19th century Rural Cemetery tradition and as the final resting place of founders and leaders of Oregon government, institutions, commerce, and industry.

[View the Complete Registration / Certification Document.](#)



Willamette Valley MLS

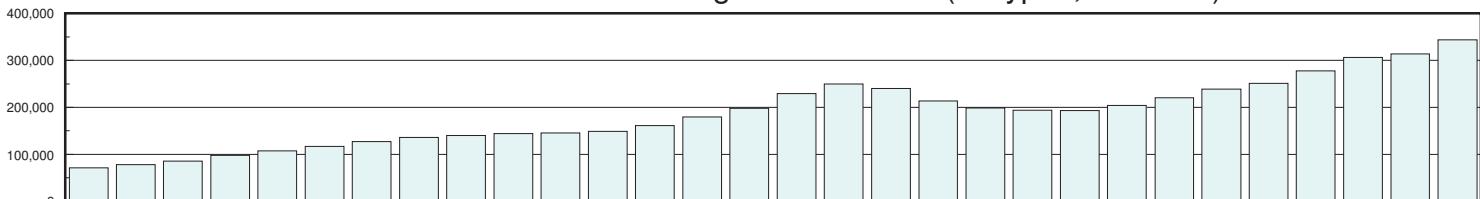
March 2020

	2019	2020	% of Change
Active Listings	2,699	2,453	-9.11%
Months of Inventory	3.44	2.57	-25.29%

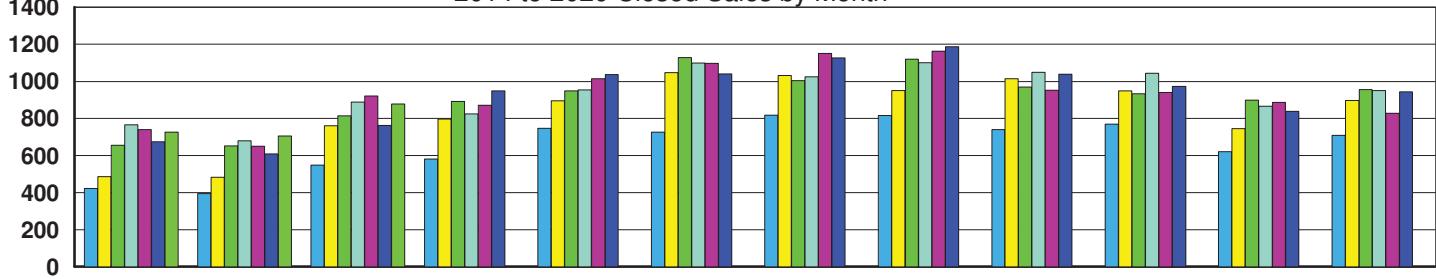
Valley Real Estate Review

	Active Offices	Combined Sales Force	Total Listing Issued	Total Annual Sales	Total Annual Dollar Volume
2010	484	1,607	14,870	5,772	1,149,297,552
2011	456	1,433	11,783	5,788	1,127,525,552
2012	461	1,417	11,654	6,541	1,266,808,552
2013	463	1,471	12,465	7,590	1,555,464,240
2014	457	1,597	12,867	7,908	1,751,100,072
2015	474	1,803	13,914	10,071	2,409,748,596
2016	502	2,063	14,486	10,991	2,766,313,799
2017	517	2,347	14,392	11,266	3,137,344,414
2018	560	2,589	15,154	11,231	3,449,545,495
2019	561	2,701	15,543	11,195	3,695,435,915
2020 year to date	568	2,732	3,404	2,315	798,112,455

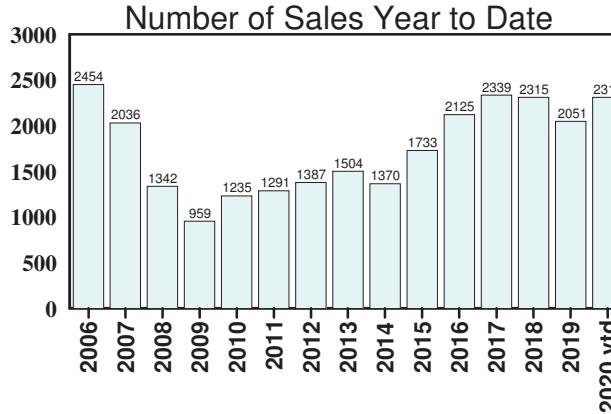
1991 to 2020 Average Sales Prices (all types, all areas)



2014 to 2020 Closed Sales by Month

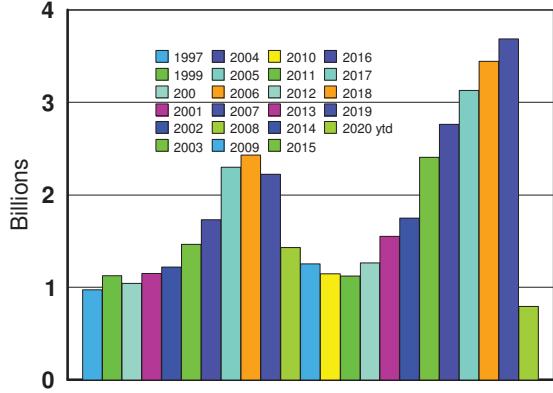


	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC
2014	423	397	550	582	748	727	819	817	742	770	622	711
2015	487	484	762	798	896	1048	1033	952	1016	951	747	898
2016	656	653	816	894	951	1129	1006	1122	971	935	901	957
2017	768	681	890	826	956	1101	1027	1102	1050	1045	868	952
2018	741	651	923	872	1016	1099	1152	1164	953	942	888	830
2019	676	611	764	950	1038	1042	1128	1188	1040	974	839	945
2020	728	707	880									



Number of Sales Year to Date	Percent Increase/Decrease From Previous Year
2010	28.78%
2011	4.53%
2012	7.44%
2013	8.44%
2014	-8.91%
2015	26.50%
2016	22.62%
2017	10.07%
2018	-1.03%
2019	-11.40%
2020	12.87%

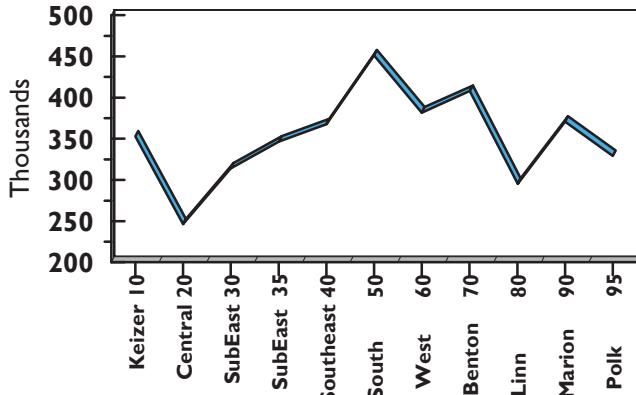
Total Annual Dollar Volume



Top Sales Terms 2020 Year to Date



Residential Average Sales Prices by Area Year to Date



% Chg = Percent of change from previous year

Residential Average Sales Prices by Area

AREA	2016	% Chg 15/2016	2017	% Chg 16/2017	2018	% Chg 17/2018	2019 Year to Date	% Chg 18/2019	2020 Year to Date
Keizer 10	\$256,083	12.20%	\$276,990	8.16%	\$300,836	8.61%	\$326,521	8.54%	\$352,870
Central 20	168,057	15.25%	197,523	17.53%	226,553	14.70%	243,738	7.58%	246,416
SubEast 30	209,396	11.86%	237,487	13.42%	271,126	14.16%	306,112	12.90%	313,896
SubEast 35	229,343	13.59%	255,348	11.34%	285,643	11.86%	307,356	7.60%	346,617
Southeast 40	284,586	10.90%	309,156	8.63%	347,463	12.39%	353,171	1.64%	367,768
South 50	322,094	6.76%	355,927	10.50%	388,438	9.13%	392,446	1.03%	451,237
West 60	277,550	10.07%	317,059	14.23%	342,803	8.12%	366,047	6.78%	382,083
Benton 70	335,478	7.11%	358,992	7.01%	390,805	8.86%	408,145	4.44%	408,160
Linn 80	211,254	4.33%	242,798	14.93%	273,652	12.71%	293,837	7.37%	295,270
Marion 90	271,827	9.07%	293,538	7.99%	333,395	13.58%	354,161	6.23%	370,739
Polk 95	250,752	6.47%	272,446	8.65%	302,417	11.00%	321,707	6.38%	329,395
Total Average	\$263,415	7.47%	\$291,018	10.48%	\$316,626	8.80%	335,110	5.84%	347,563



**Willamette
Valley MLS**

March 2020

New Construction Statistics

A member owned cooperative MLS Since 1949

New Construction Residential	Area 10 Keizer	Area 20 Central Salem	Area 30 Suburban NE	Area 35 Suburban SE	Area 40 SE Salem	Area 50 South Salem	Area 60 West Salem	Area 70 Benton County	Area 80 Linn County	Area 90 Marion County	Area 95 Polk County
Units Sold 12 Mos to date	24	3	163	8	74	45	87	105	211	223	158
Average Sales Price	\$409,434	\$306,000	\$334,184	\$304,612	\$420,114	\$429,992	\$393,906	\$402,485	\$349,665	\$404,774	\$339,581
Average Square Footage	2,352	1,493	1,902	1,454	2,028	2,107	2,189	1,997	1,961	2,025	1,724
Average Cost per Square Foot	\$176.00	\$206.00	\$179.00	\$213.00	\$210.00	\$205.00	\$183.00	\$204.00	\$182.00	\$202.00	\$200.00
Average Day on the Market	219	84	86	118	172	139	151	166	144	173	175
Currently Active Listings	7	0	11	4	28	15	9	45	71	38	34

New Construction Residential	Sales 2016	Sales 2017	Sales 2018	Sales 2019	Sales 2020 Year to Date	Currently Active	Currently Pending
Units	586	651	788	1,092	250	283	159
Average Price	\$305,337	\$339,993	\$367,985	\$379,063	\$374,344	\$426,798	\$377,292
Average Square Footage	1,990	2,013	2,037	1,978	1,943	2,018	1,980
Average Cost per Square Foot	\$153.00	\$171.00	\$182.00	\$194.00	\$196.00	\$213.00	\$194.00
Average Days on the Market	164	163	166	153	153	104	94

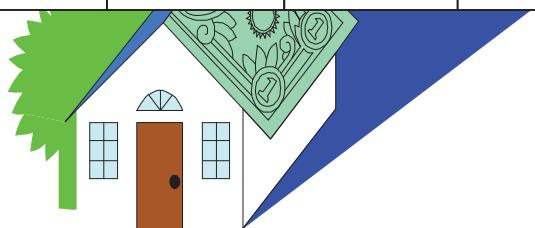


Many factors contribute to fluctuations in data.

Users should analyze over an extended period to ascertain market trends.

