

CITY OF SALEM
PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD (SPRAB)
ON-LINE MEETING AGENDA

Si necesita ayuda para comprender esta información, por favor llame 503-588-6003.

Individuals needing special accommodations such as sign language, foreign language interpreters or equipment for the hearing impaired must request such services at least 48 hours prior to the meeting. To request accommodations or services, please call 503-588-6211 or 503-588-6003 (TTD/TTY 503-588-6439), or by e-mail at: twhitler@cityofsalem.net at least two business days in advance.

This regular meeting of the Salem Parks and Recreation Advisory Board will take place online. This page will tell you how to participate in this digital format. The agenda for the meeting is on page two.

DIGITAL MEETING INFORMATION

The City will be using ZOOM software to host this meeting. If you are new to ZOOM, you will be able to access the meeting without downloading the application. If you wish to download the software, that option will be provided when you click on the link to the meeting.

To access the June 10, 2021, 5:30 p.m. Zoom meeting from computer, tablet, or smartphone click on the following link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88398315784>

You can also view the meeting on YouTube at the following link:
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCQLj9RKZNHu4wfYcs_TC0TA

PUBLIC COMMENT

Contact Toni Whitler, Parks Planner, at twhitler@cityofsalem.net if you wish to provide public comment on any agenda or non-agenda item.

Email comments: Please provide email comments no later than 3:00 p.m. the day of the meeting.

Live, public comment: Please contact Toni Whitler no later than 3:00 p.m. the day of the meeting.

Public comments will only be addressed during the public comment period as noted on the agenda (see Agenda on page 2) and will include comment on agenda and non-agenda items. Email comments submitted will be addressed during the comment period.

CONTACT INFORMATION

The City of Salem and the Salem Parks and Recreation Advisory Board thank you for your support by using the digital format. For any questions or concerns about the above information, please contact Toni Whitler, at twhitler@cityofsalem.net or 503-588-6211.

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Es la política de la Ciudad de Salem asegurar que ninguna persona será discriminada por motivos de raza, religión, color, sexo, estado civil, situación familiar, origen nacional, edad, discapacidad mental o física, orientación sexual, identidad de género, ni fuente de ingresos, de acuerdo con el Salem Revised Code Chapter 97. La Ciudad de Salem también cumple plenamente con el Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, y los estatutos y reglamentos relacionados, en todos los programas y actividades.

CITY OF SALEM
PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD
DIGITAL AGENDA
June 10, 2021 – 5:30 p.m.

**BOARD MEMBERS, CITY STAFF &
UPCOMING MEETINGS**

BOARD MEMBERS

Dylan McDowell, Chair
Micki Varney, Vice Chair
Alan Alexander
Tony Caito
Woody Dukes
Dave Fridenmaker
Rick Hartwig
Keith Norris
Paul Rice

CITY STAFF

Robert Chandler, Assistant Public
Works Director
Mark Becktel, Operations Division
Manager
Patricia Farrell, Parks and Natural
Resources Planning Manager
Jennifer Kellar, Parks and Recreation
Services Manager
Becky George, Recreation Supervisor
Milan Davis, City Urban Forester
Toni Whitler, Parks Planner & Board
Liaison

UPCOMING MEETINGS

- City Council – June 14 & 28
- Historic Landmarks Commission –
June 17, 5:30 p.m. Review of the
Cultural Landscape Management Plan

LINKS

BOARD WEB PAGE:

<https://www.cityofsalem.net/Pages/parks-and-recreation-advisory-board.aspx>

AGENDA

- 1. CALL TO ORDER** (5:30 p.m.)
- 2. ROLL CALL** - New Board Member Introduction
- 3. MINUTES** (5:40 p.m.)
 - a. May 13, 2021
- 4. PUBLIC COMMENT** (*Public Comment for agenda and non-agenda items.*) (5:45 – 5:55 p.m.)
- 5. BOARD ITEMS/PRESENTATIONS**
 - a. Summer Recreation and Softball Programming Update –
Recreation Services Staff (5:55 – 6:15 p.m.)
 - b. Status of Parks Usage and Permitting Subcommittee – Chair
McDowell (6:15 – 6:25 p.m.)
- 6. INFORMATION REPORTS – WRITTEN** (6:25 – 6:45 p.m.)
 - a. Mission Street Parks Conservancy Minutes
 - b. Urban Forestry Update
 - c. Parks & Natural Resources Planning Update
 - d. Parks Operations Update
 - e. Recreation Services Update
- 7. NEW BUSINESS** (6:45 – 7:00 p.m.)
- 8. NEXT MEETING**
 - a. July 8, 2020
- 9. ADJOURN**



**SALEM PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD
DIGITAL MEETING
May 13, 2021
MINUTES**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Alan Alexander
Woody Dukes
Dylan McDowell
Micki Varney
Keith Norris
David Fridenmaker
Paul Rice
Rick Hartwig

MEMBERS ABSENT

Tony Caito

STAFF PRESENT

Patricia Farrell
Jennifer Kellar
Milan Davis
Becky George
Toni Whitler
Robert Chandler
Marc Weinstein

1. ROLL

Member Tony Caito marked absent. Chair McDowell noted that new business regarding permitting for City parks would be introduced later in the meeting.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Micki Varney moved to accept minutes from previous meeting. Paul Rice seconded. Minutes approved with no changes.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

Chair McDowell shared a link to Councilor Nordyke's written comment and invited attendees to review it.

