

Amy Johnson

From: Ali Butzner <ali.butzner@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, July 13, 2020 10:40 AM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: Proposal to rename Center Street

Hello,

I am writing in support of the proposal to rename Center Street and the Center Street bridge in honor of Martin Luther King Jr. Salem lacks serious representation of Civil Rights history, and this is one small, simple step towards improving our city.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Alexis Butzner

Amy Johnson

From: Addres Enderica <andresenderica@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, July 13, 2020 2:20 PM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: Support to re-name Center St.

Hello, I am writing this email in support of the idea of changing the name Center St. to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Respectfully,

Andres Enderica
andresenderica@gmail.com

Amy Johnson

From: Amy Farris <amyfarris1988@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, July 12, 2020 10:39 PM
To: CityRecorder

Hi! I'm in favor of renaming center street to something that shows how we've grown as a nation and better reflects how we want to look back on this time and the changes we made - thank you!

Amy Farris RNC-OB BSN
AmyFarris1988@Gmail.Com
503-931-5325

Amy Johnson

From: Andrea Heywood <a.hey.ban@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, July 12, 2020 2:51 PM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: Rename Center St

I am writing to express my support for the motion to rename Center St to MLK or any African American historic figure chosen by a group representing African Americans. Representation matters. Doing this is something everyone should support.

Thank you

Andrea Heywood
1632 Court St NE

Amy Johnson

From: Alyssa Thompson <alyssathompson.038@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, July 11, 2020 2:00 PM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: Testimony: Renaming Center to MLK St

Hello,

I am writing in response to Councilor Hoy's proposal to rename Center st. to Martin Luther King Jr. Street. While I, a supporter of Black Lives Matter, appreciate the acknowledgment of the strides he made for the civil rights movement, this is an empty and performative proposal. This does nothing to change the systematic racism of Salem, the wrongdoings of Salem's police department or our school boards. Before a mural or street name change, we need to fire Mike Johnson for 'playing favorites,' fire the officers who are obviously chummy with white supremacists, and remove our school board members who allow SROs in our schools, not to mention laugh at the use of blackface.

Thank you for your time

Alyssa Lemus-Thompson

Salem resident

Amy Johnson

From: noreply@cityofsalem.net on behalf of Andrew.manahan91@gmail.com
Sent: Sunday, July 12, 2020 2:01 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Contact the City of Salem
Attachments: ATT00001.bin

Your Name	Andrew Manahan
Your Email	Andrew.manahan91@gmail.com
Your Phone	9717775311
Street	1425 shady LN ne
City	Keizer
State	OR
Zip	97303
Message	Hello, I just wanted to reach out and let you know that I support the renaming of Center street to Martin Luther King Jr. Street. I think that while it is not the ultimate goal, the name change is meaningful to the Black Lives Matter movement in letting our communities know we value Black people. While there is much to be done, I believe this small change will help push us to do more and be better for everyone.

This email was generated by the dynamic web forms contact us form on 7/12/2020.

Amy Johnson

From: Aujalee Moore <aujaleefisher@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, July 12, 2020 7:48 PM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: Center St. Name Change

Hi there,

I am emailing to signify my support for renaming center street to MLK Jr Ave.

Thanks,

Aujalee Moore

Amy Johnson

From: averi root <averiroot@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, July 12, 2020 6:34 PM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: Support

Hello!

My name is Averi. I was born and raised in Salem, OR. I am writing this email to show my FULL SUPPORT of renaming center street, and ESPECIALLY for painting a mural in front of the capital. Many citizens of Oregon feel a STRONG disconnect from our communities and our police force. I would like to see this mural come to fruition as soon as possible to show up for all black lives in Oregon. This is an important message. Thank you. I hope this email finds you well, and I hope to see a new mural soon.

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Thanks.

Averi Root

Amy Johnson

From: Alicia Ruiz <aruiz25@my.chemeketa.edu>
Sent: Monday, July 13, 2020 9:50 AM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: city council public comment

As a Salem resident and a women of color. I fully support renaming Center Street after Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Amy Johnson

From: Ava Giuliana Gentilcore Ryan <gentilca@oregonstate.edu>
Sent: Saturday, July 11, 2020 10:40 AM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: Renaming Center St

Hi,

I own a home and live in Salem and wholeheartedly support the renaming of Center St to Martin Luther King Jr Ave. This is the least that the city can do to support the BLM movement and our Black residents and could be an easy first step for the city to show solidarity. That said, more concrete and impactful action should be taken in the future ie: defunding the police and providing more money for social services that promote community resilience.

Best,
Ava Ryan
Lee St, SE

Amy Johnson

From: Anna Sieber <annamsieber@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, July 13, 2020 2:06 PM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: In support of renaming Center St

Hi,

I reside in Ward 2 and I support the renaming of Center St after Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Thank you!

Anna

Amy Johnson

From: Amanda Warner <amanda.warner96@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, July 12, 2020 1:33 PM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: Center St Renaming

Hello,

I've heard that there is talks of changing the name of Center to pay homage to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

I'm emailing to voice my support of the name change.

Looking forward to driving on our newly renamed street and bridge should the motion pass :)

Thank you,
Amanda Warner

Amy Johnson

From: Autumn Knights <autumnfaith00@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, July 12, 2020 11:29 AM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: Please rename Center street to MLKJR

Hello!

My name is Autumn and I'm a resident of Salem. I'm emailing you to tell you that I'm in full support of renaming Center St to Martin Luther King Jr & I'm in full support of painting a 'Black Lives Matter' mural in front of the Capitol building. Thank you

Amy Johnson

From: Brynn Eiffler <brynn Eiffler@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, July 12, 2020 11:29 PM
To: CityRecorder; citycouncil; Chuck Bennett
Subject: Please re-name Center St. to MLK Blvd

Hello,

I am writing in support of changing Center St. to MLK Blvd. This is important for representation of our black community and our commitment to civil rights and racial equity. It would mean a lot to our community.

Best,

Brynn Eiffler

Amy Johnson

From: Beatrice Peaslee <beatrice.peaslee@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, July 13, 2020 11:37 AM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: Comments for Salem city council meeting 7/13/2020

Hello,

I'm a voter and resident of Salem writing to express my support of Councilor Chris Hoys' proposal to rename Center Street after Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. I believe that it's important for the capital city of Oregon, a state with a recent history (some would include the present day) of racism and white supremacy, to help set the tone for the rest of the state by representing and making visible Dr. King's ideals and goals.

I also express my support for the process of creating a police performance review process. I believe that recent actions by members of the SPD have shown that a regular performance review or audit performed by a third party is a valuable tool to ensure that all members of the community are being served and protected.

Thank you,
Beatrice Peaslee

Amy Johnson

From: Brooke Schelar <brooke.schelar@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, July 13, 2020 7:29 AM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: Renaming Center Street - Letter of support

I am writing to voice my support of renaming Center Street and the Center Street Bridge after Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Icons are important and representation is important, and we have very little in this city. By using a prominent street in a capital city, we can make a statement of visibility.

Previously "Asylum Avenue", Center Street has already been renamed to better reflect a modern society and it is time we do it again.

Thanks,
Brooke Schelar
Salem, Oregon

Amy Johnson

From: Caroline Brown <carolinejobrown@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, July 13, 2020 12:02 PM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: Agenda Items 5a and 6d

My name is Caroline Brown, I reside in Ward 1.

I support agenda item 5a for renaming Center St and Center St Bridge to honor Martin Luther King Jr, and feel it is important for Salem, meaning Peace, and being the Capital City to once and for all condemn racism and our racist past by making this move. Let us be an example.

