



# CITY OF SALEM

585 Liberty St SE  
Salem, OR 97301

## Staff Report

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File #: 19-305

Version: 1

Date: 6/24/2019

Item #: 5.a.

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**TO:** Mayor and City Council

**THROUGH:** Steve Powers, City Manager

**FROM:** Mayor Bennett

**SUBJECT:**

Mobile Home Park Preservation

Ward(s): All Wards

Councilor(s): All Councilors

Neighborhood(s): All Neighborhoods

**MOTION:**

I move that staff review existing local government practices to preserve the affordability and long-term stability of mobile home parks and return to Council with a recommendation.

**DISCUSSION:**

A resident representing the Sundial Mobile Home Park notified City officials of a potential land sale that carried serious implications to residents of the park. As currently established, Sundial and many other mobile home parks maintain a unique arrangement in property ownership. Residents typically own their dwelling units and rent a space within a single lot that is owned by a separate party. If and when the landowner sells to another party, new ownership often creates a new set of conditions, rules, and rents.

This creates an increasingly-common situation that the residents of Sundial expressed in the attached letter. The representative of the community, Ms. Linda Thompson, states that many of her fellow homeowners live on fixed incomes and are vulnerable to displacement as land rents climb. They seek a means to preserve the affordability of their arrangement while also improving the long-term stability.

Ms. Thompson provided examples of public policies enacted in other cities that are effective at achieving these ends. They have sent this information to staff. If the motion passes, staff will

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incorporate this information into a broader review of current practices and formulate a recommendation for council action.

**Attachments:**

1. Letter from representatives for residents of Sundial Mobile Home Park.