No other public comments were submitted for this meeting.

4. BOARD ITEMS/PRESENTATIONS

a. Park Operations & Planning Budget – Jennifer Kellar & Patricia Farrell

Ms. Kellar provided a PowerPoint presentation on the 2021-2022 Parks fiscal year budget. Member Norris inquired as to what delineates Phase One of a park development project from Phase Two. Patricia Farrell explained that the phases are park-dependent and assessed based on individual factors.

Member Alexander asked if Ms. Farrell knew the current balance of the SDC account. She replied that she did not know the current balance. Jennifer resumed presentation to discuss recreation services budget.

Member Rice inquired if any federal COVID-related funding might trickle down to City parks. Ms. Kellar explained that Parks is in the process of actively assessing what types of projects could fit the criteria for this funding.

Member Fridenmaker asked how equity and social justice impacts are considered in the planning of park projects. Ms. Kellar explained that weighted criteria is used during project planning to consider high-needs areas; ultimately safety is the number one driving factor, followed by cost. Patricia added that emphasis is placed on community needs and serving underserved areas. Member Fridenmaker inquired regarding developer-initiated parks and whether those are considered through the same equity lens. Ms. Farrell replied that these circumstances would be situational depending on where the developer intends to develop. The developer would likely make installations themselves and be reimbursed, and the process would be quicker than projects placed in the City's construction queue.

Member Norris inquired what amount's currently pending in the maintenance backlog. Ms. Kellar replied that she does not know, but they are working to piece together a clearer picture of what those amounts might look like. Safety-related issues are taking priority.

Member Alexander inquired as to whether personnel service costs indicated in the budget include seasonal staff in the summer. Ms. Kellar replied in the affirmative, that it includes softball and youth activities. He asked how many seasonal staff are hired in the summer season. She replied that the number is generally between thirty-five and forty.

Chair McDowell mentioned that Bill Riegel park is being prioritized due to being in an underserved area and asked if any other parks in underserved areas are being prioritized. Ms. Farrell replied that Geer Park, Stephens-Yoshikai, and a new purchase on Hazelgreen Road are all being given consideration.

Member Norris inquired as to whether grant money is considered in the budget numbers. Patricia replied that grant numbers are kept as a separate line item in the budget. Ms. Kellar agreed that the same procedure applies to Parks Operations; grant money is not accounted for unless it is received.

No further questions or comments.

5. INFORMATION REPORTS

a. Urban Forestry Update

Milan Davis reported that the majority of work being performed is related to the ice storm. Dylan McDowell inquired if there is any estimated timeline for completion of these projects. Milan answered that at least a few month – perhaps mid-summer – will see a return to pre-storm work. Paul Rice referenced Milan's report and asked if any felled timber during cleanup is put out for bid, or if it is disposed of. Milan responded that approximately fifty larger timber logs of value have been collected during cleanup. Timber of value is usually given to the Marion County Juvenile Department, and options are being discussed for a City mill.

b. Parks & Natural Resources Planning Update

Dylan inquired if there have been any considerations for placing a boardwalk in Minto Brown Park, and if Eagle Scouts might be able to assist with that type of project. Jennifer replied that a boardwalk has not been considered thus far. Paul Rice mentioned that Minto

Brown is considered both a park and a wildlife refuge, and he would like to see the wildlife emphasized. Patricia agreed that there is a delicate balance and mentioned that turtle nesting mounds have been placed to enhance the nesting habitat.

c. Parks Operations Update

Jennifer Kellar mentioned that today – May 13, 2021 – a homeless cleanup was performed at Wallace Marine Park. The relocation was successful, the grass was mowed, and new “recreational day use only – no camping” signs were placed. Abandoned campsites were cleaned up. Similar projects are scheduled to continue in other locations. Keith Norris raised concerns that camping in Wallace Marine Park has affected revenue/reservations for recreation in the park. Jennifer replied in the affirmative; revenue has decreased, and guests are apprehensive to utilize the area. Keith mentioned situational awareness training and asked if there is any plan to work with police to address the raised likelihood of escalated incidents in the future. Jennifer confirmed that the goal is to sit down with Chief Womack and create a dialogue to discuss safety. Keith Norris inquired as to whether reimbursements for camp cleanups have been factored into the budget. Jennifer replied in the affirmative; attempts are made to forecast cleanup costs for reimbursement so that they may be factored into the budget. Micki Varney inquired regarding the departure of Marion County DOC labor; she asked if other counties’ correctional facilities could assist. Jennifer replied that other correctional facilities have been contacted, but transportation issues or contractual obligations have prevented any successful collaboration. Private companies are being considered.