Regarding agenda item 6d, I stand in FULL support of working towards defunding our salem PD and reinvesting in long term peace solutions. Contrary to remarks from City Councilors in previos meetings, I do not advocate for leaving a hole (no one does) and want to see funds reallocated into social services. Especially aiding the house less, those struggling with mental health, and funding at risk communities to provide their basic and essential needs. Salem needs to set an example and begin the long process of working towards a community accountability justice system and dismantling punitive justice, which does little to nothing to discourage crime.

Personally, the city council has been incredibly discouraging to those wanting to be involved in local change. I want each of you to seriously consider who you are representing in your positions the next time you tell us that we are misinformed, or we don't understand the bureaucratic process, or to use different words or tones. We are your constituents. We are generally working class. We really care about our city and the people who are under represented within it. Are you representing the white elite in salem? Are you representing the status quo? Or are you representing change and community. Think about what you're doing.

Amy Johnson

From: noreply@cityofsalem.net on behalf of circleofv@yahoo.com
Sent: Monday, July 13, 2020 11:06 AM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Contact the City of Salem
Attachments: ATT00001.bin

Your Name	Caleb Hood
Your Email	circleofv@yahoo.com
Street	3930 Jesslyn Ct SE
City	Salem
State	OR
Zip	97302
Message	Good morning, As a Salem Citizen and small business owner, I want to voice my support in renaming Center St after Dr Martin Luther King, Jr. It's not about tearing any monuments down, it's about lifting a black person's voice that has had positive impact on our society as Americans, Oregonians, Salemites, and humans. Additionally, I support the move towards SPD using body and dash cams. It improves citizens' and SPD's safety and accountability. Thank you for your consideration.

This email was generated by the dynamic web forms contact us form on 7/13/2020.

Amy Johnson

From: Cathy Howell <cathyhowell97301@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, July 11, 2020 8:53 PM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: Support for renaming Center Street

I am writing in support of Councilor Hoy's proposal to rename Center Street to Martin Luther King, Jr. street. The effort to have a street in every city named for this Civil Rights icon has been successful in renaming streets all across the south and in many other cities across the country. Salem should join and show solidarity with the NAACP and other groups who have worked on this for years.

--

Cathy A. Howell
315 Commercial St. SE, Apt. 538

Oregon
503-339-5779 - cell

Amy Johnson

From: Kopcho <Team.Kopcho@pm.me>
Sent: Monday, July 13, 2020 12:38 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: On the Renaming of Center Street

Dear Mayor Bennett and members of the City Council,

On the subject of the proposed street name change from Center to Martin Luther King Street, I feel compelled to underscore the significant issues with which this seemingly ordinary task seeks to address. Though I serve as a chairperson for the local NAACP, I write this on my own behalf, and not serving as a representative of that esteemed organization, or any other for which I serve.

This city we call home has seen centuries of trauma. In 1844, over 175 years ago and 10 years before this land was taken from the Kalapuya by the United States, the first Black exclusion law was enacted by the Provisional Government of Oregon with the aim to remove any Blacks already living in the state and prevent Black people from settling in the future. If a Black person broke this law, the consequence was 39 lashes, every six months, until they left. When the State Constitution was ratified 25 years later, these laws were enshrined within Section 35 of its most noble Bill of Rights:

No free negro or mulatto not residing in this state at the time of the adoption of this constitution, shall come, reside or be within this state or hold any real estate, or make any contracts, or maintain any suit therein; and the legislative assembly shall provide by penal laws for the removal by public officers of all such negroes and mulattoes, and for their effectual exclusion from the state, and for the punishment of persons who shall bring them into the state, or employ or harbor them.

Now, certainly I concede the honorable citizens of Oregon elected to remove this abhorrent language from the State Constitution in 2002 but must note that 29% of those who voted – 352,027 very fine people – voted to keep the language in the constitution.

Changing the name of a street is not like changing the language in the State Constitution. It is a seemingly innocuous endeavor. A relatively simple administrative action taken to honor its namesake. But this is a complicated time, in a city rich with complex trauma, and minority demographics that continue to be overlooked: it's not so simple.

Over the course of the last several months, the community has been ignored by the Salem-Keizer School Board (SKSB) after calls for resignation of two of its members. Specifically, Director Kylo who was deservedly admonished for unfathomably imbecilic decision to don a blackface mask and Chair Heyen, who media has shown links to a white supremacist organization. While, certainly I recognize SKSB is a different administrative body than the City Council, I also understand the population served by both entities is largely the same. As such, community members who continue to be feel ignored by both may grow to conflate the two. This conflation is reinforced when calls to this esteemed Council and the SKSB to remove funding and contract-vehicles for School Resource Officers (SROs), by communities of color lead to inaction.

By and large, the group advocating most vocally for the removal of those individuals, as well as removal funding and contract-vehicles for SROs has been Latinos Unidos Siempre. Salem has an estimated Latinx population of roughly 23% according to the U.S. Census Bureau. Salem-Keizer Schools have roughly a 41% Latinx student population while teachers are 88% white.

The city has a fundamental problem in recognizing, listening, and acting on the behalf of its minority demographic. I assure you that sentence was every bit upsetting for me to write as it was for you to read. Make no mistake, I believe it is every bit your intention to faithfully engender fairness and equal opportunity unto the city; however, the blight that permeates this region runs centuries deep and noble intent is fleeting, even over the course of a lifetime.

The death of George Floyd was a flashpoint amplified by the deaths of Breonna Taylor, whose killers are still free, Ahmaud Arbery, and so many more since. But the systemic nature of racism that plagues this city, and all others in this country will not be rooted out simply by changing names of streets, neighborhoods, schools, or parks.

However, that does not mean we should resign ourselves not to make these changes. If a community is unwilling to allow something so small as the renaming of a street, then how that speak of their willingness to address larger necessary changes?

No, I believe the name should be changed. Just as I believe Salem should, at the very least, likewise have a major thoroughfare named in honor of Cesar Chavez. Just as I believe the capital of a state founded as a white utopia should have parks, malls, or streets named in honor of Markus Lopeus, the first person of African-American descent known to arrive here in 1788.

Let's be honest: This is a cheap way to honor someone. It requires little more than a vote, an ordinance, and some street signs. It should not be done simply to placate a constituency with the hope it will be enough to avoid deeper racial problems. No. This must be the catalyst for continued and profound change. This goes beyond policing and schools to the heart of who we are and who are to become.

Should this proposal be nothing more than a calculated attempt to capitalize on the glory of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. then it should fail in Council for surely it will fail if we do not go beyond the initial act. Beyond this gesture we must go further to act on the necessary transformation required for healing and prosperity.

If I may paraphrase the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., whom we so boldly and often invoke: True compassion is more than offering a bandage for wound. It comes to see that a system which produces endless trauma needs restructuring.

I support changing the street name on two conditions: First that the name and title of the man be not stripped from his identity, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.; and second, that this noble Council commits to doing more than flinging a coin to its community.

Respectfully,

C. Kopcho

Sent with [ProtonMail](#) Secure Email.

Amy Johnson

From: Clifford Eiffler-Rodriguez <cpeiffler@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, July 13, 2020 9:59 AM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: In support of change

Hi. I wanted to record my support with Councilor Boy's proposal to rename Center Street after Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

As one of only fifty state capitols, the fact that we have no monuments to civil rights activists whose work of peace we all benefit from, highlights the immense work that needs to be done by the city leadership.

We need to begin to acknowledge our position in being a champion of peace. A champion of equity.

This is a small step but I believe it will begin the city on the right path towards a truly peaceable community.