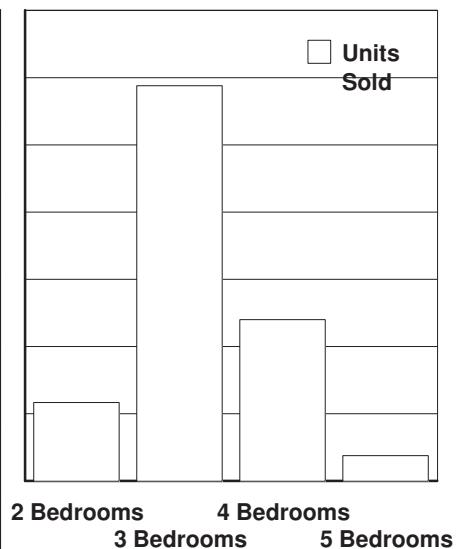
Equal
Housing
Opportunity

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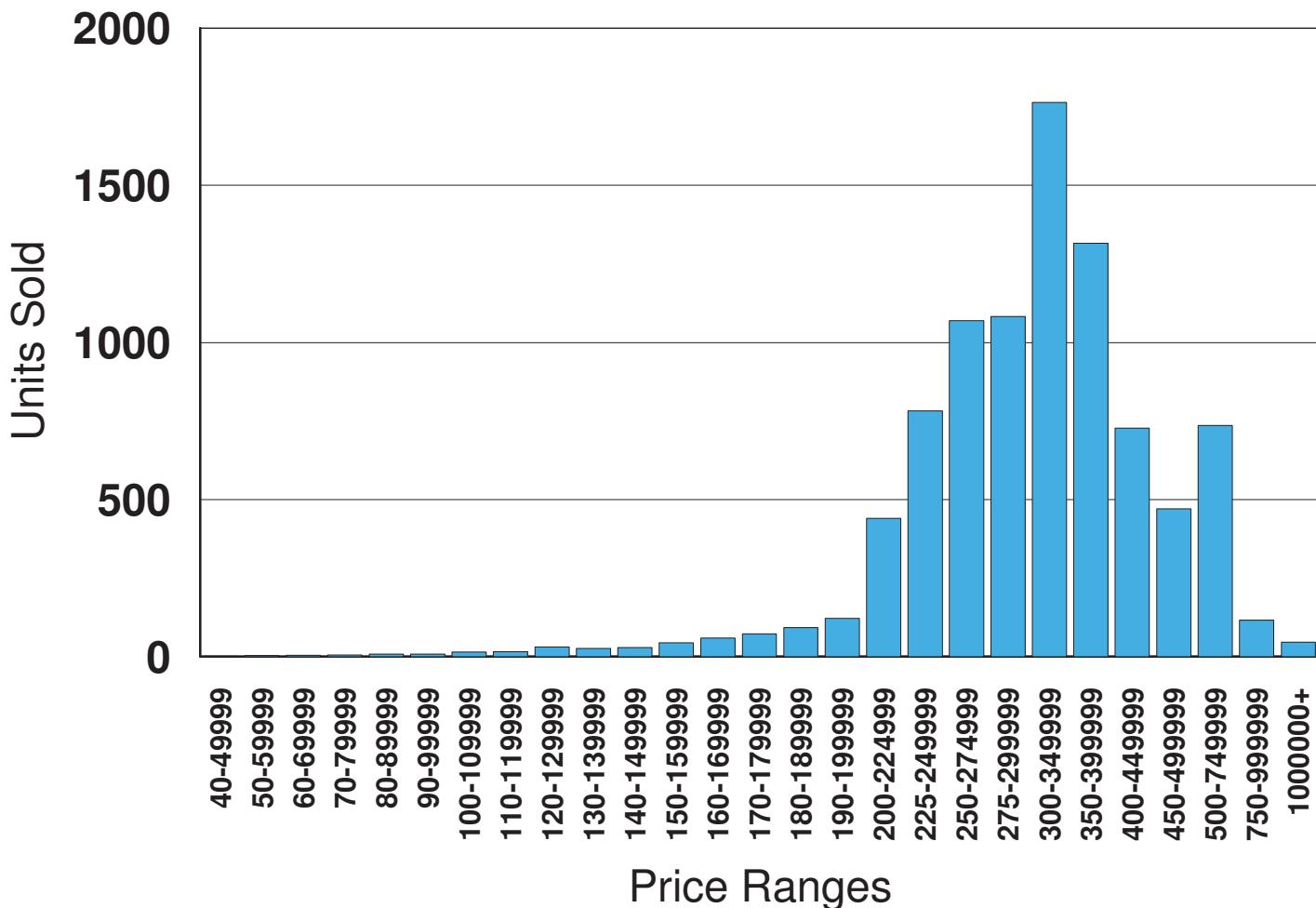


Residential Sales by Number of Bedrooms

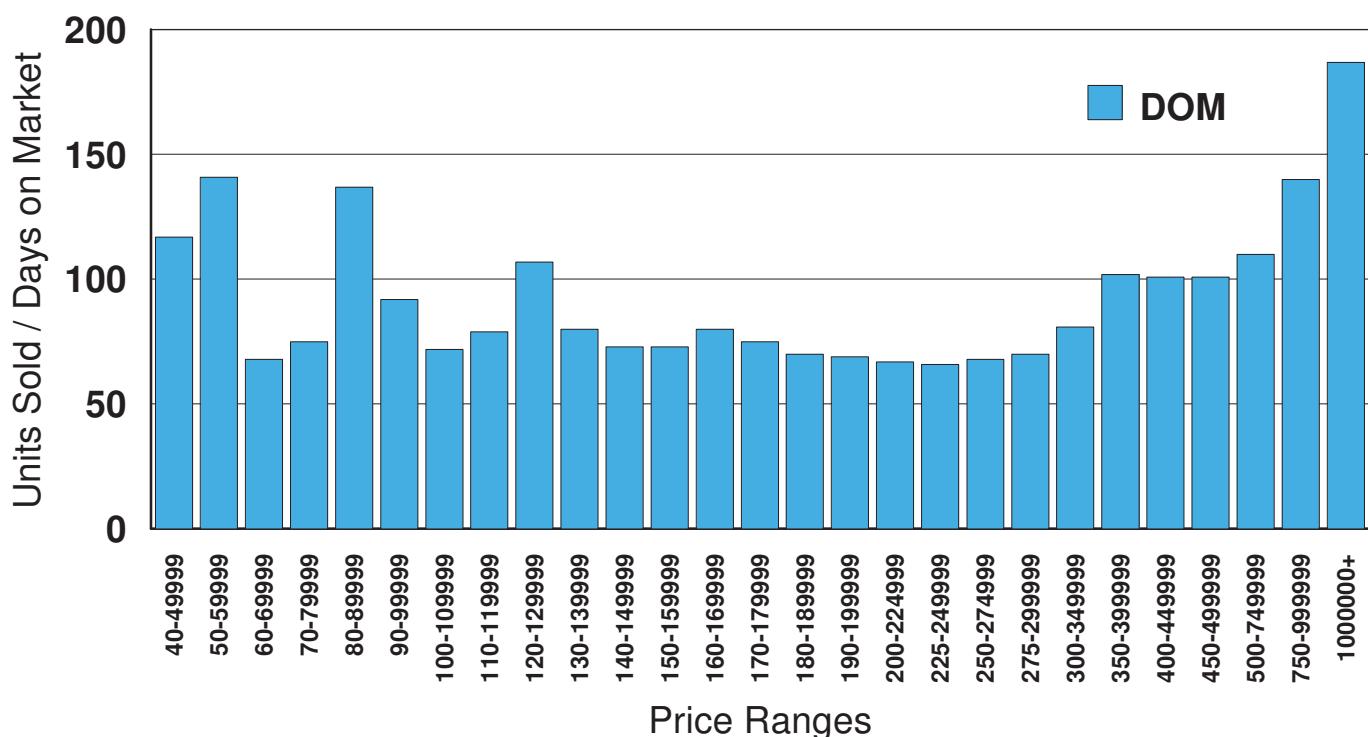
	2 Bedrooms	3 Bedrooms	4 Bedrooms	5 Bedrooms
Number Sold 12 Months	1,175	5,882	2,404	384
Average Sales Price	\$246,106	\$322,468	\$409,027	\$481,589
Average Square Footage	1,170	1,638	2,321	3,002
Average Cost per Square Foot	\$216.00	\$200.00	\$178.00	\$159.00
Days on Market	79	80	101	108
Active on the Market	138	671	401	99



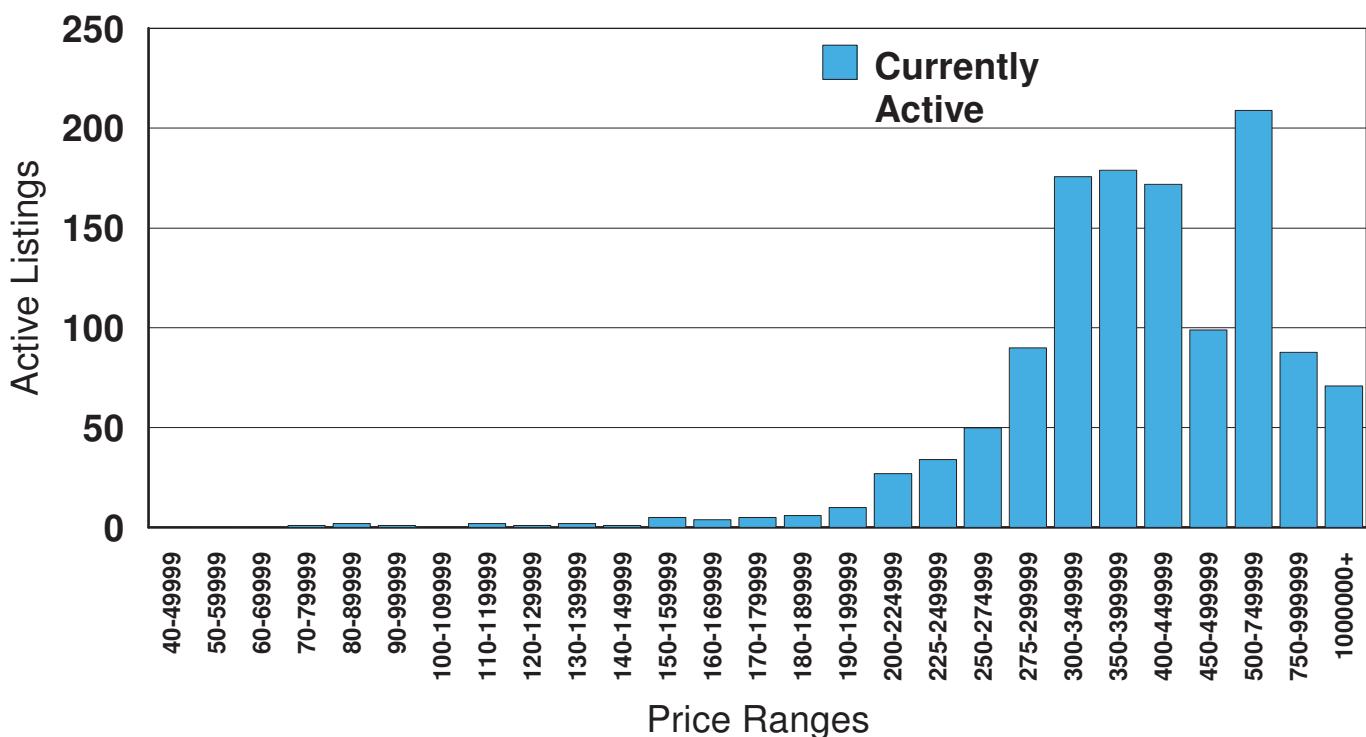
Residential Sold Listings by Price Range 12 Mos