d. Recreation Services Update

Becky summarized the attachments to her report. Dylan McDowell inquired as to what EOC means. Becky explained that it stands for Emergency Operations Center. Dylan McDowell inquired about dates for the Stride 5K and 10K. Becky replied that the dates should be listed on the City website, and that they will be occurring on Saturdays through the summer. Dylan mentioned that he is unable to find dates listed. David Fridenmaker inquired as to how differently-abled individuals are considered for recreation services, and what services are provided for those who speak other languages. Becky replied that recreation is provided for the differently-abled, interpreters are offered and factored into budget, and accommodations are provided as needed with 72-hour notice. Paul Rice mentioned a lack of ethnic diversity in the recreation brochures. Becky explained that diversity is striven for, but photos are taken at City recreational events and are subject to the ethnic diversity of participants at the time the photos are taken. Paul emphasized the importance of inclusivity. Alan Alexander mentioned that photos usually require the consent of participants, and many parents do not wish to have their children photographed. Becky confirmed that registration forms request consent for photograph release.

6. NEW BUSINESS

a. City Council Request for the formation of SPRAB Subcommittee - Councilor Vanessa Nordyke

(Councilor Nordyke’s comments were moved to Item 6. To address the subcommittee formation.)

Chair McDowell welcomed Councilor Vanessa Nordyke. The councilor elaborated on her motion from the May 10 City Council meeting that was formally approved by City Council. The motion addressed her concerns regarding inconsistent policing in parks, monopolizing of park spaces, and marginalized groups feeling safe using City parks. She believes now is the appropriate time to review park policies and draft policy recommendations for parks and made the recommendation in her motion that SPRAB be recruited to review and analyze these policies and procedures. City Council formally requested a subcommittee of SPRAB to work with the City Attorney's Office on proposed policy recommendations before incorporating proposed policies and procedures into a report to City Council.

Chair McDowell inquired about a timeline to have recommendations ready for Council, and suggested July. Councilor Nordyke agreed that July was a reasonable timeline, and encouraged that additional time be taken if needed for appropriate legal consultation and receipt of public feedback.

Chair McDowell explained that a vote would need to be taken to appoint members and chair of the SPRAB subcommittee for the purpose of reviewing park policies. Robert Chandler, Assistant Public Works Director, explained that the subcommittee will be responsible for reviewing current policies and practices, identifying gaps in these policies and practices that need to be addressed, and to research into best practices in comparable areas. Community feedback will need to be sought in the process. Subcommittee members should be committed to the amount of work involved.

Chair McDowell inquired as to the frequency of subcommittee meetings. Mr. Chandler replied that the meeting schedule will be dependent upon the individuals involved; likely no less than once every couple of weeks. Members will be working directly with Robert Chandler, Legal, and Parks Operations and Recreation Services during the process. Chair McDowell inquired of Marc Weinstein, Assistant City Attorney, as to how public engagement will be managed. Mr. Weinstein explained that the subcommittee will be governed by public meeting laws, meaning they will need to be accessible to the public and subject to associated formalities. Mr. Chandler added that the public must also have access to digital communication between subcommittee members, so outside collaborations cannot happen, and members should always be blind-copied on digital communication.

Member Dukes inquired if all subcommittee meetings will be held via Zoom. Mr. Chandler replied in the affirmative.

Member Varney inquired as to how far in advance meetings must be announced to the public. Marc Weinstein responded that the public meetings law does not specify a minimum amount of time, but his recommendation is that regular meetings be established so that an announcement may be made. Further meetings should be announced with a minimum of twenty-four hours' notice. Robert Chandler explained that he envisions meetings being longer and less frequent, versus frequent brief meetings.

Member Rice expressed concern over the broadness of the subject matter being broached by this subcommittee. Mr. Chandler agreed that some issues may be outside of the charter of SPRAB and will need to be referred to other departments. Chair McDowell noted that Council debate made clear delineations of the scope of this project, and that information can be revisited for clarification. Mr. Chandler agreed and mentioned that the first undertaking of committee members should be to review that information.

Member Fridenmaker expressed concern over the short timeline for this project. Dylan McDowell explained that a large part of the accelerated timeline is related to the opening of the amphitheater. Mr. Chandler added that the timeline can be adjusted as determined by the committee members, but there is a certain amount of momentum behind the timeline.

Member Alexander seconded concern over the timeline and wondered whether Council would be able to successfully able to adopt any changes to policy that quickly. Woody Dukes mentioned that the Riverfront Park event on May 1st may have accelerated Council's concerns over these issues. Chair McDowell suggested that the timeline be flexible based upon reevaluation at the July SPRAB meeting. Mr. Chandler agreed and added that some matters will be beyond the scope of the subcommittee's time and commitment, and those may be noted as needing further research. This will allow the subcommittee to focus on the most relevant and addressable issues.

Chair McDowell asked for volunteers to express their interest in being on the subcommittee and submitted his own interest in serving. Alan Alexander, Woody Dukes, and Keith Norris volunteered. Dylan McDowell clarified whether Micki Varney was interested. Micki said she was interested but would be happy to step aside to let others participate. Dylan McDowell expressed interest in serving as chair and asked if any other members were interested in serving as chair. Woody Dukes asserted that he believed Dylan would be the best fit for the position of chair. Marc Weinstein suggested that the motion to create the subcommittee not be vague and that it specifies the goal of the subcommittee.