Amy Johnson

From: Cayla Skillin-Brauchle <skillinb@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, July 12, 2020 9:25 PM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: Public Comment, City Council Meeting 7/13/20

Dear City Council,

I am writing to encourage you to be thorough in your audit of Salem's Police Department. The use of tear gas and aggression against protestors by the Salem PD, the apparent allegiances between Salem PD and white supremacist groups, and the routine harassment of BIPOC in Salem by SPD is unacceptable. After a stringent investigation, I trust that you will choose to defund the 10% of the Salem PD budget that you can. Furthermore, I expect you to take any and all actions to curtail violence and discrimination by the Salem PD.

Thank you,
Cayla Skillin-Brauchle

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Cayla Skillin-Brauchle

caylaskillin-brauchle.com

Studio Updates: [@caylaskillinbrauchle](https://twitter.com/caylaskillinbrauchle)

Amy Johnson

From: Cayla Skillin-Brauchle <skillinb@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, July 12, 2020 9:17 PM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: Public Comment, City Council Meeting 7/13/20

Dear City Council,

I am writing to support the change of Center Street to MLK Street. My sincere hope is that this will be the first of many actions to honor and include BIPOC in Salem's physical landscape and leadership. I will advocate and vote to move both of these things forward.

Respectfully submitted,
Cayla Skillin-Brauchle

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Cayla Skillin-Brauchle

caylaskillin-brauchle.com

Studio Updates: [@caylaskillinbrauchle](https://twitter.com/caylaskillinbrauchle)

Amy Johnson

From: DENISE HOLT <denise8383@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, July 12, 2020 11:54 PM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: "Needed Change"

Please strongly consider changing Center st to Martin Luther King Jr. We need to all come together and uplift our community. This is a great way to show our heart for equality. Please Salem, Oregon. Thank you,

Denise Holt
Sent from my iPhone

Amy Johnson

From: Erica Martin <erica.martin03@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, July 12, 2020 8:27 AM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: In support of MLK street

Greetings,

I'd like to make it known I am in support of Councilor Hoy's proposal to rename Center St (or any major street in Salem) after Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. I believe it to be an acknowledgement of an important African American figure in American history whose name and work should induce pride in us all. Furthermore, there exists an MLK street in 41 of our states and in most major cities—it is time to add Oregon's capitol to that list, thereby announcing our acknowledgment and support of Black American history and 2020's Black citizens.

Thank you,

Erica Martin
Salem resident of 16 years

--

Erica Martin

Amy Johnson

From: EVA & RAY PIGNOTTI <evaraylani@comcast.net>
Sent: Saturday, July 11, 2020 11:18 AM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: Center Street Name Change

I am writing in support of the motion by Chris Hoy to change Center Street to Martin Luther King Avenue. I work at the Community Action Agency on Center Street, and would be proud to work on MLK Avenue.

Eva Pignotti
5038812243

Amy Johnson

From: Greta Huskie <g.huskie@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, July 12, 2020 10:41 AM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: Proposed street name change and mural project

Good morning.

It has come to my attention that there has been a proposition to change the name of Center Street to Martin Luther King Jr street and to paint a Black Lives Matter mural in front of the Capitol building downtown. I understand the council will be discussing these projects at their meeting Monday night, and I wanted to take a moment to express my full support of both of these ideas.

As a homeowner who is working and raising a family in the city of Salem, it is incredibly important to me that our community is constantly striving to identify opportunities to increase socioeconomic equality for all residents. There is an incredible momentum for change rippling through our city, our state, and our country and Salem should take pride in rising to the standards and expectations our citizens are demanding.

Street names and murals are a visible way to show support for these cries for justice and equality, and that gesture would be appreciated and welcomed by myself, my family, and our greater community. Only let's not just stop with gestures. Let's continue working forward, and writing policy, and enforcing accountability that will ensure equality and justice are afforded to and protected for all our people.

Thank you for your consideration

-Greta Huskie

Amy Johnson

From: Julia Adelsheim <julia.adelsheim@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, July 13, 2020 11:21 AM
To: CityRecorder

Hello! I reside in Ward 7 and I SUPPORT the renaming of Center Street after Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Thank you.

-Julia Adelsheim

Amy Johnson

From: Jessica <apodaca.jessica@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, July 12, 2020 2:09 PM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: Testimony to rename Center St.

Hello, my name is Jessica Apodaca and I was born, raised and currently reside in Salem, Oregon.

I am emailing to express my support in Councilor Hoy's proposal to rename Center St. to Martin Luther King Jr. St.

Although it appears to be more of a performative gesture, I nonetheless will support it. What Salem desperately needs is real action taken to stop the systematic racism that I have witnessed my whole life growing up and living in this city.

If you would like to provide meaningful progress to the residents of this city you can start by holding the Salem PD and Salem Keizer school board accountable for their offensive and racist actions.

Also by supporting the removal of SRO's from our schools. The funds saved can be allocated elsewhere to support our students' best interest. Believe me, as a past SKPS student from K-12 and current SKSD employee for nearly 10 years. I can attest to the necessity of their removal.

Thank you for your time.

Jessica Apodaca
Salem Resident

Amy Johnson

From: Jordan Fugeman <jordan.fugeman@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, July 13, 2020 12:28 PM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: Rename Center St

Hello Councilors and Mayor,

I am writing to voice my strong support of the motion to rename Center St to honor Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. The State of Oregon has a rather shameful history when it comes to the treatment of Black, Indigenous, and People of Color and this effort is an important early step towards reckoning with that history. Please understand that policy changes are urgently needed as well—specifically, moving funding away from police forces and into community initiatives, removing S.R.O.s from our schools, requiring all police officers to use body cameras during all interactions with citizens, and having thorough third party reviews of Salem PD's actions—but symbols are also an important step. Please hear your constituents and vote in favor of renaming Center St. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Jordan Fugeman

Amy Johnson

From: jim jamieson <jjamieson61@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, July 12, 2020 10:58 AM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: Street name change

Hello.

My name is Jim Jamieson and I've been a Salem resident for over 14 years. I would like to speak in favor of changing the name of Center St. To Martin Luther King.

With Salem's racially biased history, this action has the potential for making a powerful statement to the entire community that our city intends to bring meaningful change.

Thank you for your time.

Jim Jamieson 845 Piedmont Ave NW Salem OR 97304

Amy Johnson

From: Jenifer Kelley <jenifer@codezombie.org>
Sent: Sunday, July 12, 2020 9:27 AM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: Renaming Center Street

To Salem council members,

I support renaming Center Street for Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Jenifer Kelley
5924 Ballymeade St. SE
Salem, OR. 97306

Amy Johnson

From: julisa Rodriguez <la_tejanita84@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, July 12, 2020 8:38 PM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: : Changing Center St

>
>
> Hello I am a Salem resident , born and raised . I am in support Councilor Hoy's proposal to change Center St to Martin Luther King Jr . As a teacher we teach about how cities have honored MLk Jr but sadly when my students have asked me , year after year if Salem has anything named after him , I have to tell them no. Please make this change .
>
> Thank you
> Julisa Rodriguez
>
>
>
> Sent from my iPhone

Amy Johnson

From: Shaundi <shaundiw@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, July 12, 2020 9:32 AM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: Please rename Center St to Dr Martin Luther Jr!



Jim Scheppke ► S

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Councilor Hoy's proposal to rename Center Street for Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. is on the Council agenda for next week. I'm sorry to report that of the 10 responses received thus far only one is in support. If you support the change, please submit testimony by July 20th.

I am a West Salem resident and whole-heartedly support this.

This is a good symbolic gesture to let them black community of Salem know that we love, appreciate, and support them.

Thank you!