Residential Listings by Price Range - Days on the Market



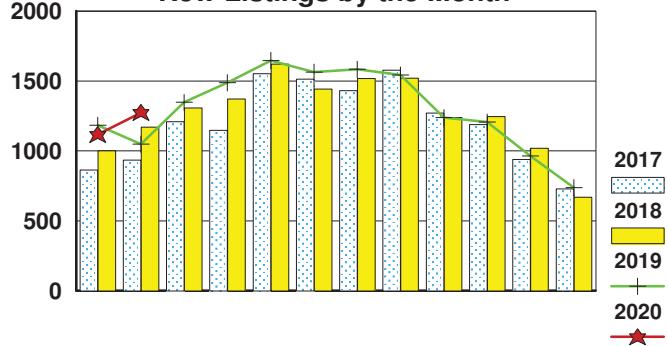
Active Residential by Price Range



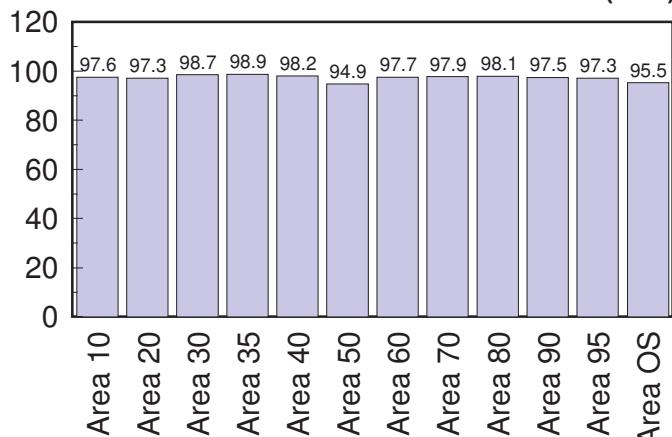
Residential Sold Price Analysis

AREA	2018 Units Sold	2018 Dollar Volume	2019 Units Sold	2019 Dollar Volume	2020 Units Sold Year to Date	Active on the Market	2020 Dollar Volume	Original Average List Price	Average Sales Price	% Sale to List	Days on the Mkt	Average Square Footage	Price Per Square Foot
10	506	\$152223108	515	\$168158535	103	60	\$36,345,670	\$361,645	\$352,870	97.6	109	1,820	\$199.00
20	403	91300986	422	102857672	82	35	20,206,142	252,912	246,416	97.3	81	1,504	178.00
30	391	106010441	515	157648051	110	44	34,528,639	318,046	313,896	98.7	85	1,689	190.00
35	287	81979594	336	103271814	55	32	19,063,974	350,625	346,617	98.9	74	1,662	205.00
40	774	268936957	784	276886729	157	122	57,739,644	374,695	367,768	98.2	85	2,021	192.00
50	440	170912745	415	162865420	81	67	36,550,233	475,513	451,237	94.9	118	2,342	196.00
60	625	214252350	615	225119452	136	68	51,963,365	391,012	382,083	97.7	97	2,260	176.00
70	971	379472160	936	382024266	182	161	74,285,121	417,068	408,160	97.9	93	2,029	213.00
80	1897	519118753	1678	493059745	371	220	109,545,189	300,973	295,270	98.1	88	1,629	188.00
90	1134	378070158	1114	394536089	217	158	80,450,550	380,859	370,734	97.5	110	1,826	210.00
95	731	221067283	740	238063707	137	88	45,127,191	338,605	329,395	97.3	110	1,664	203.00
OS	877	345388092	923	\$370146801	200	192	87,094,953	456,134	435,474	95.5	105	2,032	223.00

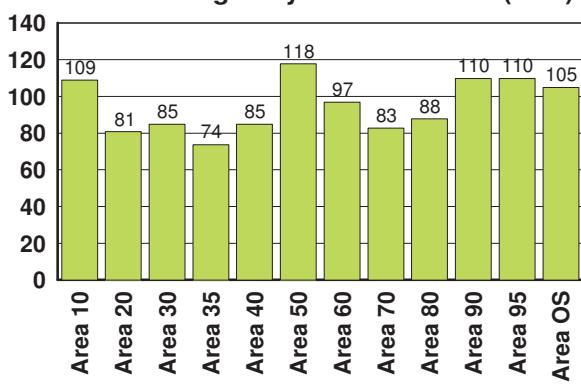
New Listings by the Month



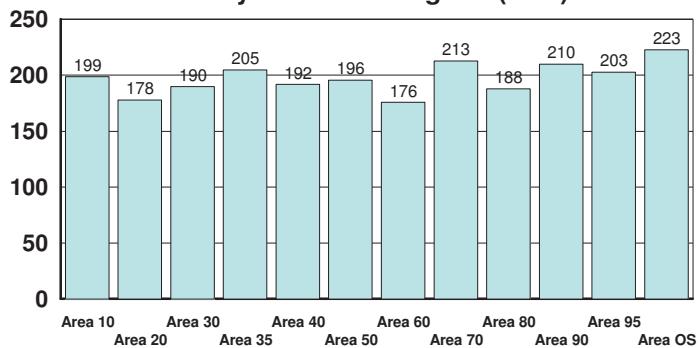
Percent of Sales Price to List Price (YTD)



Average Days on the Market (YTD)



Average Sales Price Per Square Foot By Area Including Lot (YTD)





03421 25th St. SE

Salem, Oregon 97302-1122
(503) 399-8657
1 800 944-3138

The Statistics presented in this update are compiled to reflect sales made by member offices for properties listed in the Willamette Valley, Oregon. Many factors contribute to fluctuations in data. Users of this report should analyze data over an extended period to ascertain market trends. Information is deemed reliable but not guaranteed.

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Your Statistics Team @ WVMLS:

Kristie Will & Ronda Wymore

We welcome your comments and suggestions.

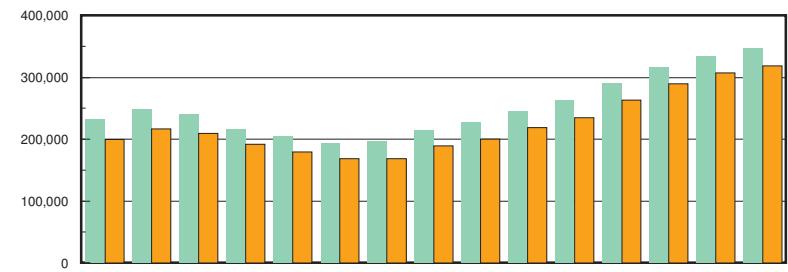


All statistical reports are available on the web at WVMLS.COM

AREAS:	#
Keizer	10
Central Salem	20
Suburban East	30
Suburban SE	35
Southeast Salem	40
South Salem	50
West Salem	60
Benton County	70
Linn County	80
Marion County	90
Polk County	95



2004 to 2020 (YTD) Residential Average/Median Sales Prices



2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
232,943	249,203	240,406	215,432	205,406	193,821	196,867	215,207	227,879	245,096	263,415	291,018	316,626	334,650	347,563
199,900	217,000	210,000	192,000	180,050	169,000	169,000	189,595	200,350	219,000	235,400	263,500	289,900	307,700	319,000

Factoid: The average newly constructed home sold in the Willamette Valley is a 3 bedroom, 2 bath with 1,943 square feet and a 2 car garage. The average cost per square foot for a new home is \$196.00 including a 7,178 square foot lot.

(All types, all areas)	Closed Sales	New Listings	Pending Listings	Average Sales Price	% List Price to Sales Price
March 2020	880	1,276	889	\$361,458	97.36%
Full Year 2019	11,195	15,543	4,540	\$330,087	98.62%
March 2019	764	1,349	1,474	\$308,369	98.09%
Full Year 2018	11,231	15,154	4,225	\$307,145	98.85%

Amy Johnson

From: Elisabeth Potter <ewpwords@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 22, 2020 1:06 PM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: Council Mtg. 4-27-20 - Rural-Hoyt Trail Connection, Pioneer Cemetery
Attachments: FOPC EWP Remarks for City Council, 4-27-2020.docx

To the office of the City of Salem Recorder:

Please find attached the statement I wish to offer under the agenda item pertaining to Public Comments during the forthcoming virtual City Council Meeting scheduled for April 27, 2020.

Thank you.

Elisabeth Walton Potter

SALEM CITY COUNCIL MEETING

April 27, 2020

Agenda Item No. 2 - Public Comments on Proposed Connector Path through Pioneer Cemetery

Elisabeth Walton Potter

2655 Skopil Ave S

Salem OR 97302

Mr. Mayor and Ladies and Gentlemen of the Council:

I am Elisabeth Potter, resident of South Salem Ward No. 7 and a founder-member of the citizen support group - Friends of Pioneer Cemetery.

My statement highlights below what our volunteers and supporters do to help the City raise its level of care for the historic cemetery, but mostly I want to make a point here that is often overlooked in conversations about a hypothetical Rural Avenue-Hoyt Street connector that could affect a City landmark having Goal 5 status under statewide land use planning rules.

Anyone taking stock of the cemetery landscape from a simple visual perspective might easily assume there are tolerances for inserting one thing or another into a tightly-bounded gridiron plat with a few lanes, a scattered tree canopy, and more than eight thousand graves, marked and unmarked. What the casual observer probably will not know is that, notwithstanding a number of exceptions for City and County-owned graves for institutional burials, the grave lots are not publicly owned. The vast majority of grave lots passed to descendants of original plot owners from the 1850s onward, and, with few exceptions, the exclusive descendant's right-to-inter has not been extinguished. Although more qualified terminology is applied by the Oregon Mortuary and Cemetery Board today, the continuing status of the grave lots as essentially private property is one important reason why space for widening or fencing existing lanes is restricted. Also to be remembered is that any development undertaken along the cemetery's boundaries risks encroaching on irregular, early, unmarked burials on the outer margins of the plat.

We are your citizen advisors in the special effort of caring for Pioneer Cemetery, and we have been pleased to serve in that role since shortly before the City took title to the property from the Independent Order of Odd Fellows thirty-four years ago. We are confident that City staff will, if called upon, provide the kind of rigorous professional analysis that will help all of us resolve the dilemma of conflicting land-uses that is once again under discussion.

