

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 April 14, 2022, 5:30 p.m. Zoom meeting from computer, tablet, or smartphone click on the following link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84871139463>

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
April 14, 2022 – 5:30 p.m.

<u>BOARD MEMBERS, CITY STAFF & UPCOMING MEETINGS</u>	<u>AGENDA</u>
<p><u>BOARD MEMBERS</u> Dylan McDowell, Acting Chair Alan Alexander Woody Dukes Dave Fridenmaker Rick Hartwig Alan Holland Joan Lloyd Keith Norris</p> <p><u>CITY STAFF</u> Robert Chandler, Assistant Public Works Director Mark Becktel, Operations Division Manager Jennifer Kellar, Parks and Recreation Services Manager Rob Romanek, Senior Planner Becky George, Recreation Supervisor Milan Davis, City Urban Forester Toni Whitler, Parks Planner & Board Liaison</p> <p><u>UPCOMING MEETINGS</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Infrastructure Bond Steering Committee – Please visit web page for upcoming meetings: https://www.cityofsalem.net/Pages/infrastructure-bond-engagement-steering-committee.aspx• City Council meeting – April 11, 2022 – 6:00 p.m.• City Council meeting - April 25, 2022 – 6:00 p.m. <p><u>LINKS</u> BOARD WEB PAGE: https://www.cityofsalem.net/Pages/parks-and-recreation-advisory-board.aspx</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. CALL TO ORDER (5:30 p.m.)2. ROLL CALL – Address roster update3. MINUTES (5:40 p.m.)<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. March 10, 20224. PUBLIC COMMENT (<i>Public Comment for agenda and non-agenda items, 3 minutes.</i>) (5:45 – 5:55 p.m.)5. BOARD ITEMS/PRESENTATIONS (5:55 – 7:00)<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. Update on Amendments to SRC 86 City-Owned Trees and SRC 51 Event Sound – <i>Robert Chandler, Assistant Public Works Director, Cullen Armstrong, Public Works Compliance Specialist</i>b. Public Meetings Law and Ethical Considerations For Public Officials – <i>Marc Weinstein, Assistant City Attorney</i>6. BOARD MEMBER UPDATES (7:00 – 7:10 p.m.)7. INFORMATION REPORTS – WRITTEN (7:10 – 7:20 p.m.)<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. Mission Street Park Conservancy Minutes, Quarterly Update, and Woodland Garden Project Updateb. Urban Forestry Updatec. Parks & Natural Resources Planning Updated. Parks Operations Updatee. Recreation Services Updatef. Park Damage Report8. NEW BUSINESS (7:20 – 7:30 p.m.)9. NEXT MEETING<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. May 12, 202210. ADJOURN



**SALEM PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD
DIGITAL MEETING
March 10, 2022
MINUTES**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Micki Varney
Dylan McDowell
Alan Alexander
Woody Dukes
Keith Norris
Rick Hartwig
Alan Holland
Joan Lloyd

MEMBERS ABSENT

David Fridenmaker

STAFF PRESENT

Patricia Farrell
Becky George
Milan Davis
Jennifer Kellar
Toni Whitler
Mitchell Jones
Michelle Starbuck

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Varney called the meeting to order at 5:33 PM.

2. ROLL CALL

Member David Fridenmaker marked absent. All other members present.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

No questions or comments.

Alan Alexander moved to accept minutes from previous meeting. Rick Hartwig seconded. Minutes approved with no changes.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comments.

5. BOARD ITEMS/PRESENTATIONS

a. Letter of Support for Salem Community Bond

Toni Whitler stated she will have the letter formatted by staff and submitted to the committee. No other questions or comments.

Joan Lloyd moved to approve. Dylan McDowell seconded. Motion carried.

b. Local Government Grant Application for Brown Road Park Development

Toni Whitler presented. Chair Varney thanked Toni for all the detailed information and the map.