Micki Varney moved to form the Park Usage and Permitting Subcommittee, in response to the motion passed at the Monday, May 10 City Council meeting, and that the subcommittee submit its first report to SPRAB on July 8th. Alan Alexander seconded.
Vote: All members voted in favor of the motion.

Alan Alexander motioned to establish the Park Used and Permitting Subcommittee with Keith Norris, Robert Chander, Woody Dukes, and Alan Alexander serving as members and Dylan McDowell serving as chair. Paul Rice seconded.
Vote: All members voted in favor of the motion.

Marc Weinstein requested that he be included in all subcommittee e-mails. Marc Weinstein further introduced himself and explained his role within the City.

No further comments or questions.

7. NEXT MEETING

Rick Hartwig addressed the erroneous date of the next meeting. Toni Whitler confirmed that the June 9th, 2020 date is an error. The accurate date of the next meeting is Thursday, June 10th, 2021.

8. ADJOURN

7:30 PM

Minutes: Kimberly Spivey/Toni Whitler

DRAFT

Information Reports Packet
For SPRAB Meeting June 10, 2021

1. Mission Street Parks Conservancy Minutes
2. Urban Forestry Report – Milan Davis, Urban Forester
2. Parks and Natural Resources Planning Report - Patricia Farrell, Parks and Natural Resources Planning Manager
3. Parks Operations Report – Jennifer Kellar, Parks Operations and Recreation Services Manager
4. Recreation Service Report– Becky George, Recreation Services Supervisor



Board Meeting Minutes
March 25, 2021

In Attendance

Gretchen Carnaby
Christine Chute
Bonnie Heitsch
Gary McKuen
Kathy Savicki

1. **Agenda** Christine called the meeting to order via telephone and reviewed the agenda.
2. **Minutes** Gretchen moved and Bonnie seconded adoption of the minutes of the February meeting as amended. The minutes were approved.
3. **Financial** Gary reviewed the end of February financial report.
4. **Old Business**
 - We have received no applications for the garden manager contract, and the application deadline has passed. Christine will revise the description to clarify expectations and advertise more widely. Goal is to have someone on board by June 1. We will also need a volunteer coordinator by June if we decide to proceed with a July plant sale.
 - Gretchen reported that vendors are enthusiastic about a summer plant sale. There will be no Art Fair events in the park this summer. To adapt to COVID restrictions, we would have each grower take their own payments to eliminate people gathering at a check out tent. We will need to make a decision at our May Board meeting, based on the COVID situation at that point.
 - Christine is working on the rose garden brickwork project, which will require an application to the Historic Landmark Commission and raising around \$10,000 to add to the City's contribution and our dedicated funds on hand. Possible grant sources include the Christian Science Church, State Historic Preservation Office, Salem Parks Foundation, and Kinsman Foundation. The sundial would be added next year. Letters of support are being sought from the Christian Science Church, SCAN, Lord & Schryver Conservancy and SPRAB.
 - Christine has filed our 2020 tax and state reports.
 - A group of Board members assessed storm damage in the orchard and provided a detailed spreadsheet to Brian describing the broken trees.
 - We had an extensive discussion of potential new Board members we might recruit.

5 New Business

- We will look for ways to support the City in developing a Nature Play policy, in response to whatever recommendations are included in the Cultural Landscape Management Plan.
- We identified topics for a newsletter to go out next month.
- We planned for a spring fundraising solicitation, to go to our previous donors via email and mL, offering matching funds if possible.

Next Meeting:

APRIL 22, 4 to 6 pm By Phone

Draft

June 2021 SPRAB URBAN FORESTRY REPORT

Milan Davis, Urban Forester
Urban Forestry Division, Parks Operations
City of Salem Public Works Department