Primary Purposes of the Friends of Pioneer Cemetery organized in 1985

- Support City Parks Operations in the effort to maintain, protect, and improve the historic cemetery landscape and its monuments; direct the efforts of community volunteers in grounds-betterment.
- Promote contributions to the Salem Foundation Charitable Trust Pioneer Cemetery Fund; maintain public and donor relations through an annual report-newsletter.
- Manage the Pioneer Cemetery Website and database (www.salempioneer cemetery.org); respond to ongoing requests for information on burials, genealogy, and headstone care.
- Assist City Parks Operations to define scope of work when contracting for professional repairs; help write grant proposals for the City's special preservation projects endorsed by the Salem Historic Landmarks Commission.
- Promote public education through occasional tours, programs, and periodic off-site presentations. Maintain FOPC administrative records that include reports on completed projects.

Amy Johnson

From: EVAN WHITE <epwhitehouse@comcast.net>
Sent: Tuesday, April 21, 2020 1:04 PM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: Rural-Hoyt Trail Connection, Council Meeting on April 27
Attachments: Path through Pioneer Cemetery.docx

Attached please find my testimony for the April 27, 2020 Council meeting. Please acknowledge that you are able to open the attachment. Thank you, Evan White

Rural-Hoyt Trail Connection, Linking Neighborhoods
Salem City Council Meeting, April 27, 2020, Agenda Item

Thank you, Councilors, for your service. I am Evan White, Land Use Chair of the Sunnyslope Neighborhood Association, and I testified on this issue seven years ago. Who knew that people like to walk? Not having a street or path that connects Hoyt and Rural is a mistake that likely predates anyone now working for the City. There is an easy way to address this issue while showing respect for both the living and the dead. It is time to fix the mistake.

The Dead

My great grandmother came to Salem via the Oregon Trail in 1847, with her parents, brother and sister. She was only nine years old and she lived to be nearly 102 years of age. Her ashes are interred at the Mausoleum at Mt Crest, adjacent to Pioneer Cemetery. So, I believe that it is very important to honor our ancestors and respect our pioneer heritage. Today almost all adults and many children have cell phones and are able to instantly summon help if there is an emergency or see something amiss. Having people able to walk through Pioneer Cemetery during daylight hours will improve security and enrich public appreciation for our pioneer heritage.

The Living

I've lived in Salem for almost fifty years and the first house that I owned was on Fairmount Hill.¹ When we moved there, my two sons met Tad, the boy living next door, and found a ready playmate. All three boys soon became inseparable -- like the three musketeers. They were either over at our house or at Tad's house. This continued for years, until Tad's mom sold her house and moved to Candalaria. At that point it became very difficult for the boys to continue their friendship because they were now separated by Pioneer Cemetery -- with no easy or safe way to walk or bike from one house to the other.

When my older son moved to McKinley School, many of his classmates lived on the other side of the cemetery, so he had no way to continue his school friendships. Children who live south of the cemetery cannot easily access the playground at Fairmount Park.

¹ When I lived there, I frequently walked to work and took the bus home. I now live near Belcrest Cemetery, which encourages pedestrian use of the cemetery.

Salem is expected to grow by 60,000 people over the next sixteen years. "Our Salem Report Card" says that we are falling behind from some of the goals that we have set for ourselves, such as walk and transit friendliness, bicycle and pedestrian use, greenhouse gas emissions, and air pollution from travel. Residents are becoming less optimistic about the direction of our City. While the staff report on this issue is not yet available, my hope is that it will present a constructive way to link the two neighborhoods. Thank you.



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Ruth Stellmacher

From: Evan West <evanwest714@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2020 1:40 PM
To: citycouncil
Cc: salemrecorder@cityofsalem.net
Subject: Comment on Pioneer Cemetery Gateway Proposal
Attachments: Comment on Pioneer Cemetery Gateway.pdf

Categories: Council Dox

Hello,

Please see the attached letter with comment regarding the recent proposal for the creation of a new gateway to Pioneer Cemetery. Thank you very much for your time and consideration, and please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Evan West

--

970-980-1445

evanwest714@gmail.com

March 11, 2019

To Mayor Chuck Bennett and Members of the Salem City Council:

Thank you for taking your time to consider the comments of those interested and impacted by the proposal for the creation of a new point of access to the Pioneer Cemetery. As a homeowner at 466 Rural Avenue South (essentially the intersection of Rural Avenue and John Street,) my property is immediately adjacent to both the cemetery and the location of the proposed gateway. I am interested in this project not only as an impacted homeowner, but also as a professional public historian. I hold a master's degree in public history from the University of Colorado, as well as a certificate in historic preservation. I earned a bachelor's degree in history, and I have worked full time as a public history consultant for four years.

I'm writing to you today because I firmly believe that the City Council has a unique opportunity to affirm the purpose of preserving and maintaining cemeteries in the twenty-first century. In my professional opinion, I believe that it is important for society to choose to protect and preserve cemeteries for three distinct reasons. These reasons and the ways in which they impact a gate decision are summarized in three paragraphs below.

We carry the burden of honoring, mourning, and otherwise commemorating the lives of those who came before us. Each marker and indeed each unmarked plot in a cemetery is the final embodiment of *someone's* life. A shared aspect of our humanity is the collective promise to never forget the contributions of our predecessors.

Currently, access to Pioneer Cemetery is relatively limited. A desire to exclude any potential danger has led to a wide misunderstanding among the community of its purpose and nature. However, those who have visited have often found that cemeteries impart lessons of history. They provide a tangible link to, and record of, our historic past. The Cemetery has acknowledged this with the installation of interpretive signage, but they have not encouraged access or visitation by the public. In this way the Cemetery has come dramatically close to but fallen short of fulfilling the ultimate goal of historic interpretation. That goal is the provocation of interest,

and the desire of the public to learn more and become further involved.

Cemeteries are not just places of burial and reflection on the dead. They are also places where meditation, casual encounters among friends and neighbors, and indeed even “recreation,” can occur. We don’t want them to replace parks, but they have no sanctity at all if they are locked away from the public. Cemeteries can be havens for bird watchers, a silent pass through for cyclists, and places of inspiration for artists. They are maintained in part *by* the public, they should be *for* the public.

What binds all of these categories together, is the critically important element of public access. If we choose not to foster these aspects of cemeteries that are important to our community, then cemeteries become only toxic fields of stone. Literally dead and dying in every way. For the health and wellbeing of a connected and informed community, I join my neighbors in asking the City Council to take whatever steps are necessary to allow for increased community access to the Pioneer Cemetery. With coordination, patience, and some compromise, I have great confidence that it can be achieved. Thank you very much for all of your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Evan West

Amy Johnson

From: Evan West <evanwest714@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 22, 2020 7:44 PM
Subject: Fwd: Comment on Pioneer Cemetery Pathway Proposal
Attachments: Evan West Pioneer Cemetery Pathway Comment.pdf

Hello,

I apologize if you are receiving, or end up receiving my comments twice. I am simply hoping to ensure that they will cross your desk before the next meeting when this proposal will be discussed. Thank you very much for all of your time, service, and consideration. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any follow up questions for me.

Sincerely,

Evan West

--

970-980-1445

evanwest714@gmail.com

--

970-980-1445

evanwest714@gmail.com

April 22, 2019

To Mayor Chuck Bennett and Members of the Salem City Council:

You have previously received a letter with my commentary in support of the Pioneer Cemetery pathway proposal. I had hoped to deliver this follow up commentary in person but due to our current world situation it seems that will be impossible for an indeterminate amount of time. Thank you very much for considering this perspective in the same manner that you would if it were delivered to you in person.

I would like to read for you from the *Salem Pioneer Cemetery Preservation Handbook* published jointly by the City of Salem and the Friends of the Pioneer Cemetery. On page one the handbook reads

Besides a burial ground, the park-like setting has a variety of uses. It is an open space for walking and jogging, a wildlife habitat, an outdoor classroom and museum, and a resource for genealogical research. Since the Salem Pioneer Cemetery serves many interests and activities, these guidelines are intended to help preserve the historic character of the cemetery for future generations to appreciate.

By this statement, it's apparent that the City and the Friends of the Cemetery recognize their role as the guardians of a place of public gathering and utility. Today I join my friends and neighbors in asking the city council to ensure that the cemetery remains accessible, and better promotes accessibility, to all.

As a professional historian I have studied the assets of the Pioneer Cemetery and can attest that the construction of an entrance off of John Street can be undertaken without causing any adverse impact. As hours of access will remain the same, the possibility that crime or vandalism might increase is small to none. Adding a second point of access to the cemetery encourages community engagement, and to my knowledge the opposition have provided few rational arguments against the possible creation of a second gateway. The dedicated and passionate volunteers who compose the Friends of the Pioneer Cemetery are rightfully invested in ensuring that the historic treasure is protected. What I would like for the Friends of the Cemetery and the Salem City Council to know, is that the neighbors who share property lines are equally dedicated to the same mission.

Thank you very much for your time and consideration of this perspective. I am happy to be contacted at any time with follow up questions regarding historic preservation, public history, or any other aspect of this project and proposal.

Sincerely,

Evan West
970-980-1445
evanwest714@gmail.com
Neighbor at 466 Rural Avenue South Salem, OR 97302

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Gary McCuen <garylmccuen@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2020 9:33 AM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Fwd: Passage above the Pioneer Cemetery

Categories: Council Dox

Dear Council Members,

My wife, Annie Francoise, sent the attached message to you on March 14th regarding the path through the cemetery. I would like to add my comments.

There are safety and community aspects as she has pointed out but there are also just basic health and convenience reasons. I know that many folks on the Fairmount side are enthusiastic walkers for health and recreation purposes. I assume that Candelaria folks are the same. We walk all over Fairmount hill and it would be delightful to be able to include the cemetery and Candelaria areas within our walking range. This is good for all of us.

Also, we would love to combine the joy of walking with some convenience. At times, we have made the trek to LifeSource for a deli lunch or light shopping but the section along Commercial is hardly inspiring or pleasant. So, mostly we drive - adding more car trips and inherent pollution. How pleasant it would be to be able to take a stroll through the cemetery to do these things. There are other businesses in the vicinity that could be considered destinations as well.

We hope that you will favorably consider opening the walking passage through the cemetery.

Thank you for your consideration,
Gary McCuen - 503 302 90543
1825 Fairmount Ave. S.
Salem, OR 97302

Begin forwarded message:

From: Annie Francoise <mccuen7691@comcast.net>
Subject: Passage above the Pioneer Cemetery
Date: March 14, 2020 at 5:01:26 PM PDT
To: citycouncil@cityofsalem.net

Hello, everyone, thank you for your interest in this matter.

We live on Fairmount Hill near the Park. We intended to attend the meeting on Monday evening. Unfortunately, i am 76 and Gary 84 and we were advised to stay home, to be on the safer side, not to contaminate or be contaminated.