Vice Chair McDowell asked if there were things from Phase 1 that couldn't be completed due to cost. Ms. Whitler confirmed there are a basketball court, and an exercise area planned for Phase 2.

Member Holland asked her to elaborate on what the exercise area would entail. Ms. Whitler explained it would be equipment like parallel bars, chin up bars, maybe a weight-pull. Member Holland noted it sounds like what is at Orchard Heights Park.

Member Hartwig noted he supports a grant to do more at that park because it needs it. Member Alexander commented he agrees, there is not much at the park, but it has a lot of potential.

Member Holland noted if you are going there and need to park your car you must come from the South, due to a median and noted it doesn't seem very convenient or accessible. He asked if that will be changed in Phase 2 or if it is not a concern. Ms. Whitler answered it won't be changed. The Comprehensive Park System Master Plan, Neighborhood Parks do not require off street parking, but people rely on on-street parking for the garden and ADA accessibility. She elaborated that most neighbors in the area understand they need to come from the South for parking, but the median was very important for pedestrian safety and the neighbors really wanted that included.

Member Norris asked if those changes in 2020 affected any of the other park master planning elements that were approved in 2018. Ms. Whitler answered no, the improvements did not affect the other park master planning elements approved.

Motion: Alan Alexander moved to approve. Keith Norris seconded. Motion carried.

6. BOARD MEMBER UPDATES

Member Holland shared that he and Member Hartwig are going to each park in the city to get familiar with them and taking notes on them as well. He noted that a lot of parks are adjacent to Salem-Keizer public schools, which makes him believe it's not always clear who does maintenance on what in those locations. He suggested there maybe should be more communication between Salem-Keizer facilities maintenance and City of Salem Parks workers so there is a clear definition of responsibility on areas of maintenance. Jennifer Kellar clarified there is a maintenance agreement with Salem-Keizer in place, along with some maps. Member Holland stated that some of the workers he spoke with weren't aware and may have been doing more work than they should, so maybe it needs to be clarified with staff. Ms. Kellar stated they have a lot of seasonal staff who take direction from other staff and that would probably be the group that has less clarity. She confirmed they will review it with staff.

Member Norris provided an update on the Library Strategic Plan, as the representative from the board. He said the last time he updated the board was a couple months ago when the city paused the strategic plan. He stated he got an email a couple weeks ago that the

process has been restarted and the city is reinitiating the process. His role is not currently very active, but he expects it will be in coming months.

Chair Varney asked if anyone attended the open house on the skate park at Geer Park, she had it on her calendar but wasn't able to make it. Vice Chair McDowell said he didn't attend the open house, but he has been tracking the survey and he shared the link for it with the board.

No other questions or comments.

7. INFORMATION REPORTS

(Information reports will now be provided as written reports ahead of the meetings.)

a. Mission Street Park Conservancy Minutes

No comments.

b. Urban Forestry Update

Member Lloyd asked if the heritage tree list is on the city website. Milan stated it is not currently on the website, but he is working with staff to get it on there along with some other information. He said he will talk to the board in May about the heritage tree program.

Member Norris said he thought the Arbor Day event was a great idea and he was happy to see it, and he was wondering if it was new or if it was done in years past. Milan said they have done events like this in the past but not sure on exact details.

Member Holland agreed that the event is wonderful. Member Dukes commented that he also thinks that event is great. Chair Varney asked if Friends of Trees would also get involved in the Arbor Day event. Milan answered that Friends of Trees would be involved with the one on Brown Rd but not the one at Leslie.

Member Holland asked if City of Salem cut any cookies to give to Professor Craig at Willamette University regarding the ice storm. Milan confirmed he gave them a cookie from pretty much every park, he thinks up to 30 cookies.

c. Parks & Natural Resources Planning Update

Vice Chair McDowell asked if we do events to give out milkweed or promote Monarch Butterfly Pledge through a nursery or anything. Patricia Farrell explained that the pandemic has paused those events but in the past, they have passed out local seeds at events. They plan to continue to do this as everything begins to reopen. She added that they try to do pollinator gardens in the parks every year.