Shaundi Woolley
West Salem Resident
Shaundiw@yahoo.com

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

Amy Johnson

From: Jim Scheppke <jscheppke@comcast.net>
Sent: Friday, July 10, 2020 8:54 PM
To: CityRecorder
Cc: citycouncil
Subject: Testimony for 7/13/20 Council Meeting on Item 5a

Dear Mayor and Council:

I want to commend Councilor Hoy for his excellent request to rename Center Street (formerly Asylum Street) in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

It is long overdue for the capital city of Oregon to honor one of the greatest leaders for civil rights in the history of our country in this way. Over 600 cities in the U.S. have already named streets for Dr. King in 40 states. I find it something of an embarrassment that we have not thought to do this until now.

Center Street is a good choice as it runs through most of Salem, and renaming the Center Street Bridge for Dr. King will add to the impact of this change. The Center Street Bridge is scheduled for a major improvement project (seismic upgrade and hopefully other improvements) beginning in 2025. Perhaps there will be an opportunity for public art to be incorporated in this project to honor Dr. King.

As we all know, Oregon has an unfortunate history of racism which has not been entirely erased. This renaming will be one more step in affirming our commitment to antiracism in Salem and in Oregon.

Sincerely,

Jim Scheppke
1840 E. Nob Hill SE, Salem
jscheppke@comcast.net
503-269-1559

Amy Johnson

From: Justin W <justin.wanner@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, July 13, 2020 11:39 AM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: Public Comment 7/13

My name is Justin Wanner and I am a Salem resident residing in Ward 1.

I would like to voice my support for agenda 5a, the proposition to rename Center Street after Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. It is important that we celebrate the people who sought justice for the Civil Rights movement and acknowledge what they have done for the Black Community. I find it especially important when accounting for Oregon's history of White Supremacy. It is important to show that we are willing to change for the better of our communities who have been muffled by white voices. I would also encourage more discussion on extending this idea. We see many cities uplifting Black, Indigenous, and People of Color's voices and experiences through art within the city. I think it would be a huge step for us to pursue that route as well. Be it murals, statues, more street signs of important figures within BIPOC communities. I would also encourage that these become a chance for those in the BIPOC communities to have the largest voice in the discussion of what they would like to see in this city. I believe that it would change the potential outlook of this becoming solely a preformative gesture that is only getting traction because of the climate. It would give the leaders and people who are Black, Indigenous, and People of Color voice in a community predominately white and there is a lot of power in that.

In regards to agenda 6d, I am curious about where the funds for the audit come from. I think it is important that this audit does not and will not be funded by anything other than the police department. Along with that, it is important to me that it is also done by an outside department to ensure there is no collusion occurring.

And on one final note, I would like to address the grievance I have with the conduct that occurred in the council meeting a few weeks back about the budget. While it may not have been done out of malice, the attitude of some of the council and the mayor was disrespectful to the community. The implication that we don't know how a city budget works, therefore we don't have a say about how to make it work disregarded the qualms we have with how much of our budget is going into policing our city especially when we see that money being used to gas and assault the people of the community. Of course we do not know the nitty-gritty of how to properly reallocate funds into other services, that is why we come to you. There were a lot of us concerned with the budget because that is our money and we want it going into services that will improve our community and we have seen that there is a big issue with how a police force that is over budgeted does not help out those in need. The comments about our ignorance about budgets only succeeds in silencing voices that do not have the luxury of time. Not every person can be fully educated on city budgets. That is what you are all for. We see and feel an issue and want to do something about it so we go to you with our issues. Do better in the future to create an environment that encourages more people to speak out. No one is saying that the job is easy. We are frustrated and want answers.
Sincerely, Justin Wanner

Amy Johnson

From: Kris Bifulco <kris.bifulco@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, July 13, 2020 9:07 AM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: support for street name change (agenda item 5a)

Dear City Council,

I am writing to voice strong support for renaming Center St (formerly Asylum St) in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. This is an important symbolic gesture to honor his legacy in the Civil Rights Movement and to show ongoing commitment to ensuring civil rights and liberties for all, and as the state's capital city, we should be setting the example for these commitments.

Oregon's explicitly racist history is still felt in many ways today. Though changing a street name may feel superfluous or even petty to some, we need to be doing everything we can to shape our future as an anti-racist community. All of these actions add up and build on each other. Please commit today to changing the street name.

Sincerely,
Kris Bifulco

Amy Johnson

From: noreply@cityofsalem.net on behalf of kaellenhessel@gmail.com
Sent: Monday, July 13, 2020 10:50 AM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: Submission
Attachments: ATT00001.bin

Your Name	Kaellen Hessel
Your Email	kaellenhessel@gmail.com
Your Phone	971-707-9513
Street	3717 Owyhee Ct SE #5
City	Salem
State	OR
Zip	97302
Message	<p>I entreat Salem's city councilors to vote in favor of Councilor Hoy's proposal to rename Center Street after Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Oregon was created to be a white utopia. The message from the very beginning was that people of color were not welcome in this state and this capital city. Immeasurable harm has been since. We need to acknowledge the harm Oregon and Salem have done to Indigenous people and people of color. Renaming Center Street will not rectify all of this, but it is a start. Renaming one of the most prominent streets in Oregon's capital will be a visible reminder that the people of today's Oregon, today's Salem, refuse to continue being the Oregon of the past, and are actively striving to be a welcoming and inclusive community for all. Thank you.</p>

This email was generated by the dynamic web forms contact us form on 7/13/2020.

Amy Johnson

From: Kevin Jacoby <kevinjjacoby@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, July 11, 2020 8:17 PM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: Support for changing Center St to MLK

My name is Kevin Jacoby and I live at 490 20th St NE, one block off Center St. I support the proposal to change the name of Center St. to MLK.

Sent from my iPhone

Amy Johnson

From: Katie Kantrowitz <kkantrow@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, July 13, 2020 1:11 PM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: Public Comment for City Council Meeting today, 7/13

Good afternoon,

My name is Katie Kantrowitz. I am a longtime Salem resident, and an educator. I am writing to express strong support in favor of the proposal to rename Center Street after Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. This move would constitute a huge step forward in the city's journey towards providing safety and security to all citizens - in both symbolic and tangible ways. Obviously, our city has had its own struggles amidst the backdrop of the nation-wide movement for racial justice, and renaming a prominent street after this American hero would be a symbolic gesture of good will and good faith, reassuring all citizens, but especially black citizens and other citizens of color, that they are welcome, secure, and supported here. However, the positive outcomes of this change would go far beyond the symbolic. We all know that the recent common argument AGAINST removal and renaming of public monuments and landmarks is that these things are historical and commemorative. It is true that these public markers are just that. It is up to us what history we wish to commemorate. Naming a street in this city after Dr. King makes a statement that says that this history is our history, a history to be commemorated, owned, and seen. It is visibility, it is representation, and it is education. Am I concerned that citizens of Salem do not know who Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr is? No, I am not. But I am concerned that we relegate him and what he stood for to the past. We are the capital city of the state of Oregon. It is here that our state's justice system has its base, here that our lawmakers convene, here that policy is made. Should it not also be here that we see and honor the legacy of the fight for racial and social justice? Perhaps, by doing so, we will be able to remind ourselves that Dr. King's "dream" has not yet been realized, and that the onus is on us, here, in the capital city, to work to rectify that.