I am one of the volunteers who attended the Cert Training with Roger a few years back. At the time, Roger was quite insistant regarding having open passage between our neighborhood and Candelaria in the event of a major earthquake. We were all in agreement. Roger was recommending having a container in Fairmount Park, stocked with emergency food and supplies which could be shared by both neighborhoods as well as an opening which would allow emergency vehicles and first responders to go

back and forth. We are still all waiting for such an opportunity!
Also, Fairmount Park is THE park for both neighborhoods and Candalaria was cut off when gates were set up as an overreaction to a one time episode of vandalism. Just not fair.

Both sides of the cemetery would still be protected if the fenced passageway would be open at each end.

Please, pretty please, make this happen this time. Safety and good fellowship could serve us all.

We are so grateful for your efforts to represent us all.

Annie-Françoise McCuen
1825 Fairmount ave s
Salem 97302

Sent from my iPad

Amy Johnson

From: Julie Warncke
Sent: Wednesday, March 18, 2020 10:49 AM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: FW: connector across Pioneer Cemetery in South Salem

- [Julie | 503-588-6211 ext.7338](#)
-

From: Vanessa Nordyke <VNordyke@cityofsalem.net>
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 12:33 PM
To: Julie Warncke <JWarncke@cityofsalem.net>
Subject: Fwd: connector across Pioneer Cemetery in South Salem

Vanessa Nordyke
Salem City Councilor, Ward 7

From: Heather Wolfgang <heather@oregonmtb.org>
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 10:30 AM
To: Vanessa Nordyke
Subject: connector across Pioneer Cemetery in South Salem

Not sure if the meeting is happening for this (guessing it won't) but I support this connector!

Best,
Heather

Heather Wolfgang
League Director
[Oregon Interscholastic Cycling League](#)
ph: 352-284-5052



Amy Johnson

From: Vanessa Nordyke
Sent: Tuesday, April 21, 2020 1:23 PM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: Fwd: Gated pedestrian connection through Pioneer Cemetery

Vanessa Nordyke
Salem City Council, Ward 7
City phone: (971) 707-3732

From: Vanessa Nordyke <VNordyke@cityofsalem.net>
Sent: Tuesday, April 21, 2020 1:22:47 PM
To: Jeremy Greenwood <jeremymgreenwood@gmail.com>
Subject: Re: Gated pedestrian connection through Pioneer Cemetery

Thank you, Mr. Greenwood for your email and your support! As your City Councilor, please do not hesitate to reach out to me in the future with any questions or concerns or comments you may have. I hope you and your loved ones are staying healthy. Best, Vanessa

Vanessa Nordyke
Salem City Council, Ward 7
City phone: (971) 707-3732

From: Jeremy Greenwood <jeremymgreenwood@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 21, 2020 12:36:42 PM
To: Vanessa Nordyke <VNordyke@cityofsalem.net>
Subject: Gated pedestrian connection through Pioneer Cemetery

Hello Councilor Nordyke,

I reside in the Fairmount neighborhood on Saginaw Street and would really love a pedestrian connection through Pioneer Cemetery to exist for a safer and more pleasant walk or bike to shopping, restaurants, and friends over in the Candalaria area. I don't expect this passage to remain open after dark, which I understand raises some concerns about vandalism in our historic cemetery. Let's create a more connected community!

All the best with this initiative,
Jeremy Greenwood

Amy Johnson

From: Julie Warncke
Sent: Wednesday, March 18, 2020 10:49 AM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: FW: Connecting path through cemetery

- [Julie | 503-588-6211 ext.7338](#)

From: Vanessa Nordyke <VNordyke@cityofsalem.net>
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 12:33 PM
To: Julie Warncke <JWarncke@cityofsalem.net>
Subject: Fwd: Connecting path through cemetery

Vanessa Nordyke
Salem City Councilor, Ward 7

From: Julie hewitt <juhewitt44@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 11:48:14 AM
To: Vanessa Nordyke <VNordyke@cityofsalem.net>
Subject: Connecting path through cemetery

Hi!

I am writing to ask that you support a pathway through the Pioneer Cemetery connecting my Fairmount neighborhood to Candalaria. Not only would that provide a nice path to LifeSource Foods, but my daughter and grandchildren live in that neighborhood. Currently, I walk through the woods at the end of Rural to visit them, but I must admit, I do it with a little trepidation.

Thank you for all you do for our community.
Julie Hewitt

Amy Johnson

From: Julie Warncke
Sent: Wednesday, March 18, 2020 10:49 AM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: FW: I support the Pioneer Cemetery Connector

- [Julie | 503-588-6211 ext.7338](#)
-

From: Vanessa Nordyke <VNordyke@cityofsalem.net>
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 12:34 PM
To: Julie Warncke <JWarncke@cityofsalem.net>
Subject: Fwd: I support the Pioneer Cemetery Connector

Vanessa Nordyke
Salem City Councilor, Ward 7

From: Joanne Meister <joanne@designmeister.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 8:13:10 AM
To: Vanessa Nordyke <VNordyke@cityofsalem.net>
Subject: I support the Pioneer Cemetery Connector

I support the logic, common sense action of the Pioneer Cemetery connector. This will be a positive move for the neighborhood in terms for people and for wildlife. This old-thought public barriers need to go.

Thank you,
Joanne Meister

South Salem resident

Amy Johnson

From: Vanessa Nordyke
Sent: Wednesday, April 15, 2020 2:40 PM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: Fwd: Path between Fairmount and Candalaria

Please add to the other emails received regarding public comment for a pedestrian path through pioneer cemetery.
Thank you,

Vanessa Nordyke
Salem City Council, Ward 7
City phone: (971) 707-3732

From: Vanessa Nordyke <VNordyke@cityofsalem.net>
Sent: Wednesday, April 15, 2020 2:39 PM
To: Karen McFarlane Holman
Subject: Re: Path between Fairmount and Candalaria

Thank you, Karen, so much for your thoughtful email. I appreciate your sensitivity to the needs of historic preservation and your support for a pedestrian path. I wholeheartedly agree with the opportunity for increased cultural appreciation for the cemetery as a result of opening a path. I will forward your email to city staff so that it can be added to the members of the public who are writing in to support this path.

I hope that you and your loved ones are staying healthy during these uncertain times! As your City Councilor, please do not hesitate to reach out to me with any other neighborhood questions or comments. Sincerely, Vanessa

Vanessa Nordyke
Salem City Council, Ward 7
City phone: (971) 707-3732

From: Karen McFarlane Holman <kholman@willamette.edu>
Sent: Tuesday, April 14, 2020 11:25:11 PM
To: Vanessa Nordyke <VNordyke@cityofsalem.net>
Subject: Path between Fairmount and Candalaria

Dear Councilor Nordyke,

I am a ten-year resident of the Candalaria neighborhood. I was thrilled to hear that the discussion regarding a path that would connect my neighborhood with Fairmount has regained some traction. It was disheartening for me when the discussion was started and then dropped a few years ago.

There are many families and friends who live on both sides of the barrier that is currently in place who do not get to visit each other safely, especially with small children. There are businesses that are not as accessible to residents who walk or bike in order to buy groceries, go out for a meal, etc. The current configuration demands that we all travel by car even to nearby destinations, which reduces the liveability of both neighborhoods. Walking and cycling on Commercial Street is neither safe nor enjoyable.

I understand the concerns that have been raised by Friends of Pioneer Cemetery - indeed, I have been a volunteer myself, cleaning up the grounds with the Friends. I care deeply for the preservation of this historic gem and I would

never push for anything that would cause its demise. I strongly believe that allowing passage alongside the cemetery would not be a detriment, but rather would cultivate appreciation for the Pioneer Cemetery even more, made possible by the fact that many more people would be able to see it, learn about it, and enjoy its beauty and history. Certainly careful planning would need to be done to ensure the safety of some of the gravestones, but I believe that there are many possible creative solutions that exist and that we can trust our City and neighbors to establish and maintain appropriate preservation measures.

Please consider my strong support for creating this connection between these two vibrant neighborhoods that would benefit families, friends, and businesses--basically everyone and everything in this whole area, including the Pioneer Cemetery.

Thank you!

Karen McFarlane Holman
2580 Alvarado Terrace South
Salem, OR 97302

Amy Johnson

From: Vanessa Nordyke
Sent: Sunday, March 22, 2020 2:43 PM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: Fwd: Cemetery Path

Vanessa Nordyke
Salem City Council, Ward 7
City phone: (971) 707-3732

From: Kirk Matthews <kirk.s.matthews@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, March 22, 2020 2:24:19 PM
To: Vanessa Nordyke <VNordyke@cityofsalem.net>
Subject: Cemetery Path

Hi Ms Nordye,

I wanted to email to show my support for a cemetery path between Hoyt and Rural --- seems like a great way to connect our neighborhoods, and keep our kids off Commercial! Thanks,

Kirk S Matthews
503-806-1376
2755 Commercial St S #101-154 Salem, OR 97302
(Mailing address)

This communication (including attachments), is confidential, and may contain privileged information. If you are not the intended recipient, or believe you have received this communication in error, please do not print, copy, retransmit, disseminate, or otherwise use this communication or any of the information contained herein. Also please notify sender that you have received this e-mail in error, and delete the copy you received.

"We are not licensed attorneys and we are not licensed to provide our customers with legal advice. If you believe you need legal advice, you should speak with an attorney who has been retained to represent your company."

Amy Johnson

From: laurenhoyez@gmail.com
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2020 1:01 PM
To: citycouncil
Cc: salemrecorder@cityofsalem.net
Subject: Pioneer Cemetery Pathway

Dear Mayor Bennett and Members of the Salem City Council,

I am a 3rd (or maybe 4th) generation Oregonian, born and raised in Salem, as were both of my parents. I am also a grateful supporter of “Friends of Pioneer Cemetery” since I have multiple family members at rest there including my grandparents William and Emma Butte and Guy and Hazel Causey.

I agree with the position of the Friends of Pioneer Cemetery, that a pathway should not be opened up through the Cemetery. I believe the risks for vandalism, plus potential liability issues related to aging headstones is reason enough to say no. If the council, however, believes the benefits outweigh the risks, then fencing of the pathway should be required.

Respectfully,

Lauren Butte Hoyez
61303 Gorge View Street
Bend, Oregon 97702

Ruth Stellmacher

From: laurenhoyez@gmail.com
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2020 1:01 PM
To: citycouncil
Cc: salemrecorder@cityofsalem.net
Subject: Pioneer Cemetery Pathway

Categories: Council Dox

Dear Mayor Bennett and Members of the Salem City Council,

I am a 3rd (or maybe 4th) generation Oregonian, born and raised in Salem, as were both of my parents. I am also a grateful supporter of "Friends of Pioneer Cemetery" since I have multiple family members at rest there including my grandparents William and Emma Butte and Guy and Hazel Causey.

I agree with the position of the Friends of Pioneer Cemetery, that a pathway should not be opened up through the Cemetery. I believe the risks for vandalism, plus potential liability issues related to aging headstones is reason enough to say no. If the council, however, believes the benefits outweigh the risks, then fencing of the pathway should be required.