Member Norris asked for an update on the Beaver Management Strategy. Patricia answered they have been diligently working on the plan and working with the Stormwater crew, Risk Management, and Legal and it has taken longer than anticipated. She said it's close, they just need to do some final review and field visits.

Chair Varney asked if the property at Fairview will have an added cost for maintenance due to all the trees. Ms. Farrell answered that any time there are a lot of trees they have Milan check out what condition the trees are in, before expressing interest in it. She stated there is room for improvement, and there are a lot of ivy and blackberries over there. She thinks it is a good opportunity to do some restoration work with volunteers. Chair Varney asked if there are any issues with the old asphalt road. Ms. Farrell explained it's a nice existing trail, so rather than tear it out they may use it as a trail through the area. Patricia mentioned that this will be her last meeting because she is retiring. The Board congratulated her on her retirement.

d. Parks Operations Update

Vice Chair McDowell asked if they were able to schedule a time for Gretchen to either join a SPRAB meeting or submit an update to the Board regarding City Council's strategy for the unsheltered community. Ms. Whitler answered that she spoke with Gretchen, and she would very much like to come in person to one of the meetings and she will also provide a link, so the board has access to her weekly updates. She suggested Gretchen can come to a meeting as soon as it fits her schedule, and then quarterly after that.

Member Alexander asked about the possibility of identifying a separate crew that would be funded and mobilized just for unsheltered clean ups. Ms. Kellar explained that idea is going to Council next Monday on the 14th. Member Alexander asked what the team would be called. She answered, that they landed on Community Response Sanitation team or something along those lines. Member Alexander explained he was asking so they could reach out to their councilors and express their support.

Vice Chair McDowell asked for the list of awardees for the SPIF grant meeting, Jennifer agreed to provide that to the board along with how much was awarded to them.

e. Recreation Services Update

Member Norris asked if there was an expectation of renewal for the limited duration amphitheater manager position for the Gerry Frank Amphitheater. Becky explained the funding for this position is primarily through TOT (Transient Occupancy Tax). It is possible depending on how much revenue they receive from scheduling in the next 18 months that they might partially or fully fund a position from that revenue. It would need further investigation.

Member Holland asked what is the status of groups being able to use the park without permits, and what are the repercussions if they do it anyway. Becky answered they have a park ranger, code enforcement staff, Salem Police and park rules in place indicating criteria that requires a permit. She also noted there was a period in 2020 and possibly 2021 when they did not issue permits to prevent large groups congregating the in Parks. The fee waivers will be for groups who have already submitted a permit.

Vice Chair McDowell added that the Board created a subcommittee and put together suggestions on how the process could be improved and shared a document as well. Ms.

Whitler said the information Vice Chair McDowell was mentioning should be included in the binder being sent to Member Holland and Member Lloyd with previous agendas and meeting minutes. If it is not, they can let her know and she will send it.

f. Damage Report

Chair Varney asked if other damages to the park were included in this besides graffiti removal. Ms. Kellar explained that is tracked in a different process.

8. NEW BUSINESS

Member Norris asked what plans, if any, there were to move the meetings back to in-person. Ms. Farrell explained they have not heard anything directly from Human Resources with the City yet regarding the new protocol. She said by the next meeting they should have more information to share. Ms. Kellar added the last directive they received at the city was they were waiting to receive direction from OSHA on new guidelines.

9. NEXT MEETING

The next regularly scheduled meeting is April 14, 2022.