Thank you,
-Katie Kantrowitz-

Amy Johnson

From: noreply@cityofsalem.net on behalf of Knguyen9098@gmail.com
Sent: Sunday, July 12, 2020 2:05 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Contact the City of Salem
Attachments: ATT00001.bin

Your Name	Kira Nguyen-Manahan
Your Email	Knguyen9098@gmail.com
Your Phone	5038100974
Street	1425 shady LN NE
City	Keizer
State	OR
Zip	97303
Message	Hello, I'm contacting you let you know that I support the renaming of Center street to Martin Luther King Jr. Street. I think that the name change is meaningful to the Black Lives Matter movement in letting our communities know we value Black people. While there is much to be done, I believe this small change will help push us to do more and be better for everyone. Please rename the street.

This email was generated by the dynamic web forms contact us form on 7/12/2020.

Amy Johnson

From: Kaileigh Westermann <kaileighwestermann@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, July 13, 2020 12:03 PM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: Public Comment - City Council Meeting June 13

Dear Councilors,

I am a resident of Salem living in Ward 2 and I would like to express my support for Councilor Hoy's proposal for renaming Center Street and the Center Street Bridge after Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

I would also like to encourage the Council to do more to support equality throughout our City. Simply renaming a street does little to change policy or promote any kind of action against racism. Salem is a small enough community that you have an incredible opportunity to set an example for how things should be done. Painting Black Lives Matters on our streets and renaming roads is not enough. We need leaders with the courage to stand up and promote anti-racisits policies that will undoubtedly produce and sustain equality among racial groups.

Sincerely,

Kaileigh Westermann-Lewis

Amy Johnson

From: Lori Murphy Cole <squirrel227@comcast.net>
Sent: Saturday, July 11, 2020 10:52 AM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: Center Street name change

I support changing the name of Center Street to MLK. Thank you.

Lori Cole
Salem, OR

Amy Johnson

From: Lillie Manvel <lilliemanvel@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, July 13, 2020 12:14 PM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: Re-naming of Center Street after MLK

Dear Mayor and City Council:

Renaming Center Street after Martin Luther King, Jr. is such a great idea! So many cities across the country have named major streets after MLK to honor his work to build a more equal nation - he improved the lives of every single person in the United States.

And what better way for Salem leadership to acknowledge his incredible contribution to our country and its commitment to equity and justice than to take the central street in our city, the symbolic heart of Salem, and name it after Dr. King.

The equality Dr. King spoke of lifted us all by making our country a better version of itself. This is the right time to honor his work and his memory.

Thank you Councillor Hoy for this proposal.

Sincerely,
Lillie Manvel

Salem, OR 97302
[she/her/hers](#)

Amy Johnson

From: Lisa Amaranthine <simplynocoincidences@yahoo.com>
Sent: Saturday, July 11, 2020 11:58 AM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: Renaming Center St to Dr Martin Luther King Jr

Dear City of Salem,

I'm writing to you to request that you please help bring awareness and inclusion to the City of Salem by renaming Center Street to Martin Luther King Jr St. I think it is imperative that we take action and physical steps for our city to reflect inclusion and Black power.

Respectfully

Lisa McFarland

Sent from my iPhone

Amy Johnson

From: Linus Tuttle <linus.c.tuttle@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, July 12, 2020 4:12 PM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: I support renaming Center St.

My name is Linus Tuttle, I'm a lifelong resident of Salem and current resident of zone 5.

I support renaming Center St. to Martin Luther King Jr. Drive.

I also support the painting of a street mural in front of the State Capitol on Court St. in support of the Black Lives Matter movement.

Any "funding issues" pertaining to these are likely invalid seeing as the overwhelming community support and volunteers would both crowd fund the financial cost and labor aspect of these changes.

You have no excuses. It's time for positive change.

-Linus Tuttle

Amy Johnson

From: Laura Vigeland <lvigelan@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, July 10, 2020 10:03 PM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: Public Comment on Councilor Hoy's Proposal

Dear Mayor and Council Members,

I am writing to support Councilor Hoy's proposal to rename Center Street in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. As the capitol of Oregon, Salem is long overdue for a street commemorating this important civil rights leader. Center St. is a major thoroughfare for Salem and so would be ideal for honoring him. Oregon has a long and terrible history of racism, and renaming this street for Dr. Martin Luther King is one step we can take to demonstrate our commitment to anti-racism and building a better Oregon for our Black community members.

Sincerely,
Laura Vigeland

Amy Johnson

From: Linnea O <linnosv@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, July 12, 2020 4:52 PM
To: Jackie Leung
Cc: CityRecorder; citycouncil; Chuck Bennett
Subject: Re: Public Comment

Dear Councilmember Leung,

I appreciate your efforts to be a better ally to the Black community in Salem. However, with all due respect, how is a street name change and a mural going to end systemic racism? How is that going to end police brutality? What are you doing as a member of the City Council to take more action about white supremacy and police brutality?

I'm sure you are aware of [the situation in Portland](#). A man was injured last night by a "non-lethal projectile". If you recall, my original letter is highly critical of the use of these "non-lethal" weapons being used against citizens of Salem. I urge you, the mayor, and the rest of city council to take action to prevent these weapons and tactics from being used by the Salem Police Department in the future. If you aren't going to defund the police (which, I see you decided not to do), then PLEASE do SOMETHING about the harm the police presents to the community.

Is property worth more to you than human lives???

Sincerely,
Linnea Oddie

On Wed, Jul 1, 2020 at 6:27 PM Jackie Leung <JLeung@cityofsalem.net> wrote:

Thank you, Ms. Oddie. Your email was received and I read it. I am not sure why it was not included though I do note it was initially dated June 9.

I have continuously asked for accountability and reporting from SOd about the events of May and how we as a city could do right by the community.

The street name change was a recommendation by a local Black business owner. Same for the Commission of an art mural by a local artist.

Thank you for your concerns in how we can make Salem a more inclusive and safe place for our community.

All the best,

Jackie

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

----- Original message -----

From: Linnea O <linnosv@gmail.com>

Date: 6/27/20 5:59 PM (GMT-08:00)

To: citycouncil <citycouncil@cityofsalem.net>, CityRecorder <CityRecorder@cityofsalem.net>, Chuck Bennett <CBennett@cityofsalem.net>, Cara Kaser <CKASER@cityofsalem.net>, tanderson@cityofsalem.net, Brad Nanke <BNanke@cityofsalem.net>, Jackie Leung <JLeung@cityofsalem.net>, Matthew Ausec <MAUSEC@cityofsalem.net>, Chris Hoy <CHoy@cityofsalem.net>, Vanessa Nordyke <VNordyke@cityofsalem.net>, Jim Lewis <JLewis@cityofsalem.net>

Subject: Public Comment

Hello Councilmembers and Mayor Bennett,

My name is Linnea Oddie. Earlier this month, I sent a letter to Mayor Bennett, as well as emails to the Mayor and to the city council. I wrote in regards to the use of dangerous crowd control tactics by the Salem Police Department.

I noticed that in the city council meeting minutes for June 22, my comments were not included. This makes me think that they were not read. So, I am once again emailing you all to insist that you take action about the Salem Police Department's actions in response to protests in early June.

I will attach my letter once again, and I will paste it in the email.

In addition to these comments, I have to say, I am extremely disappointed that the city council moved to approve the budget for the next fiscal year. While public comments have mostly been divided in regards to defunding the police, I think you have made the wrong decision. Why on earth does the police department need to receive so much of the city's budget?

Interviews published in the Statesman Journal indicate that the police are expected to do the job of mental health professionals, but they aren't trained to do so. Budget cuts were stated as the reason for the lack of mental health professionals. Maybe it's because that money has been funneled into the police department instead??

Also, while I admire one councilmember's request to rename Center Street to Martin Luther King Jr Blvd, that does nothing to solve the problem. Renaming a street is a pithy action that really doesn't change anything. Renaming a street does not mean that suddenly the city of Salem will be absolved of its racist history.