Respectfully,

Lauren Butte Hoyez
61303 Gorge View Street
Bend, Oregon 97702

Amy Johnson

From: Vanessa Nordyke
Sent: Wednesday, April 22, 2020 9:28 AM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: Fwd: Support for Pioneer Cemetery gated pedestrian connection

Vanessa Nordyke
Salem City Council, Ward 7
City phone: (971) 707-3732

From: Maureen McGee <mmcgee13@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 22, 2020 8:09 AM
To: Vanessa Nordyke
Subject: Support for Pioneer Cemetery gated pedestrian connection

Dear Counselor Nordyke,

I am writing in support of a proposal to study installation a pedestrian path in the vicinity of Pioneer Cemetery. I have been a resident of the south central neighborhood for five years. I take regular long neighborhood walks for exercise and am very supportive of efforts to allow residents to more easily spend time outside and connect with our neighbors while reducing vehicle use. I live south of Pioneer Cemetery, and pick up a weekly Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) distribution from a home north of the Cemetery. I am therefore well-aware that the lack of a connection through the cemetery creates a significant barrier for walkers traveling between the north and south portions of the neighborhood.

A pedestrian connection near the cemetery would be a valuable asset to the community. By providing increased foot passage that avoids the busy traffic on Commercial Street, the path will support the goals of building more connected and livable communities while supporting the safe use of alternative transportation. If this connection were installed, I would use it regularly to visit friends, pick up my vegetables, and exercise. For residents north of the cemetery, the connection would provide safe and enjoyable pedestrian access to businesses, including restaurants and grocery stores, located south of the cemetery.

Finally, I understand that the city counsel has many very important priorities before it that will, and should, take precedent over this small proposal. Even in times of great need, however, it is also important to also take those simple, low cost measures that can provide significant quality of life benefits to residents. I believe that this is such a proposal and therefore strongly support further exploring a pedestrian connection near the cemetery.

Thank you,

Maureen McGee

Amy Johnson

From: Julie Warncke
Sent: Wednesday, March 18, 2020 10:48 AM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: FW: Pioneer cemetery connector

- [Julie | 503-588-6211 ext.7338](#)
-

From: Vanessa Nordyke <VNordyke@cityofsalem.net>
Sent: Sunday, March 15, 2020 6:45 PM
To: Julie Warncke <JWarncke@cityofsalem.net>
Subject: Fwd: Pioneer cemetery connector

Vanessa Nordyke
Salem City Councilor, Ward 7

Begin forwarded message:

From: Robyn Clipfell <clipfell@gmail.com>
Date: March 15, 2020 at 12:56:23 PM PDT
To: Vanessa Nordyke <VNordyke@cityofsalem.net>
Subject: Pioneer cemetery connector

I support this connector trail.

Amy Johnson

From: Julie Warncke
Sent: Wednesday, March 18, 2020 10:48 AM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: FW: Pioneer Cemetery Connector

- [Julie | 503-588-6211 ext.7338](#)
-

From: Vanessa Nordyke <VNordyke@cityofsalem.net>
Sent: Sunday, March 15, 2020 6:46 PM
To: Julie Warncke <JWarncke@cityofsalem.net>
Subject: Fwd: Pioneer Cemetery Connector

Vanessa Nordyke
Salem City Councilor, Ward 7

Begin forwarded message:

From: Tony Vassallo <tonyv34@gmail.com>
Date: March 15, 2020 at 12:50:32 PM PDT
To: Vanessa Nordyke <VNordyke@cityofsalem.net>
Subject: Pioneer Cemetery Connector

A couple months ago, I had a good look at what would be involved in opening a connector trail through the north fence of the Pioneer Cemetery.

I've had a formal class on trail-building, and have worked to build trails in Oregon and Arizona, including the Croisan Scenic Trail and the Sprague-Skyline Park trails.

The Pioneer Cemetery connector will not be as simple as installing a gate in the fence, because of the proximity of graves on one side and a 2-foot retaining wall on the other side, so it will take some effort, but as an engineer it could be done, in my opinion.

Having ridden my bike from my home in South Salem to downtown, I know this route would make that trip much easier and especially safer.

Tony Vassallo
former Land Use Chair, Sunnyslope Neighborhood Association
1533 Jordan Dr S

Salem, OR 97302

503-371-4203

Amy Johnson

From: EVAN WHITE <epwhitehouse@comcast.net>
Sent: Friday, April 24, 2020 12:47 PM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: Rural-Hoyt Trail Connection, Additional Comments
Attachments: Pioneer.docx

I do not want to burden the record, but after reading public comments, I think it might be helpful to re-enter the comments that I made nearly eight years ago (received by the City Recorder on July 13, 2012), representing the unanimous views of the Sunnyslope Neighborhood Association.

Several persons mentioned public safety. Paragraphs #2 and 3 of my 2012 comments discuss this issue and give the names of three people I know who were injured while riding bikes on Commercial. It hasn't gotten any safer.

One commentator presented voluminous real estate statistics, as if they tell some story. The story that you should be hearing is that walkability enhances real real estate values, as I mention in paragraph #4. The website www.walkscore.com -- still exists, and is proof that people pay more for property when they are able to walk to work, shopping, or recreation.

I have in my files a letter to the Planning Commision, from Friends of Pioneer Cemetery, dated December 7, 2004, stating that " *We welcome responsible and appropriate recreational use of the cemetery.*"

Finally, when I lived on Fairmount Hill, I regularly walked to work and took the bus home. That would be much more unsafe and unpleasant for those who live on the south side of Pioneer Cemetery.

Thank you for your service to our City.

**Comments of Sunnyslope Neighborhood Association
On LUBA Remand of City Initiated Vacation of Public Right-Of-Way at Pioneer Cemetery**

My name is Evan White, and I live at 4553 Brock Loop S., just north of Sprague High School. I am Land Use Chair of the Sunnyslope Neighborhood Association. At its regularly scheduled meeting on May 17, 2012, our board voted to oppose any further City efforts to vacate this public right of way, at least until such time as the City has completed its transportation planning and developed both a plan and funding for a pedestrian and bike path connecting Hoyt Street and Rural Street. Nine board members were present and the vote was unanimous.

A bike/pedestrian path through Pioneer Cemetery will help Council achieve one of its most important goals. It will also reduce accidents, discourage potentially lethal bike travel, enhance property values, and improve the physical and financial health of city residents.

1) Help achieve better connectivity, one of Council's most important goals. Council has clearly stated that it seeks better bike and pedestrian connectivity.¹ Pioneer and Mt. Crest cemeteries share a fence that is 3,000 foot long, severing bike or pedestrian connectivity between the Candalaria and Fairmount neighborhoods, or between the Sunnyslope neighborhood and downtown. This tall barbed-wire tipped fence is the only significant barrier to north-south connectivity for Sunnyslope neighbors who want to bike or walk to or from downtown.

2) Reduce accidents. Lack of a path through Pioneer Cemetery forces cyclists (and pedestrians) to divert to Commercial Street. As noted in the decision of the Oregon Land Use Board of Appeals (LUBA), "*Commercial Avenue is a busy north-south arterial street that is auto oriented and not particularly pedestrian or bicycle friendly.*"² Two of my former co-workers have had bicycle accidents on Commercial Street. Dave Astle was able to transport himself to the Emergency Room, thankful that he was not run over by a car. Tom Riordan had his arm broken.³ And my former wife, Kaaren Hawkes, had her collar bone broken. All three feel fortunate to be alive and still living in Salem.

3) Liberty is lethal. Lack of a pathway through Pioneer Cemetery encourages my neighbors to use Liberty Street when bicycling to and from downtown. But there are no bike lanes along Liberty between Hansen and Browning. Riding on sidewalks is both prohibited and unsafe because mailboxes are set into the sidewalks on both sides of the street. The posted speed limit is 35 mph, but traffic generally moves at about 40 mph. A slight "hump" at one road section creates a risk that an automobile might quickly be "on top of" a bicyclist, especially at night.

4) Improve property values. "*Walkable neighborhoods have become hot commodities across the country. According to a 2011 survey conducted by the National Association of Realtors, nearly 80 percent of respondents look for homes in pedestrian-friendly areas.. At least two large*

¹ Council Goals, July 11, 2011; "Vision 2020 Principles," Council Agenda item 4.2C, January 9, 2012.

² Oregon Land Use Board of Appeals, LUBA No. 2011-2012, page2, emphasis added.

³ Portland is generally considered more bicycle friendly than Salem. However, it was in Portland that the daughter of another former co-worker, a recent graduate of West Salem High School, was killed while riding her bicycle.

brokerages with offices in the Portland area – Windermere and John L. Scott – are routinely using Walk Score [www.walkscore.com] as a marketing tool on their listings.”⁴ Salem depends on property tax revenue for its fiscal health. Mayor Anna Peterson and other community leaders are concerned that only 66 percent of the Salem workforce choose to live here.⁵

5) Improve resident financial and physical health. The benefits of physical exercise need no explanation, but there is a synergy with the Salem-Keizer Transit District. Some residents may want to walk one way, and take the bus home or vice versa. Improved connectivity would help families who struggle with higher gasoline costs, or who are stranded because (unlike Portland, Corvallis and Eugene) Salem lacks weekend bus service. Gasoline prices tripled from 1970 (36 cents per gallon) to 1990 (\$1.16 per gallon) and tripled again by 2010 (\$3.05 per gallon).⁶ Currently, the price of gas at the South Salem Shell Station is \$4.06.

Sunnyslope Shows The Way

The Sunnyslope Neighborhood has bike/pedestrian paths which link streets and provide a safe and pleasant way to walk or bike. (See attached photos) These paths can be compared to a potential path through the Pioneer Cemetery, which I’ve measured to be approximately 448 feet. I will discuss five of these paths.

Two paths let me walk to Roths or to a location from which I could catch the bus. From Sunnyslope Park I can use a path between two houses that is approximately 161 feet long and connects to Kurth. After a short walk, I can then enter another path, 197 feet long, that goes between four houses and connects Boston Court S. to Redinger Ct. These paths let me (and school children) avoid a section of Cunningham that does not have sidewalks.

Another path, approximately 367 feet long, connects 12th Place S. to Skyline Boulevard, and helps neighbors and school children avoid walking along Skyline, which has no sidewalks.

Two paths with a combined distance of about 416 feet connect Rock Creek to Maplewood. The first section goes from Rock Creek to Red Leaf (214 feet), then, crossing Red Leaf (30 feet), a second path connects to Maplewood (172 feet). These paths help children walk safely to Secor Park and Crossler Middle School.

Conclusion

It is unclear why the city would initiate a proceeding to give away a valuable public right of way that is needed for an important bicycle or pedestrian connection between the Sunnyslope, Candalaria and Fairmount neighborhoods.

Attachment: Photo of Cemetery & photos of bike/foot paths in Sunnyslope Neighborhood

⁴ “Walkability ranks high among buyer desires,” Oregonian, April 2, 2012.

⁵ “Which way are commuters headed?” Statesman Journal, April 10, 2012.

