

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Yvonne Putze <yputze@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 10:50 AM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: Feedback regarding Pioneer Cemetery Trail

Please include with public testimony regarding proposed trail through Pioneer Cemetery.
Thank you!

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My appreciation for history caused me to become concerned upon hearing about considerations to put a walking/biking trail through Pioneer Cemetery. Since I love walking and history it might seem I would support the concept, but my work with managing a Salem historical estate has shown me that irreversible damage can happen when even the best intentions are in place.

I know Pioneer Cemetery has faced challenges in the past with damage from off leash dogs and thankfully that has been minimized and now it's facing another potential damage by becoming part of a trail.

Don't get me wrong we need to encourage fitness options in the city, but let's not do so by putting history in jeopardy. Paths beside or around would be ideal.

I understand research and a variety of scenarios are being explored, so I am trying to feel assured those who truly see the importance of preserving this delicate piece of Salem history will ensure it's preserved for the future.

I urge the City Council to be sure time is taken to make sure we do this right and can gain from the plan not be faced with regret and remorse.

Thank you for your service to Salem and careful consideration of all issues before you.

Sincerely,
Yvonne Putze