10. ADJOURN

6:40 PM

Minutes: Michelle Starbuck/Toni Whitler

Information Reports Packet

For SPRAB Meeting April 14, 2022

1. Mission Street Parks Conservancy: February 9 Minutes, Quarterly Report, and Woodland Garden Project Proposal for Bush's Pasture Park – Christine Chute
2. Urban Forestry Report – Milan Davis, Urban Forester
3. Parks and Natural Resources Planning Report – Rob Romanek, Senior Park Planner
4. Parks Operations Report – Jennifer Kellar, Parks and Recreation Services Manager
5. Recreation Services Report– Becky George, Recreation Services Supervisor
6. Parks Damage Report



Board Meeting Minutes
February 9, 2022

In Attendance

Gretchen Carnaby
Christine Chute
Gary McKuen
Kathy Savicki
Michael Slater
Emily Standish

1. **Agenda** Christine called the meeting to order via telephone, and the agenda was approved as drafted. (Moved by Michael Slater, seconded by Kathy Savicki)
2. **Minutes** Gretchen moved and Michael seconded adoption of the minutes of the January meeting. The minutes were approved.
3. **Financial** Gary reviewed the end of January financial report. Tax filing issues were discussed. The final total for the end of year fund raising appeal was approximately \$15,000. We will do another appeal in the spring, and a targeted fund drive for the Woodland Garden.
4. **Old Business**
 - We reviewed board recruitment activities.
 - Emily reported that a group met in the Park to cut back epimediums this week. Volunteers will resume gardening on March 1.
 - Michael proposed that we hire Brian French for 3 days in April to begin a 5 year rotation pruning of the flowering tree collection to reduce storm damage and improve longevity. Michael moved and Kathy seconded allocation of up to \$3,000 for this project. Motion approved. At Brian Smith's recommendation, Michael has requested a cost estimate to manufacture and install bracing for 3 trees with low extending branches, and for tree root aeration. He is ordering new shrubs for the hillside north of the Ravine. Brian Smith is growing on 12 trees propagated by Lucille Whitman from historic trees, and Michael will be collecting scion wood for more. He will update the GIS map to reflect losses and additions to the tree collection.
 - Major growers have confirmed for the April plant sale, and Michael will contact the ancillary growers again.
 - The City has provided an application form for approval of the Woodland Garden, and Michael and Christine will meet with them this week. We will review the project and request endorsements from Bush House Museum, Salem Art Association, Lord & Schryver Conservancy, and SCAN. Christine has requested that she be on the agenda to present this to SPRAB in March.

5 New Business

- Chris D'Arcy from the Salem Public Arts Commission joined us to discuss their consideration of the Guidance of Youth statue in light of their sensitivity to the fact that we are living on land that belonged to native peoples. They are interested in efforts to recognize the legacy of the Kalapuya in Bush Park. We suggested an interpretive sign to put the statue in context and conveyed our support for added recognition of the history of indigenous people in the Park.
- Christine reported on the City's plans to replace signs on High and Mission Street directing people to Bush House and Bush Barn with new signs consistent with those elsewhere in City parks.
- We reviewed Salem Art Associations draft layout for the 2022 Art Fair, and identified the need to coordinate access via Bush Street. To avoid traffic challenges with the take-down, we will change to a Friday-Saturday two day schedule.

Draft

Next Meeting: March 9 , 10 am Standing meeting time now 2nd Wednesday, 10:00



MISSION STREET PARKS
CONSERVANCY

TO: Members
Salem Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

FROM: Mission Street Parks Conservancy

DATE: April 4, 2022

RE: MSPC Report on Activities for the Period September 30, 2021, through March 30, 2022

The Mission Street Parks Conservancy is a 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to preserving, maintaining, enhancing, and interpreting Bush’s Pasture Park and other iconic landscapes on and near Mission Street.

Preserve

The restoration of the brick work in the Mae Tarter Old Rose Collection was completed last fall. We have ordered white roses to plant within the center area, but supply issues have delayed replanting.

We have contracted with a firm in Corvallis to do work on some established trees in the NW corner of the park. The firm will be building supportive bracing for three trees with longer horizontal limbs. They will also be doing a root reinvigoration for one old tree in the orchard area.

We have also contracted with an arborist from Eugene to do some pruning in the NW corner, in conjunction with the City’s Urban Forester. We want to establish a five-year rotation for maintenance pruning in the orchard. This schedule will enable us to plan, to budget, and to coordinate with the City so that these historic trees get the best care we can provide for them.