⁶ Statistical Abstract of the United States, 1977 and 2012.

Pioneer Cemetery Path – 448 feet

20th Pl. S. to Skyline – 367 feet

Maplewood to Red Leaf – 172 feet

Red Leaf to Rock Creek – 214 feet

Amy Johnson

From: Vanessa Nordyke
Sent: Saturday, April 25, 2020 7:21 AM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: Fwd: Proposed Pioneer Cemetery access

Vanessa Nordyke
Salem City Council, Ward 7
City phone: (971) 707-3732

From: james.douglas@yahoo.com <james.douglas@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, April 24, 2020 4:20 PM
To: Vanessa Nordyke
Subject: Proposed Pioneer Cemetery access

Hi Vanessa,

We are writing to express our desire for having an additional access through Pioneer Cemetery. We are both Salem natives and have lived in Salem much of our lives, and much of that has been in either the Fairmount or Candalaria neighborhoods.

We think it's a shame to not have an easy, direct, public way to travel by foot between these two great neighborhoods. The current accesses between the two neighborhoods are either 1) circuitous (the path west of City View Cemetery) or 2) next to Commercial St South, one of the busiest vehicular boulevards in the mid-valley.

We feel that having a pedestrian-friendly way to travel through Pioneer Cemetery would benefit our city, by encouraging more pedestrian travel and thus reducing travel by car, and also allowing both neighborhoods the easy and pleasant travel in both north and south directions. People in Candalaria could much more easily get to downtown locations and Fairmount residents could much more easily access businesses south of them.

We love Pioneer Cemetery, it is a true gem. And we love the work that The Friends of Pioneer Cemetery have done. But this gem is virtually unknown due to the fact that it is nearly inaccessible. The only current access is the small single entrance on Hoyt Street. We believe that having an opportunity for more people to access Pioneer Cemetery would actually help The Friends of Pioneer Cemetery's work and visibility.

In summary, we are for having an additional access to Pioneer Cemetery, an access that is controlled with the same hours of operation as the current access, which would allow the Fairmount and Candalaria neighborhoods to be easily connected by pedestrians.

We applaud your efforts to move this process forward.

Sincerely,

Jim Green

Kathy Lelack-Green
512 Rural Ave S
Salem, OR 97302

Amy Johnson

From: Jeff Schumacher <jeff.schumacher@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, April 24, 2020 11:49 AM
To: CityRecorder
Cc: Vanessa Nordyke; Tom Andersen
Subject: April 27 City Council meeting - potential Rural-Hoyt Trail Connection
Attachments: 2020.04.23 Comments for Council meeting on Apr 27, 2020 - trail between Rural & Hoyt.pdf

Hello,

Please see comments for an item on Monday's City Council agenda - the upcoming motion from Councilor Nordyke for a potential trail connection between Rural and Hoyt.

These comments include the "official" position of the South Central Association of Neighbors as well as more personal comments compiled from conversations with other neighbors that are not on the SCAN board.

Thank you,
Jeff Schumacher
SCAN chair, 2019-20

April 23, 2020

Jeff Schumacher
SCAN chair, 2019-20
1945 W Nob Hill St. SE
Salem, Oregon 97302

Re: Motion from Councilor Nordyke regarding a potential trail connection between Rural and Hoyt Avenues S in the vicinity of the Pioneer Cemetery.

The South Central Association of Neighbors supports a pedestrian connection between upper Rural and upper Hoyt. This connection is mentioned in the City's Transportation System Plan as needing further study to determine the final location and design - SCAN supports the City undertaking this further study now with the ultimate goal of connecting the Fairmount Hill neighbors with the Candalaria neighbors.

In my time on the SCAN board - about six years - the vast majority of our board members have supported the possible connection of Rural Avenue to Hoyt Street along the western border of Pioneer Cemetery. Most recently, SCAN passed a motion of support for this connection at our November 13, 2019 meeting. There were ten votes in favor and zero against this motion.

I've also been asked to convey the support of many individual Fairmount Hill neighbors. When this request was made we were anticipating an in-person hearing rather than a virtual meeting with no live testimony (and our goal was to avoid repetitive testimony). However, I will still briefly summarize some of the many points supporting this connection through City property that will benefit two neighborhoods.

Initially, it is worth noting that this issue has come up before. I haven't been around for the entire history but my sense is this issue has been resurrected because a connection between upper Rural and Hoyt has long-standing support from many neighbors and it is inherently a good idea.

We should have safe, convenient ways to move around our City without driving. This connection would allow parents in Candalaria to easily access Fairmount Hill Playground. It would allow Fairmont Hill neighbors easy access to the commercial corridor - from the FedEx Office store to Roth's Vista Market to Venti's and more. The connection may not make a

measurable difference in traffic counts along Commercial Street but it would have a measurable impact in quality of life for those neighbors in Candalaria and Fairmont Hill that would enjoy convenient walking access to a few of Salem's amenities.

Currently, if a neighbor travels between Fairmount Hill and Candalaria without a car there are no great options. Walking along Commercial Street is thoroughly unpleasant, and made extra unpleasant if you have kids. Being near fast moving cars - while on foot - is uncomfortable for many people, and the road noise makes conversations difficult or impossible. Another option, and one that has been cited by opponents of this connection at Pioneer Cemetery, is the Fairmount Park trail. This trail heads west from Fairmount City Park and drops down to Crestview (just above River Road). This trail is hardly a substitute for a connection at Pioneer Cemetery as it is neither a direct nor convenient connection between Fairmount Hill and the heart of the Candalaria neighborhood (to say nothing of connecting Fairmount to the Commercial corridor).

Regarding Pioneer Cemetery, I should point out that every person I spoke to who wants this connection along or through Pioneer Cemetery has a deep appreciation for the Cemetery. It is universally admired, and its preservation is incredibly important to these neighbors. However, preserving the Cemetery is not necessarily contrary to also wanting to improve the Cemetery. It is important for our neighborhoods to evolve - even historic neighborhoods. We shouldn't put old things in a time capsule, and we can preserve Pioneer Cemetery while still increasing access to it in a way that both benefits its adjacent neighbors and also adds awareness and vitality to the Cemetery and its important role in our City's history.

In regards to Pioneer Cemetery's historic status it is important to consider some context. First, it is surrounded by a chain link fence that was installed in the 1980s. As I understand it, this fence was installed as a reaction to some serious vandalism. Second, there is a road for cars into the Cemetery. In fact, the road does a loop through the Cemetery. Adding a connection for pedestrians - which would allow a north/south connection from Hoyt to Rural - may upset some people that value keeping Pioneer Cemetery exactly how it is but I would submit the Cemetery has always been subject to change. And allowing people to traverse it on foot strikes me as far more historically accurate than allowing cars or installing chain link fences.

Finally, I think it is important to acknowledge that some of the risks mentioned by those opposed to this connection have cited do exist. There are risks to headstones toppling over, there are risks to encroachment onto grave sites, there are risks of vandalism. All of these risks currently exist, and if pedestrians are allowed to cross into Pioneer Cemetery at that northwest corner it is possible that those risks would be increased. But those risks are also being managed - there is no reason to think we cannot continue to effectively control and mitigate those risks.

And there is a chance that increased access to Pioneer Cemetery would actually decrease the risks; more people using a gate through the Cemetery could mean more people would help keep inappropriate behaviors at bay. And just as importantly, increased access could mean more people will learn about Pioneer Cemetery, its important place in our City's history, and the value to our community in preserving it.

The City staff should determine what options are available to make this connection a reality.

On behalf of SCAN and neighbors in support of this connection, thank you for your consideration.



Jeff Schumacher
SCAN chair, 2019-20

Amy Johnson

From: Gina Johnnie <gina@shermlaw.com>
Sent: Sunday, April 26, 2020 1:55 PM
To: CityRecorder
Cc: Elisabeth Potter
Subject: Pioneer Cemetery

My name is Gina Anne Johnnie and I am a resident of the Fairmount neighborhood. I am also a decedent of a family buried in the Pioneer Cemetery. In addition to distant relatives (including Salem's first dentist), my grandmother, Pauline L. McMahon, is buried in the Pioneer Cemetery. The Pioneer Cemetery means a great deal to my family, as it does to all families with relatives buried there. I understand that people with no relatives buried in the Pioneer Cemetery will not have the same emotional response to using it like a park, that my family does. With that said, I would hope that they would consider the need for historic preservation and would be willing to show respect for the families who have people buried in the Pioneer Cemetery. Irreparable damage has been done to my families' plot – two headstones are missing and others are broken – as well as other parts of the Cemetery.

While I understand the desire to have neighborhood access from one neighborhood to another neighborhood, I strongly disagree with any attempt to use the Pioneer Cemetery for that access. Until it was donated to the City of Salem, the Pioneer Cemetery was owned and managed by a service type organization. When the Cemetery fell into disrepair, the service organization asked the City to take possession, with the understanding that the City would protect it. The Pioneer Cemetery houses so much of this City's history that preservation and protection should be a priority. The Cemetery was not been well cared for until the Friends of Pioneer Cemetery became its guardian angel. The Pioneer Cemetery is not a public park and it is not property that the City of Salem purchased. It has seen its share of damage, including during a time recently when the "public" sought to use it as an unauthorized off lease dog park and did not pick up dog poop. Now dogs are not welcome. We already know that people do not respect the Cemetery and are happy to use it like a park. In fact, when talking with us publicly, Vanessa Nordyke called it a public park before correcting herself. Putting a path through the Pioneer Cemetery will invite more damage, not less – the solutions proposed by Ms. Nordyke are not feasible. If the City is not interested in protecting a historical treasure, then find a non-profit that will ensure that it is protected and preserved.

If the City seeks connectivity, then it should improve the current connection between the two neighborhoods and not seek a new connection. Others will know much more about this issue than me, but my understanding is that because the Pioneer Cemetery is on the National Historic Register, studies are required to make any change. Additionally, because there may be unmarked burials in the location where it looks like a path is proposed, other studies would also be required. As far as I am aware, none of that has been considered or been done. With other more important issues, like homelessness, why would the City use resources on this issue? And if it did seek to use resources, why not use them to improve the current path between neighborhoods?

Regardless of those issues, I would hope that the City would decide to protect the Pioneer Cemetery.

Gina Anne Johnnie



Sherman Sherman
Johnnie & Hoyt, LLP

SHERMAN SHERMAN JOHNNIE & HOYT, LLP - Attorneys at Law | www.shermlaw.com

Ph. 503-364-2281 | Fax 503-370-4308 | 693 Chemeketa St. NE Salem, OR 97301

Connect with me on LinkedIn: <http://www.linkedin.com/in/ginajohnnie>

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IMPORTANT NOTICE: The lawyers and staff of Sherman Sherman Johnnie & Hoyt LLP are committed to both continuing to service your legal needs and supporting local efforts to slow the spread of covid-19. We are honoring the Governor's order to implement remote work to the fullest extent possible. We remain available to you by phone, video conference or email. As circumstances continue to evolve we will keep you informed of the best manner to reach us. Thank you for your support and cooperation as we meet your needs and help protect the health of our community.