Reporting the month of May 2021

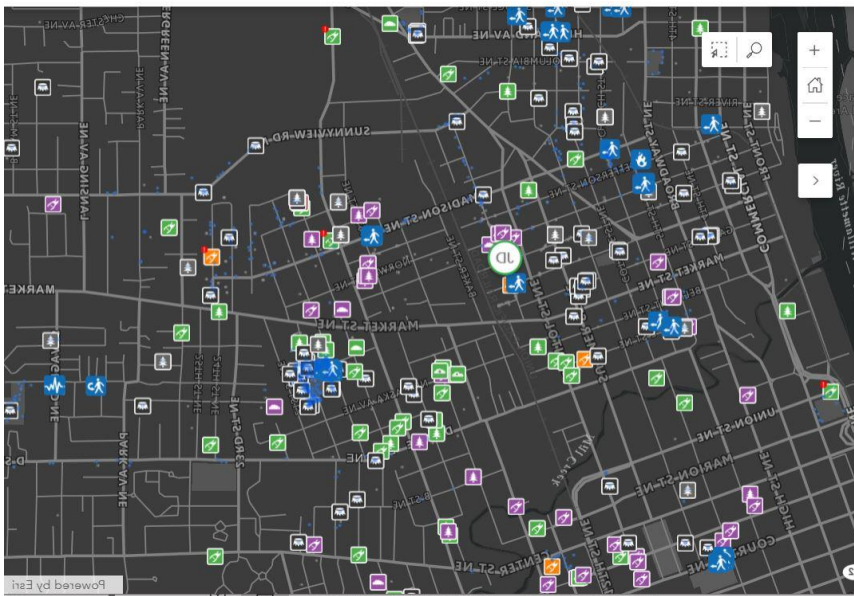
The Urban Forestry Division, UFD is still primarily working on cleanup from the February 12th ice storm. The focus has been on finding trees that still pose a threat or hazard to Salem resident's and infrastructure. During the month of May the city had two tree crews working on hazardous tree removals and hazardous limb removals. As well we have had up to three Mountain View Tree Service crews assisting in the clean up efforts. One Mountain View 65' bucket crew focusing on hazardous trees and working on the ongoing cleanup of River Rd S in conjunction with the city Stormwater crews. One Mountain View crew has been in the 83' CMC track lift focusing on reaching work that has previously been out of reach for city crews. Typically, we could climb these trees but due to the severity of the storm many trees were unfit to climb because we were not aware of the unseen damage. So workorders have been created for this high arterial work and focused on cleaning up tree hazards above 70'. We also will have access to a 93' machine over the coming weeks. A third Mountain View crew was used to assist in cleaning up brush and used to work alongside our city crews when necessary.



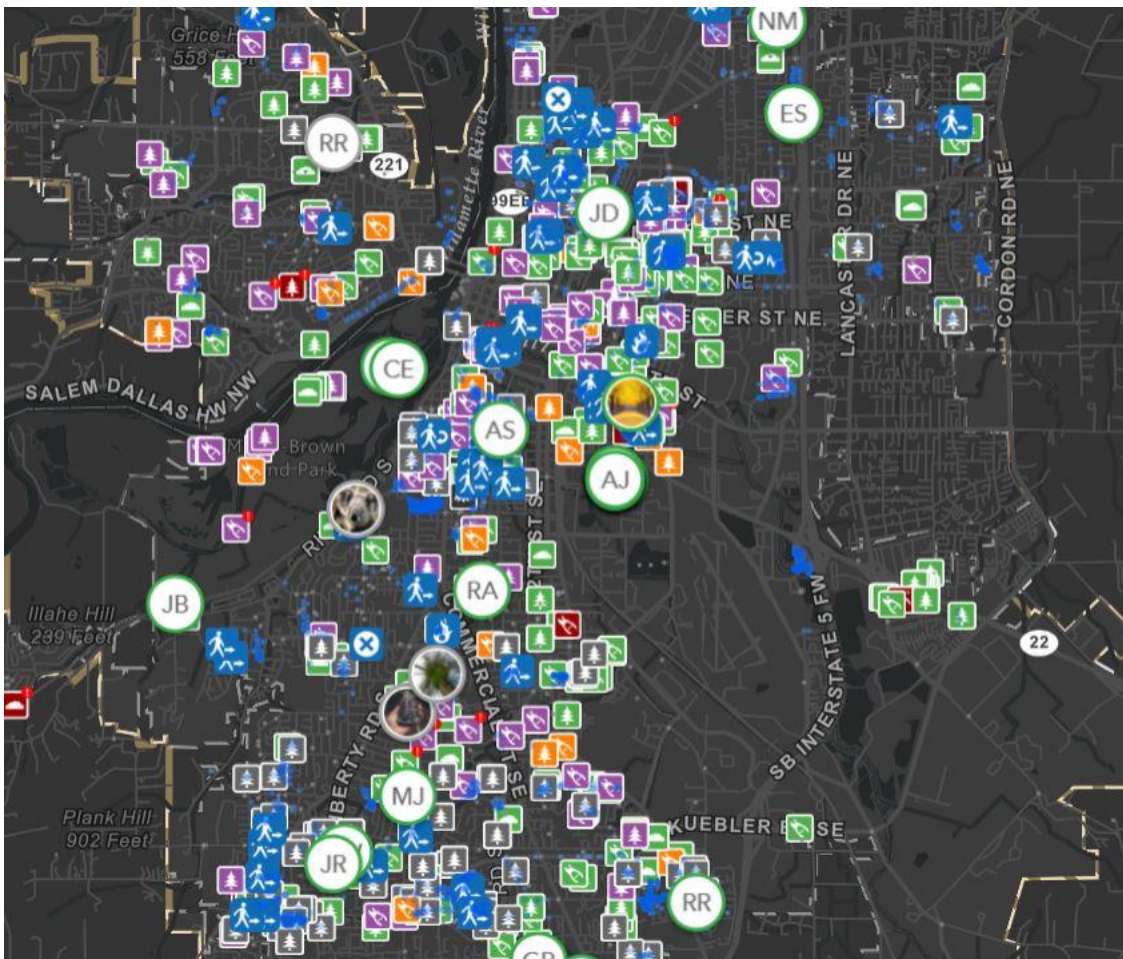
The CMC track lift is the perfect machine for parks and hard to reach areas. From L to R at Pioneer Cemetery and Bush Park.