Councilmembers, I urge you to do better. Consider the minority groups who choose to call Salem home. Think about them and their needs, not just the needs of those who look like you.

I urge you to make statements that denounce the police department's racist actions. I urge you to reconsider the city's budget and use the funds for something that actually benefits our community. I urge you to stand up for what is right--equity and equality for ALL.

Best regards,
Linnea Oddie

Attached is my original letter:

June 9, 2020

Dear Mayor Bennett,

My name is Linnea Oddie, and I am a resident of Salem, OR. I lived here as a student attending Willamette University from 2009-2013, and I moved back to Salem from Portland in the fall of 2018. I am writing to you today to voice my

concerns about the City of Salem Police Department's crowd control tactics that have been used against its citizens. I also wish to voice my concerns about your commendation of these tactics in your interview with KOIN 6 news on June 1, 2020. Because of these events, I insist you to do the following: to publicly denounce the actions of the Salem Police Department that took place on May 30 and 31, to prohibit the further use of crowd control tactics such as tear gas and rubber bullets by the Salem Police Department from this point forward, and to decrease the amount of the city budget that is allocated to the police department from fiscal year 2021 and onward.

As you know, on May 25, 2020, George Floyd was murdered by Minneapolis police officer Derek Chauvin. Chauvin murdered George Floyd by use of excessive force--kneeling on George Floyd's neck and back for 8 minutes and 46 seconds. An independent autopsy has ruled George Floyd's death a homicide by mechanical asphyxia.

In response to this horrible crime by a police officer, residents of the city of Salem have come together to demonstrate against police brutality, and to remember George Floyd. Over the weekend of May 30 and 31, these demonstrations were met by police with dangerous crowd control tactics of tear gas, stun grenades, and kinetic impact projectiles (also known as rubber bullets). These "less-than-lethal" tactics are dangerous and inhumane, and I find it absolutely abhorrent that the Salem Police Department decided to employ the use of these tactics. Furthermore, I am disgusted that you told reporters in your interview with KOIN 6 that it was a "proportional and appropriate response" by police. Do you know the risks associated with these so-called "appropriate" tactics?

A 1989 study published with the title "Tear Gas- Harassing Agent or Toxic Chemical Weapon?", written by Howard Hu, Jonathan Fine, Paul Epstein, Karl Kelsey, Preston Reynolds, and Bailus Walker, argues that "there is an ongoing need for investigation into the full toxicological potential of tear gas chemicals". This argument is based on their study of the aftermath of the use of tear gas in Seoul, South Korea in June 1987. Their studies found that "available toxicological data are deficient as to the potential of tear gas agents to cause long term pulmonary, carcinogenic, and reproductive effects". If a chemical weapon's long-term health effects are unknown, is this really an "appropriate response" to a group of demonstrators?

While this study is 31 years old, a more recent study published in 2016 echoes similar sentiments. "Tear Gas: an epidemiological and mechanistic reassessment" by Craigh Rothernberg, Satyanarayana Achanta, Erik Svendsen, and Sven-Eric Jordt notes that while there are some lab- or military-conducted studies, there is little information available regarding the "consequences of exposure in the field". Furthermore, some of the results of military-conducted studies are not made available to the public, thus making their findings unknown. The aforementioned article from 1989 states that one military study only tested healthy individuals; it excluded persons with a history of asthma or other pre-existing health conditions. Additionally, an often referenced study's sample subjects were 35 males. The study did not include women, children, or the elderly in their data. With this said, how can these studies be sufficient if they do not pertain to the population at large, but instead a very small sample size of men or lab animals?

Both studies about tear gas found that its usage has damaging effects, ranging from respiratory infections and influenza to corneal erosion, from chemical pneumonitis to fatal pulmonary edema. Are these the types of health conditions that residents of Salem should be subjected to when exercising their right to assemble? Are you comfortable allowing the police to use a chemical weapon on the citizens of Salem? Furthermore, how can you stand by the police using a chemical that induces respiratory distress while the world is facing a global pandemic that attacks the respiratory system? Consider this quote from the 1989 study: "It is a hallmark of repressive regimes to equate the voicing of dissent with disorder".

In addition to the use of tear gas, the Statesman Journal reported that Salem Police also used kinetic impact projectiles, more commonly known as rubber bullets, at the demonstration that took place on May 31. Kinetic impact projectiles (KIP) are dangerous, and their classification as a "less-than-lethal" crowd control weapon is grossly miscategorized. A 2017 study titled "Death, injury and disability from kinetic impact projectiles in crowd-control settings: a systematic review" conducted a review of injuries resulting from the use of KIPs from January 1990 to June 2017.

Authors Rohini Haar, Vincent Iacopino, Nikhil Ranadive, Madharvi Dandu, and Sheri Weiser found that out of 1,984 people injured by KIPs in the 27 year period, 300 people suffered a permanent disability and 53 people died as a result of their injuries. Of the 53 deaths, 56% were caused by penetrative injuries, 23% by blunt injuries, 50% by head and neck trauma, and 27% by chest and abdominal trauma. The study found that injuries were sustained across nearly all the body systems, such as head and neck, ocular, cardiovascular, nervous, pulmonary, thoracic, etc.

This study ultimately concluded that KIPs have caused significant morbidity and mortality, and that “given their inherent inaccuracy, potential for misuse and associated health consequences of severe injury, disability and death”, KIPs are inappropriate for use in crowd control settings.

Given these findings, how can you say the risk of severe injury or death is a “proportional and appropriate” response to last weekend’s demonstrations? How can you stand by the police department’s use of these potentially life threatening tactics on Salem’s community?

In your KOIN 6 interview, you expressed your concerns about the demonstrators’ acts of graffiti and blocking traffic on a bridge. You said that you have a “zero tolerance policy” for the destruction of property. Do you also have a zero tolerance policy for the destruction of lives by the hands of the police? Do you truly place more value on keeping buildings free of graffiti over the concerns that Salem citizens hold about systemic and institutionalized racism? You praise the police department so adamantly, yet you don’t acknowledge the horrible and longstanding history of law enforcement’s violence towards Black bodies and communities.

I find your response disgraceful and shameful. As a city official, you have a responsibility to be a leader of the people. A leader of the people would and should care more about the protection of human lives rather than protection of property. A leader of the people would publicly denounce and condemn the use of dangerous and potentially life threatening tactics by police to disperse crowds, not celebrate them. A leader of the people would not have such obvious biases towards the city’s police department; whether that be outpourings of praise during a city council meeting, such as the one that took place on June 8, 2020, or awarding the Mayor’s Merit Award in 2017 to the president of the Salem Police Foundation, a group whose purpose is to provide extra funding for the police department, including and not limited to SWAT gear. This is the same police department that receives millions of dollars of the city’s budget, almost \$47 million for fiscal year 2020. Meanwhile, important social programs that address homelessness have their budgets slashed (from \$1.4 million to \$700,000), or are cut completely, such as the sobriety station (with a budget of \$250,000).

How can you justify cutting these social programs that benefit the city, while the police department receives one-third of the city’s general fund?

Where do your priorities lie, Mayor Bennett? Where does your loyalty lie?

You and I share an alma mater, Willamette University. I don’t know about your time as a student at Willamette, but when I was on campus, we were told time and time again about the importance of our motto: *Non nobis solum nati sumus*. Not unto ourselves alone are we born. This means to act in favor of advancing the greater good of humanity, regardless of our own interests. It means to work to create a stronger community.

Our Salem community does not need to be tear-gassed and attacked with rubber bullets. Our Salem community needs city leadership to care about its people. Our Salem community needs to be a safe place where people of color can thrive. Our Salem community needs leaders that are not afraid to criticize the actions of its police department.