Maintain

The Tuesday Gardeners finished the 2021 season in November and started up again in March. Some of our longtime volunteers have not returned since the pandemic, but we have recruited several new volunteers. We are well into the gardening season. Volunteers have begun mulching beds to retain moisture and control weeds. And, of course, the never-ending weeding and edging continues.

Enhance

MSPC has started the process of working under the Bush/Deepwood Cultural Landscape Management Plan to reclaim a neglected area near the parking lot off Bush Street by creating a Woodland Garden. We have consulted with the City’s Parks staff and we plan to file the permit application with the City’s Historic Landmarks Office as soon as we can. Information about this project appears as an attachment to this report.

As a general rule, MSPC now plants most new trees and shrubs in the fall, so they have an entire fall and winter’s moisture to help them get established. Volunteers have, however, recently planted several deciduous azaleas and native flowering current near the path that runs south from Bush House. They have added rhododendrons in shaded areas where they will be protected from the intensifying summer sun. These new shrubs are being hand-watered weekly.



MISSION STREET PARKS
CONSERVANCY

Interpret

MSPC contracted with Michael Slater to manage our contributions to the NW corner of the Park. He began this work in July 2021. In addition to his other duties, he has been working on a GIS map of the NW corner of the park that will help visitors identify specific trees, shrubs, and other plants in the landscape beds. A draft of the map is now available. Check it out by clicking on a numbered bed at [this link](#). This is a work in progress.

The Rose Committee has nearly completed its work identifying all varieties of Old Roses in the Mae Tarter Old Rose Collection. The group is now working on creating a diagram that identifies each bed by number and lists the roses within each bed. This information will be published, online and probably in a paper brochure to hand out at the park.

Plant sale

MSPC will hold a spring plant sale for the first time since 2019 on Friday, April 15, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturday, April 16, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the base of the Soap Box Derby Track. The plant sale will feature a Rhododendron Truss (i.e., “flower show”) and selected plants from selected local growers. For more information, see our [website](#).

Attachments

2 photos

Woodland Garden drawings (The full set of drawings is on our [Facebook page](#).)



MISSION STREET PARKS
CONSERVANCY



Finished brick work at the sundial waiting for roses.



Nearby bench with new brick platform.



MISSION STREET PARKS CONSERVANCY

1. BUSH'S PASTURE PARK

Bush's Pasture Park is a 90.5 acre public park in the heart of Salem, Oregon. It sits on land previously inhabited by the Kalapuya people, descendants of whom are represented by the Grande Ronde Confederated Tribes. In 1850, the land was granted to Methodist missionary David Leslie. Leslie sold the land in 1860 to Asahel Bush. The Bush family donated what is now the lower park to the City in 1917 and the City purchased the remaining land in 1946. The City began to develop the park in 1953.



Bush's Pasture Park is an historic park located just south of Salem's downtown. It is a contributing feature to the Gaiety Hill/Bush's Pasture Park Historic District.



The Mission Street Parks Conservancy helps the City of Salem to preserve, maintain, interpret, and enhance the northwest 13 acres of park, which contains most of the park's public gardens and historical buildings.



The proposed new garden is currently a neglected but prominent space between the Bush Barn parking lot and the south conservatory garden, both of which were installed in the mid-1950's.

A Woodland Garden Proposal for Bush's Pasture Park

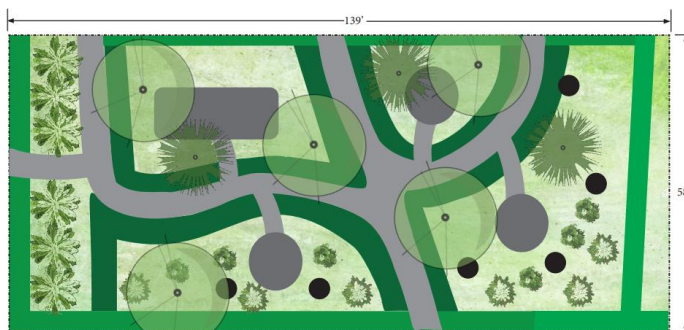


This project has not yet been approved by the City of Salem. The project may not be approved by the City or may be substantially modified from the proposal described in this communication before approval is granted.