Along with trying to manage all the remaining storm work, we are still working with the finance department to track all of this work so we can get reimbursed from FEMA. We are working closely with city IT and GIS specialists to continue to document geographic locations and the work that was preformed as well as plan for the work that has yet to be scheduled. Currently we have assessed 5008 hazardous tree locations using GIS software called Survey 123, and inspected 2072 related storm service requests using the same technology. We have moved away from using the Public Works IPS system and instead are taking information from the city 311 system, Hansen and IPS to create GIS based Field Maps and workorder maps to help complete and track this work. We have collected pictures and data for over 3177 work orders that have been completed and have the remaining assessments and service requests on a map to assign to city or contract crews. We are currently working on creating the list for stump removals which will be tracked for FEMA and followed by a tree planting map which will also be documented for reimbursement. We have been able to keep a log of the stumps by tracking them in the tree removal work orders that the GIS team is now putting in a new map for us to send out to contractors to bid on this remaining work, and the same will be done for tree planting. As of today, there are 918 tree removals that have been documented and thus will be proposed for stump removal and tree replacement. We estimate over 1000 total storm tree removals by summers end which would mean we are proposing the coinciding replacement of over 1000 trees. We are working closely with city staff on how this would best be delivered and will have more information for you in the coming months. This will be a long process and want to make sure this is done properly to ensure the establishment of new tree canopy.



This map shows work that has been delivered (blue icon) and outstanding work that is colored coded based on priority. All emergency and high priority (orange) work has been completed except work over 70' and some remaining PGE locations. The majority of work remaining is medium (purple) and low (green).



An overview of the remaining storm work, the gray colored icons are stump related work.

We continue to try and finish work that was ongoing before the storm. So intermittently we are making time to finish last year's tree planting, our structural tree pruning work, outstanding SRs, outstanding tree removals and stump grinding. The last week of May we started to upfit of trucks for new tree watering and started with one crew the last week of May. When new seasonal employees start mid June we hope to be watering with two crews with 500 and 300 gallon tanks and are focusing on getting 10-15 gallons of water to trees planted in 2019-2021. We will water the tree, weed around the base, prune broken or dead branches and provide more bark dust as well as check that stakes and support webbing that they are secure if needed.

We have had four new staff, including hiring one new fte Tree Trimmer, Evan Doney to replace Joe Wilson who left us in August of last year. Evan has been with us for only two weeks but has fit in nicely with the team and are looking forward to having him be an integral part of the crew. Recent Willamette University graduate Madeleine Hooker has joined us as a seasonal employee to assist with our GIS tree inventory and help on special projects related to the storm as well as provide help when needed on tree watering and planting assignments. She

also asked that she be trained on being a ground worker with the tree crew, so we are excited to have Madeleine be a part of the crew this summer. David Kahawai Jr and Sam Hronek were hired as seasonal employees in April and have fit in well with the crews and are working as ground laborers for the tree crew as well as assisting with watering and planting trees. We extended the services of Jacob Rybloom as a seasonal employee, who had previously worked at Bush Park and then worked for the tree crew through a temp service, so he has been with us for almost 5 months now. Jacob has shown interest in wanting to have a career in arboriculture and has been a very positive young man who has had the ability to fit in anywhere we have needed him. He is a recent graduate of South Salem High and is taking classes at Chemeketa CC. Jacob passed his CDL learners permit test in May and has been driving CDL rated tree trucks under the tutelage of our CDL tree crew.

We have also been working with the Parks Planning Dept on upcoming tree planting events for Friends of Trees and Treecology. We continue to assist city engineers, code compliance, public works staff, stormwater and the planning department on multiple projects city wide; including North Campus D Street & Park new development, D Street City Park, New Library project, Riverfront Park, Lindburg Dr & Fairview Park projects, as well as multiple ongoing sidewalk repair projects citywide. We continue to work with Robert Chandler on updating SRC 86 and look forward to the new changes. I continue to be the primary contact for all tree related questions, calls, and emails city wide. Many of the questions I get could be directed to the planning department or development services for tree issues on private property, in riparian corridors, streamside or tree calls related to permits for trimming or removal. We have gotten approval to have a new Urban Forestry telephone number as well as a new email urbanforestry@cityofsalem.net that will be monitored by parks staff assistants and used by the city dispatch center. I have been working with staff to better understand what departments handle tree related issues so we can better direct constituents to answer their questions.

Current City of Salem fulltime Urban Forestry Staff

Milan Davis *Urban Forester, ISA Certified Arborist, Municipal Specialist*

Tom Bradley *Parks Project Coordinator, ISA Certified Arborist, Tree Risk Qualification PNW*

Don Gunther *Tree Trimmer, ISA Certified Arborist*

Mike Tyler *Tree Trimmer*

Jacob Downer *Tree Trimmer, Certified Journeyman Line Clearance*

Evan Doney *Tree Trimmer, Certified Journeyman Line Clearance*

Paul Kellor *Parks PMO*

Seasonal employees: Madeleine Hooker, Jacob Rybloom, David Kahawai Jr, Sam Hronek

Riverfront pavilion Christmas Tree Planting



Working with Big Trees today in Hillsboro we selected a Giant sequoia which can potentially be the future Riverfront Christmas tree. I had previously selected a tree through online pictures, but after sending Don Gunther to actual inspect and tag the tree, he selected a better tree, pictured above.