What steps are you willing to take to make that happen?

Here are some steps I insist that you take:

I urge you to publicly condemn the use of tear gas and rubber bullets by the Salem Police Department at the demonstrations that took place on May 30 and 31, 2020. I urge you to make this statement publicly in order to better hold your friend, Police Chief Jerry Moore, accountable for his decision to allow the use of dangerous crowd-control tactics. I urge you to prohibit the use of said tactics by the police department in the event of another demonstration. I urge you to stop allocating so much of the city's budget to the police department, and to instead focus on programs that will actually make the Salem community a better place.

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter. I eagerly await your response. I can be contacted through mail, or by email at linnosv@gmail.com.

Signed,

Linnea Oddie

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June 9, 2020 Letter to the Mayor

Amy Johnson

From: Melanie Berry <melanie.s.berry@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, July 13, 2020 10:32 AM
To: CityRecorder
Cc: Vanessa Nordyke
Subject: Public Comment for Salem City Council Meeting

I want to whole-heartedly voice my support for the proposal to rename Center St & the Center Street Bridge in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. I feel this is important for us to set an example of inclusion, as our state's capital city, and a very small step in Oregon's anti-racist education. We have a long way to go, and I hope this will be one change that can easily be accomplished.

Respectfully,

--

Melanie S. Berry, MSW, LCSW
3360 Huckleberry Ct S, Salem, OR 97302

Amy Johnson

From: Meghan Gallop <meghan.rutledge@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, July 12, 2020 6:24 PM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: Change center street and bridge to MLK

Hello,
I am I support of changing Center st and bridge to Martin Luther King Jr.

The street, formerly Asylum street, was renamed to reflect a modern society. It is time to do that again.

Thank you,
Meghan

Sent from my iPhone, please excuse any brevity or typos

Amy Johnson

From: Mary Nikas <maryjnikas@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, July 11, 2020 11:32 AM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: In support of renaming Center Street to MLK, Jr.

This email is in support of Renaming Center, Street to Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard or Avenue. This would be a gesture in support of all the lives that have been lost due to our institutionalized racism.

In Solidarity,

~ Mary
via iPhone

Amy Johnson

From: Melanie Weston <2melaniew@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, July 12, 2020 4:58 PM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: MLK/Center Street

I would like to see Center Street renamed as Martin Luther King Street!

Melanie Weston

Sent from my iPhone

Amy Johnson

From: Maria Young <godesmiaz82@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, July 12, 2020 3:26 PM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: Renaming center st.

Hello!

I am a life long citizen of Salem, and would love to have our community show solidarity with Black Lives Matter by renaming center st.

We as a community have been silent, resistant and down right racist. Please fight for this. Fight for the people who are unrepresented on this council. So the right thing. Show us you are listening.

Maria Young
Ward 2

Sent from my iPhone

Amy Johnson

From: Navneet Kaur <navneetsoni1961@icloud.com>
Sent: Saturday, July 11, 2020 1:56 PM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: Rename Center Street!

To Whom it Concern:

I am strongly in favor of renaming Center Street after Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Thank you so much for this initiative!

Respectfully,

Navneet Kaur

Sent from my iPhone

Amy Johnson

From: Owen Thomas <osthomas@willamette.edu>
Sent: Monday, July 13, 2020 11:39 AM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: Renaming the street

Hi,

I support renaming Carter St. after a civil rights leader but I think naming it after Martin Luther King has a few problems. It's cliché after so many cities did it in the 1970s and in hindsight those changes are perceived by many as performative. A famous Chris Rock routine makes fun of how Martin Luther King Blvd. is the most dangerous street in every city because of the poverty that still inflicts the black community despite symbolic honors.

If you're gonna rename a street, I suggest shedding light on one of the other civil rights leaders of that time. It was hardly a one-man show. A. Philip Randolph, James Farmer, Roy Wilkins, Whitney Young, Bayard Rustin and Ella Baker spring to mind. Medgar Evers like King was a martyr of the movement. Or going with Coretta Scott King instead might be an interesting twist.

Thanks for your time,

Owen Thomas
Salem resident

Amy Johnson

From: instantsolidarity@protonmail.com
Sent: Sunday, July 12, 2020 9:37 AM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: I support changing Center St to Dr Martin Luther King Jr
Attachments: Screenshot_2020-07-12-09-02-56~2.png; Screenshot_2020-07-12-09-02-56~2.png

Dear Council,

I enthusiastically support renaming Center St to Dr Martin Luther King Jr St.

What a great way to show the black community of Salem that we appreciate them and support them.

Thank you.

Pat Adams
West Salem Resident

Sent from ProtonMail mobile

Councilor Hoy's proposal to rename Center Street for Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. is on the Council agenda for next Monday night. I am sorry to report that of the public testimony received thus far only one person is in support. If you support this proposal, as I do, please submit testimony by sending an email before Monday to the City Recorder <cityrecorder@cityofsalem.net>. I will post my testimony below.



Amy Johnson

From: instantsolidarity@protonmail.com
Sent: Sunday, July 12, 2020 9:40 AM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: Please paint "Black Lives Matter" in front of Capitol building.
Attachments: black-lives-matter-mural.jpg

Dear Council,

Please paint a yellow mural of "Black Lives Matter" on the street in front of the Capitol building.

Let's do this mural and get positive national attention on the Black Lives Matter movement for a change.

Thank you.

Pat Adams
Salem Resident

Sent from ProtonMail mobile



Amy Johnson

From: Rachel aleman <aleman1959rachel@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, July 12, 2020 5:10 PM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: Testimony for renaming Center St.

My name is Rachel Aleman and I have been living in Salem since 1962.

I am writing to express my support in renaming Center St. to Martin Luther King Jr. St.

Thank you for your time.

Rachel Aleman
Salem Resident

Amy Johnson

From: Rosie Norlander <rosie.norlander@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, July 13, 2020 9:05 AM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: In support of Councilor Hoy's proposal to rename Center Street.

Dear Mayor & Council,

I'm writing today in support of Councilor Hoy's proposal to rename Center Street for Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. It is long overdue for Oregon's capitol to take this gesture in honoring one of the civil rights movement's greatest leaders. It is my understanding that Center Street has already gone through one name change so changing it again to something more meaningful that will represent Salem's commitment to anti-racism is the obvious choice.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Rosie Norlander

Amy Johnson

From: noreply@cityofsalem.net on behalf of wimmerk@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, July 11, 2020 7:53 AM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Contact City Council
Attachments: ATT00001.bin

Your Name	Randall K Wimmer
Your Email	wimmerk@aol.com
Your Phone	5039495839
Street	1940 Popcorn ST NW
City	Salem
State	OR
Zip	97304
Message	In regard to changing Center Street to MLK Street.... Salem could be known as the approximately 901st city to name a street after him.... not really on the cutting edge. Better late than never? It doesn't seem like a genuine gesture. How about thinking of another more contemporary leader, perhaps local.. that espouses great humanitarian values? Or after someone who represents the front line in the battle against COVID? A black physician or nurse. Perhaps a name should be nominated by a group that represents black and other minorities. Thank you.

This email was generated by the dynamic web forms contact us form on 7/11/2020.

Amy Johnson

From: Shea Bodine <shea.bodine3@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, July 13, 2020 11:20 AM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: Renaming Center street

Hello,

My name is Shea Watkins. I live in Silverton Oregon and work in Salem, Oregon as an educator for Salem Keizer Public schools. I am writing in support of renaming Center St. after Martin Luther King Jr.

It is the VERY least we can do for the Black community.