April 27, 2020

To: City Recorder

City of Salem, Oregon

RE: Trail through Pioneer Cemetery

For: Mayor and City Councilors

From: Pat Norman

Enclosed: Letter and Petition - 4 pages

cc

April 26, 2020

Re: Trail through Pioneer Cemetery

Mr. Mayor and City Councilors:

I see why some people are asking for the convenience of passing through Pioneer Cemetery to get to the other side. I am asking you, please, to look inside Pioneer rather than just to the other side. Pioneer Cemetery is an outdoor history museum, full of people whom all have stories. The cemetery's website contains much information about those (8000 +) buried on the grounds. Olive Stanton was the first woman to graduate from Willamette Law School, and was a Suffragette who helped gain the vote for women in Oregon. Hiram "Hi" Gorman was born into slavery, and freed by President Lincoln's emancipation proclamation.

My position is the city should look outside Pioneer for the trail. There are concerns that Commercial is dangerous. Since there are crowds of South Salem High Schoolers who regularly travel from the school to Rural and Hoyt then south to the food vendors, I suggest safety measures be established for the students and general public along Commercial. There also may be need for upgrades of the Fairmount Trail, which runs from the park to lower Crestview, parallel to River Road. The other issue is Candalaria's lack of parks. In speaking with Eunice Kim, Salem Vision, there has been discussion of pocket parks – on lots rather than acreage. Candalaria needs a pocket park.

For transparency's sake, I am involved with other agencies that intersect with Pioneer: board member with Salem Parks Foundation; and a founding member of Just Walk Salem Keizer (JWSK). JWSK has hosted many walks and events in Pioneer Cemetery, which is open to the public. In this letter, I am speaking on my own behalf and in reference to my work at Pioneer Cemetery.

I am a member of Friends of Pioneer Cemetery (FOPC) and have been working the grounds for over 9 years. I moved into the neighborhood about 1988 and live within 2 blocks of Pioneer. The fence saved the cemetery from vandalism when installed in 1986, and continues to protect it. Even the one entrance and exit is protective as it is very public at Hoyt and Skopil, rather than a gate on the north side that is out of sight from Hoyt. The grounds were very open to people when I first arrived in the neighborhood. It eventually evolved into a "leash required" area and is now "no dogs allowed" (Over 3 years now) because of that percentage of irresponsible dog owners. I was not in agreement with the "no dogs" designation at the time, but have come to appreciate it since the grounds are much cleaner and without the damage resulting from loose dogs. Unfortunately, places such as Pioneer Cemetery need protection from that low percentage of people who don't care or are determined to do damage to properties. I am a full time walker and fair weather bicyclist and love trails. But I cannot support a trail in Pioneer Cemetery, a fragile place where we do ongoing repair and restoration of aging headstones and monuments. FOPC also prunes the roses (there are many heritage roses), removes invasive plant species, trims bushes and trees, picks up debris, removes moss from cement and headstones/monuments, and cleans headstones with water, soft brushes and wood. When we have new volunteers, we warn them of the safety hazards: the property is uneven and the ground squirrels (invasive) dig holes and make tunnels, causing stones to lean and sometimes fall, so take care in moving throughout the property; there are headstones not securely attached to their base so could fall if leaned on; and watch for the periodic poison oak.

Pioneer Cemetery is designated Historic by the City of Salem and is on the National Register of Historic Places. There is also a Salem historic archaeological site on the grounds, established approximately 3 years ago. If the motion to have city staff study trail options in Pioneer is pursued, eventually, the Historic Landmarks Commission will make the final decision. Since Pioneer is designated a Goal 5 Resource, as an historic site, an extensive study would need to be obtained, which includes economic, social, environmental, and energy analysis.

There are a number of people who have talked about the inconvenience of walking from Fairmount to Commercial to get to Life Source and other shopping. Sure, a path/trail would be convenient. But do we want to put our historic outdoor museum at risk by adding traffic when there are options outside the cemetery? I encourage a visit to Pioneer if you have not done so. I would be happy to walk with you to assist with your experience in this significant and special area.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Pat Norman



Candalaria Resident

normanboo@comcast.net

Attached is a petition I started just before the "stay home" restrictions. There are others interested in signing when we get to safer circumstances. One of those is a veteran who was planning on making comments at City Council, first on February 24 and then again on March 23, and both meetings were postponed. He has been unavailable this week. I BELIEVE IT IS IMPORTANT FOR THE COUNCIL TO HEAR A VETERAN'S CONCERNS. There are nearly 300 veterans buried in Pioneer Cemetery, several having served in the War of 1812 and many more from the Civil War.

Petition to protect Salem's Pioneer Cemetery, Salem Oregon

Petition summary and background	Pioneer Cemetery is on the National Register of Historic Places and has an archaeological site on the grounds. Adding a gate and/or trail to the grounds will put it at risk for damage and misuse.
Action petitioned for	Do not add a gate and/or path/trail to Salem's Pioneer Cemetery

Printed Name	Signature	Address	Comment	Date
Sue Apodaca	Sue Apodaca	2855 Fillmore Ave NW 97304		3/7
DALE PALMQVIST	Dale P. A.	1612 Summick NW 97304		
Harold Otto	Harold Otto	9093 Fir 17 & 11 Dr. S.E		3/7
Ken Albis	Ken Albis	4480 Silverton Rd NE 97305		3/7
Pat Norman	Pat Norman	2495 McVee Drs 97302	PRESERVE & PROTECT CEMETERY	3/7
Zach Norman	Zach Norman	3245 Bonham St. 97302		3/7
FRED KLAZT	Fred Klaatz	810 Vista Ave. SE 97302		3/9
Claudine Shaw	Claudine Shaw	3040 Lucks Ct NE Salem 97301		3/10
Judy Norman	Judy Norman	4253 Heavens Way So		3/10
Dixie Hall	Dixie Hall	4293 Heavens Way So	Preserve!	3/10
Richard Hiltz	Richard Hiltz	380 Hoyt St. 97301		3/11
James R.	James R.	350 Hoyt St		3/11

RECEIVED

APR 27 2020

04/24/2020

CITY OF SALEM
MAYOR'S OFFICE

Mayor (Chuck) Bonet, Salem City Recorder & City Council;

Re: Monday, Apr. 27, city council meeting
and Salem City Pioneer Cemetery Trail

I am opposed to a "cut-thru" trail
along the west fence line of the cemetery.

In this last year I have witnessed
a man and son playing catch with a ball
in the cemetery, (they could have easily
tripped over a stone), and young teen boys
climbing a tree. (How much more would
things like these happen with an open
trail through the cemetery?)

If there is a trail through the cemetery
there will be some children and bicyclists
unattended, due to some parents on the
telephone and not paying attention. Children
love to run through the plots and play
hide-and-seek behind stones, etc. Some
of the people truly care and respect
cemeteries. They could drive and/or
walk around - park on Hoyt street
and enter through that entrance.

Does the city have enough funds to
keep up the repairs of the damage incurred
by the few that are disrespectful of Salem
and Oregon history held here?

04/24/2020

Please do not allow a walking path
along the west side of the Cemetery.

Respectfully,

Claudine Shaw

Volunteer, Pioneer Cemetery

Claudine Shaw

P O Box 3263, Salem 97302

3040 Larkins Ct NE, Salem 97301

Amy Johnson

From: Dixie Hall <dixchall@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, April 27, 2020 11:14 AM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: Pioneer cemetery...trail?

I have thought hard about this issue of putting a trail through the cemetery. It is a sanctuary of peace, hallowed ground and a significant piece of Salem history. I do respect that other people want to enjoy this treasure as well and anyone who wants to has access but I think we have to examine purpose. It is Not a park or playground or recreation spot. A lot of work has gone into repairs and restoration of this cemetery who would be the Guardians? With guardians? With the cemetery have a gate be secured in the evenings would the cemetery have a gate and be secured in the evenings? At this juncture I oppose the trail.

Dixie Hall
4293 Heavens Way S
Salem. 97302
Sent from my iPhone

Amy Johnson

From: Judith Norman <judy.l.norman@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 27, 2020 10:52 AM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: Pioneer Cemetery

I am writing to ask that NO TRAIL be constructed through the historic Pioneer Cemetery. This cemetery is among the most significant and meaningful parts of the history of Salem and a reflection of the courage and accomplishments of pioneers throughout our country!! PLEASE keep it preserved with respect and care AND quiet.

Sincerely, Dr. Judith Norman

4293 Heavens Way So.
Salem, OR 97302

Sent from my iPhone

Amy Johnson

From: Seth Nickerson <nicseth@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 27, 2020 11:27 AM
To: CityRecorder
Cc: Vanessa Nordyke
Subject: Statement in Support of Path through Pioneer Cemetery

We are writing in support of Councilor Nordyke's motion to study a potential path through Pioneer Cemetery. As residents of South Central Salem, one thing we love about our community is its beautiful, walkable neighborhoods. The proposed path would improve walkability by allowing pedestrians to travel between the Fairmount and Candalaria neighborhoods while avoiding the traffic, and accompanying noise and air pollution, of Commercial Street. We would wholeheartedly welcome this improvement.

We realize that this seems like a small matter when viewed in light of the ongoing pandemic. However, walking has been a source of comfort in these trying and uncertain times, and an important way to maintain our physical and mental health. We are certain that any efforts to make South Central Salem more pedestrian friendly would benefit residents for years to come.

We urge the Council to pass this motion and, eventually, approve the path through Pioneer Cemetery.

Thank you for your consideration.

Seth and Hannah Nickerson

FROM: SWAN Board
SENT: April 27, 2020
TO: Mayor Bennett and City Council

RE: Motion to study potential trail connection between Rural and Hoyt Avenues S in the vicinity of the Pioneer Cemetery.

The SWAN board is supportive of a study on connectivity between Rural and Hoyt but would ask that such a study not take place until the SWAN neighborhood association has had the opportunity to hold a meeting on this issue as it concerns the proposed site of Pioneer Cemetery which lies within its boundaries. Additionally, SWAN leadership was not included in the initial outreach efforts by city staff to properly publicize the stakeholder meetings with city staff on this issue. Our meeting in April was to provide this opportunity for SWAN neighbors to learn more about the cemetery from Elizabeth Potter, founder of Friends of Pioneer Cemetery, and to have further discussion on what the association feels should be considered as parameters in the proposed study. Unfortunately we had to cancel the meeting as the school where we meet was closed due to the virus.

We feel it is critical that our members be allowed the opportunity to voice their thoughts or concerns as many are highly invested in preserving, protecting and maintaining the Pioneer Cemetery historical site and may be able to offer more insight and alternatives which could prove beneficial prior to staff time being dedicated for this study.

In addition, when this study moves forward we want to ensure that it includes exploration and review of potential alternate pedestrian collector routes that do not go through the cemetery.

Thank you for your consideration.

Jeanine Stice
SWAN Board Chairman on behalf of SWAN board members