The tree was scheduled for planting in February but due to storm related activities was rescheduled for the second week in May. The tree hole was excavated by the spade truck then headed back to the nursery in Hillsboro to dig the tree to be planted two hours later. The tree was prepared for transplanting in early spring by having the root ball pre dug in place to promote new root growth inside the existing root area as well as being supplied organic soil nutrients, irrigated before transport ,sprayed with anti-transpirants for the travel as well as being tarped and watered for the travel time.



Sam Welsh and Jeff Ball pictured with the sequoia tree after planting.

Parks and Natural Resources Planning Update – June 2021

Geer Park Master Plan Update - Draft master plan went to City Council May 24th. It was sent back to staff due to desire expressed in public comment and by majority of Councilors for reducing the amount of new parking from 94 spaces to a lesser number. This desire reflects the goal to reduce GHG emissions from internal combustion engines and promote walking or public transportation to the park. A revised plan will go back to SPRAB and Council in July (tentative).

Bush Pasture Park and Deepwood - Cultural Landscape Management Plan - Draft report will be posted mid-June and open for public comment for two weeks. Historic Landmarks Commission will receive a presentation June 17, followed by MSPC, SPRAB and SCAN in July, then Council at end of July.

Climate Action Plan - Draft strategies have been reviewed and edited by focus group/subject matter experts. The fifth Task Force workshop will be June 23 and will focus on implementation of the plan, including priority, cost, and responsible party. All meetings are livestreamed and recorded. Staff has begun their outreach for the summer/fall to ensure minority and under-represented residents of Salem are aware of the plan and process.

Bailey Ridge Park Master Plan – this project will begin late summer or early fall. This is a neighborhood park in Ilahee area of Salem. RFP is going out this month to Cameron McCarthy Landscape Architects. Toni will be the project manager. Micki and Paul are the SPRAB liaisons.

D Street Park – Construction of the D Street Park Frontage Improvements Project is expected to begin in late June. This work will add sidewalks and other improvements on the edges of the new park property. The City Urban Forester is closely monitoring trees along the edge of the project.

Bill Riegel Park – Construction for final phase of development will commence in spring/summer 2022. The project is currently in the design phase. Public outreach will be conducted with the neighborhood late summer / early fall 2021 to select play equipment for the park.

Tree City USA 45th Year – Staff has been planning quarterly events to celebrate our 45th year as TCUSA. First event will be a poster contest beginning in April (Arbor Month). Posters have been received and will be “judged” for prizes. Other events will include “poetree” writing and tree trivia contests. We are also looking at opportunities for posting TCUSA signs at major entrances (ODOT jurisdiction) to the City.

Public Tree Survey: EnviroIssues has been hired to develop the stratified random sample distribution including large lots with plantable space, and properties in low tree canopy areas. A postcard will be mailed to sample recipients with survey link to online survey. Survey is intended to go out this summer. Draft survey will be provided to SPRAB for comment before mailing out.

Willamette Slough Ludwigia Treatment –Year 2 of the grant with Willamette Riverkeeper. Treatment will occur after Iron Man competition in late July and before Labor Day.

Bald Eagle Nest at Minto Brown – The eagles appear to have hatched eggs and have been seen carrying fish to the nest! No sign yet of the eaglets so we don't know how many.

Parks Operations Update – June 2021

Unsheltered Population Clean-Up Update

A clean-up was held on 5/27/21 at Wallace Marine Park. The focus of the clean-up was the clearing and cleaning of the overflow parking area, which is the grassy field north of the Wallace Marine Park Softball Complex. The area had about 6 campsites earlier in the week. All but two were abandoned by the morning of the clean-up. The two sets of occupants moved on as clean-up occurred. Once cleaned, Parks Operations brought in a skid steer loader with grapple to remove all the piles of limbs and branches, including a large tree limb structure. Then a large flair mower tractor arrived and mowed all the grass in preparation for overflow parking for the Memorial Day Softball tournament. After the clean-up in that area was concluded, the remainder of the time was spent cleaning garbage from abandoned campsites along the north-south dirt path in the woods. Due to other commitments, this was only a ½ day clean-up. Forty-five cubic yards of garbage was collected, as well as, about 7 cubic yards of metal for recycling.

1)







- 2) “This area of the park closed for maintenance” signs were placed at the following locations within Wallace Marine Park in preparation for the clean-up on Thursday, June 3rd:
- Area along the flood control berm, that runs from the T-intersection of the north-south roadway, along the east side of the roadway, south of the railroad trestle;
 - The grassy area and concrete path area east of the north-south roadway and both sides of the pathways, north of the railroad trestle;
 - The wooded, bushy area south of the concrete pathway/soft trail pathway that goes to the river outlook and north side of the railroad trestle.