Thank you,
Shea

Amy Johnson

From: Sarah Crawford <sarah.crawford2009@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, July 12, 2020 3:42 PM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: Re-naming Center Street

I am writing today to show my support for renaming Center Street.

Sarah Crawford

Sent from my iPhone

Amy Johnson

From: Sarah Dixon <watjubs@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, July 13, 2020 11:52 AM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: Center Street Name Change

Councilors,

I am writing to voice my support for renaming Center Street in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

However, I would also like to voice my concern that you will not take meaningful action beyond this symbolic gesture toward addressing systemic racism, that you will view this as "enough." So in addition, I would ask you all to acknowledge bias in our community and comment on how you specifically will engage in anti-racist work.

Sincerely,
Sarah Dixon (Ward 7)

Amy Johnson

From: S D <dunkel.samantha@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, July 12, 2020 5:55 PM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: Renaming Center St

Good evening,

I write to you today to publicly state my support for the initiative to rename Center St and the Center St bridge after Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. In doing this, the City of Salem will take a very small step in making a statement towards its desire to create more representation of underrepresented communities, as well as making a statement of visibility in our ongoing effort to affect meaningful change in our capital city of Oregon - as Center St is one of our city's main arteries. While legislative change and reform is also important, progress is not mutually exclusive. As a resident of Salem, I would like to see solid representation of our Latinx and Indigenous communities also woven into the infrastructure of Salem, so this request is just a first step.

I thank you for your time in allowing me to make this request.

Sam Dunkel

Amy Johnson

From: Sunny Maxwell <semaxwell@willamette.edu>
Sent: Sunday, July 12, 2020 3:00 PM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: I support renaming Center Street in honor of Martin Luther King, Jr.

To whom it may concern,

Although it is a ceremonial and not a substantive gesture, I feel that it is important for the city of Salem to actively support the right side of history in the current climate. This is a simple means of showing support, and I hope you will support it.

Sincerely,

Mx. Sunny Maxwell

My pronouns are they/them/theirs

Willamette University College of Law

JD Expected 2021

Founding Co-President, Disability Justice

OGALLA Board Member

Moot Court Board Member

573-480-0264

semaxwell@willamette.edu

Amy Johnson

From: shekathegreat@gmail.com
Sent: Saturday, July 11, 2020 10:27 AM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: Center St to MLK!

Hello.

My name is Sheka Meither. I support the proposal on the table to change Center St. to Martin Luther King Jr. I am new to the city. I come from Portland Oregon where we have a street named after MLK. That's actually the street I lived on prior to my move. The pride and inclusion I felt looking out my window each day seeing my city represent such a great man who did great things for Black people (All people). Salem's demographics are changing. More Black people are moving here. How nice it would be to welcome them with the recognition of a great leader who happens to look like them? Salem it's time! In a city where we have streets called Janice, Lisa, Patricia it only makes sense to put up a MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. street. Thank you for your time and attention in this matter. I can be reached at shekathegreat@gmail.com

Regards,

Sheka Meither

Amy Johnson

From: sean nikas <seannikas@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, July 13, 2020 10:03 AM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: Rename Center Street to MLK testimony

While I do support renaming Center Street to MLK Street we should acknowledge it's a symbolic gesture that does not cure our institutional or personal racism. The replacement of SROs with teachers and councilors would help actually change our institutional racism.

--

Sean Nikas
Busy Bee Real Estate LLC
Licensed in the State of Oregon
Chair - Congressional District 5 DPO
Board Member - Main Street Alliance
Former Chair - Small Business Caucus DPO
Direct Line 503-585-8050
SeanNikas@gmail.com
<https://busybeesoregon.com/initialagencydisclosure>

Amy Johnson

From: Samantha Rutledge <csamrutledge@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, July 13, 2020 12:47 PM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: Center street renaming

Good morning City Council,

My name is Samantha Nielson, I am emailing you today to say that I am in support of renaming Center Street and the Center Street bridge to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. St and bridge.
I want to live in a community where everyone is represented.

Thank you for your time,

Samantha

Amy Johnson

From: Steve Van Pelt <tidesofthesky@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, July 11, 2020 3:21 PM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: In support of Renaming Center St to MLK

Dear City Council,

As a Salem resident of 12 years, I am in full support of renaming Center Street in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. In a time of such division, Dr. King remains a name that stands for both unity and equality. I would be proud to drive up MLK street on the way to a doctor's appointment or to visit a friend. It would be small reminder of all the work that has been done in the name of racial equality, as well as the work we have left to do.

Yes, this is simply a symbolic action. But symbols are important and are an indication of our values.

Beyond that, there is no reason to not change the name. The existing name is not one of significance. And I don't think there is anything objectionable to find in MLKs name.

Please do Salem the honor of renaming Center Street to Martin Luther King Jr. St.

Thank you,

Steve Van Pelt.
Ward 8

Amy Johnson

From: Sadie Verville <srverville@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, July 13, 2020 12:04 PM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: Support for Agenda Item 5a on tonight's meeting

Hello,

I am writing to show my support for agenda item 5a for tonight's city council meeting. I would love to see the name of Center Street changed to reflect Martin Luther King jr. This street name has changed in the past, and I do not see why it can't change again.

Thank you,
Sadie

Amy Johnson

From: Sarah Williams <sarahwillia@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, July 11, 2020 2:56 PM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: Name Change

I fully support the name change of Center Street to Dr Martin Luther King Blvd.

It's time Salem did something - anything - to enliven its downtown and make amends for Oregon's racist past.

Sarah Williams

Sent from my iPhone

Amy Johnson

From: Shaundi <shaundiw@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, July 12, 2020 10:50 AM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: Please paint a yellow mural of "Black Lives Matter".

Dear Council,

Please paint a yellow mural of "Black Lives Matter" on the street in front of the Capitol.

Salem has been getting a lot of negative national headlines lately on our city's police department regarding our city's special treatment of the racist Proud Boys.

Let's do this mural and get positive national attention.

Thank you.



Shaundi Woolley
West Salem Resident

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

Amy Johnson

From: Stacey Castor <castor.stacey@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, July 13, 2020 1:30 PM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: Support for renaming of Center St.

Hello all,

I am writing to voice my support of Councilor Hoy's motion to rename Center St and the Center St bridge in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Stay well,
Stacey

--

Stacey Vieyra-Braendle, MT-BC
Cell: (480)529-4506

Amy Johnson

From: Tkessler <tkessler@comcast.net>
Sent: Friday, July 10, 2020 9:40 PM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: Oppose Center St name change

To whom it concerns,

I am writing this letter in opposition of changing the name of Center St. I have lived in Salem almost all my life and I feel Center Street should remain unchanged.

Personally, I don't think any streets should be named after people. Street names are one of those things best kept neutral. Like separation of church & state, it's not an appropriate place to try to make a social or political statement regardless of its virtue.

Thank you.

Tina Kessler
2875 Foxhaven Dr SE
Salem, OR 97306

Amy Johnson

From: Terri McCarrell <ktmccarrell@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, July 12, 2020 7:12 PM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: Renaming Center St

City Council members,

I am writing to express my support of the motion to draft an ordinance to rename Center Street (and Bridge) to Martin Luther King Blvd. As the capitol city of Oregon, it is our time to erase Oregon's roots of grounded in white supremacy, and stop being an outlier as one of the few state capitols without such a statement in support of civil rights leaders, past and present.

As a resident and tax payer of this city since 2000, my voice matters. As a concerned American, wanting to be on the right side of history, my voice matters. As a voter in every election, my voice matters.

Choose to represent your constituents, and align with values of civil rights, equal rights, and honoring those that fought for them.

Teresa McCarrell
West Salem