WMP 06032021
Revised Relocate an

- 3) The next clean-up is scheduled for Thursday, June 10th at Cascade Gateway Park in the Blue Gill and Beaver Grove shelters and playground area.

Park Usage and Permitting Subcommittee

In consultation with Dylan, Robert Chandler provided the subcommittee the following work plan:

May/June Individual review of regulations, policies, and permitting practices. This also includes looking at policies and practices of a some of the other jurisdictions to identify Best Practices. Begin submitting work to City staff.

June/July Working as a group, the subcommittee members meet with Human Rights Commission and the LGBTQIA+ Intersectional Rights Task Force (a subset of the HRC) at these groups regularly scheduled monthly public meetings to discuss issues related to diversity, equity, and inclusivity. Also, and working individually, continue formulating feedback.

July Working as a group, subcommittee members meet to review, discuss, and craft recommendations. These will be public meetings with opportunity for public comments. I think we should target two, two-hour meetings with a third held in reserve.

August Working as a group, subcommittee presents its report to SPRAB.

August/September SPRAB presents its report to City Council.

Robert indicated the work plan allows for opportunities public input at the two HRC meetings in June, the two (or three) subcommittee meetings in July, and the SPRAB meeting in August.

Part of the review material by the subcommittee consists of rules and regulations from other entities and the latest working draft version of *Salem's Parks, Streets, and Public Open Spaces Administrative Rules and Regulations*.

Splash Pads

The largest volume of calls we receive at the start of each summer period is when will splash pads be turned back on? Splash pads will be turned on for public use on Friday, June 18th throughout our parks system. As Marion County is currently in the "high risk" category, usage requirements under Oregon Health Authority (OHA) allow for Parks to turn the splash pads on with guidance that masks are required when NOT in the water. Physical distancing of 6' between individuals is maintained at all times, including for splash pads. The City's webpage will be updated to reflect the opening date of the splash pads and the guidelines for users.

If Marion County's category were to be downgraded and the county be in the "extreme" category on June 18th, Parks will push the opening date out further until the county is moved back up to "high" status. Splash pads were not used last year due to the county being in the "extreme risk" category during the summer period.

Salem Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting
Recreation Update – June 2021

1. Events/Facility Use

- The Public Works Office, Room #325 of City Hall, continues to be closed. Permit Specialist staff in the front office are working remotely, including answering phones (M-F, 8 am to 5 pm) and assisting customers via email and our online payment system.
- On Memorial Day, Monday, May 31 park reservations were once again allowed to take place. A family reunion occurred in the Riverfront Park Pavilion! More events are scheduled this week and weekend. The large community festivals are still cancelled, but it's nice to have scheduled use back in our park system.
- The new restroom building in the north end of Riverfront Park opened on Friday, May 28. The grass area around the building remains fenced off to allow this newly seeded space a chance to establish itself before foot traffic hits. This building is a welcome sight for future park renters at the Pavilion and North Meadow as well as splash pad visitors. This one facility will save future event organizers hundreds of dollars in chemical toilet rentals.
- Travel Salem and Ironman Triathlons continue to work collaboratively with City staff to offer a July 25, 2021 event centered at Riverfront Park.

2. Youth Recreation Programs

- Registration for summer programs continues.
- COVID-19 protocols continue to change, but despite the uncertainty of regulations, we have our first two full camps – Ninja Camp and Fish, Forage and Fire!
- First STRIDE event of the season will occur on June 12 at Minto-Brown Island Park. The remaining season will be as follows:
 - ✓ July 3 at Riverfront and Wallace Marine Park
 - ✓ August 7 at Riverfront, Wallace Marine and Minto-Brown Island Parks
 - ✓ September 4 at Bush's Pasture Park
 - ✓ October 2 at Minto-Brown Island Park
- Summer staff hiring is wrapping up. Intensive training will be held after school gets out, with summer programs beginning on June 28!

3. Softball and Kickball Leagues/Tournaments

- We have successfully completed (without rain outs) the Spring League for softball and the first six weeks of kickball.
- Summer league sign-up closed on May 25th and we are full on every weeknight! Tuesday Men's softball and Thursday kickball have a wait list of teams.
- Since opening the complex on April 9th, the Wallace Marine (star) complex has hosted eight weekend (youth fastpitch softball, adult slow pitch softball, or youth baseball) rental tournaments.
- The Wallace Marine complex has a new food vendor, Infusion Coffee and Such food truck, and the new beer vendor is Travelin Tap House.
- Due to safety concerns for participants, spectators, and staff we continue to hire security to work at the complex during weekend tournaments.

- Starting on May 29th, players on the field do not have to wear a mask. If a player is not vaccinated, we are recommending they wear a mask.
- Also starting on May 29th, we are allowing each team to have 35 passes for players, coaches and spectators. Vaccinated spectators have no mask or social distance requirements, while non-vaccinated spectators are recommended to wear a mask and socially distance.
- Softball staff continue to work with Oregon Health Authority, Oregon Recreation and Parks Association, and other government officials to ensure we remain in compliance with the constantly changing polices regarding COVID-19.