7. DESIGN PLAN

The design of the proposed woodland garden draws on the project area's existing and nearby landscape and on Lord & Schryver's legacy in the park. The key elements include exterior and interior evergreen hedging, flowering ornamental trees, and an overstory of evergreen and deciduous columnar trees. Curved gravel pathways connect to similar paths in the adjacent garden to the north. Gravel patios support individual tables and chairs rather than picnic tables.

Evergreen hedges, yew (*Taxus*), and the abundant use of flowering trees are elements commonly found in Lord & Schryver designs and can be found in Bush's Pasture Park.



- Boxwood Hedge
- Holly Hedge
- Yew Hedge
- Groundcover
- Crushed Gravel Patio
- Crushed Gravel Path
- Existing *fastia japonica*
- Existing Tree
- Corylopsis pauciflora*
- Spirea betulifolia* 'Tor'
- Cornus* (Flowering Dogwood)
- Calicedrus decurrens* (Incense-cedar)

A Woodland Garden Proposal for Bush's Pasture Park



This project has not yet been approved by the City of Salem. The project may not be approved by the City or may be substantially modified from the proposal described in this communication before approval is granted.

Urban Forestry Report, April 2022

The Urban Forestry Division continues to work on outstanding ice storm related tree work. We are focusing on tree removals from the storm that require flagging and traffic control plans with city crews. As well we started using Mountain View Tree Service again for storm pruning services with the remainder of the money remains from Insurance and FEMA reimbursement. This work with Mt View should continue through April.

The UFD is also focusing on our tree planting efforts in the city right of way as well as city parks. We have recently conducted interviews to fill our open Tree Trimmer position and are in the process of hiring a very qualified candidate to represent the city. As well we are in the process of recruiting for two full time limited duration 18 month position to work on our ice storm restoration team. These staff members will work to grind tree stumps from over 1000 locations citywide from trees felled during the ice storm. They will also be tasked with removing stump grinds and replacing with a soil mix appropriate for planting new trees where space is in compliance with our code requirements. We expect this two person team to complete all this work and be in a position to have a second team of LD staff to one behind them to plant trees in the locations we deem acceptable and in accordance with code. We estimate at minimum 1000 new trees will be replanted. We also have budgeted for staffing for the two following summer seasons to have staff to water these new trees.

Salem Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting
Parks and Natural Resources Planning Update – April 2022

Bailey Ridge Park Master Plan – A second community workshop was held on March 16. Three different options for the park were presented. Fourteen people attended the second workshop and 56 have watched the YouTube recording. The workshop was followed by the second survey. The second survey had 124 responses. Survey analysis is currently being conducted and results will be posted to the web page.

Geer Community Park Master Plan Update/Phase 2 Development – *Skate Park Design - Preliminary Concepts*: A zoom-based open house was held on Wednesday, March 9 from 6:30-7:30 p.m. Two initial skate park design concepts were presented. A survey was launched directly after the workshop and ran through March 30. The survey had 246 responses. The feedback will be used to prepare a preferred design for the skate park by the end of May. Construction is planned for 2024.

Brown Road Park – The City submitted the application to OPRD Local Government Grant Program for Brown Road Park. Staff is preparing to present the project to the Local Government Grant Program Advisory Committee in June. The committee is expected to provide award recommendations in late summer 2022.

Bond Measure – Staff is helping to identify possible bond projects for parks. An additional meeting of the Infrastructure Bond Engagement Steering Committee was held April 4.

Bill Riegel Park – Engineering is developing construction plans and bid package. Park will be under construction in summer of 2022.

Woodmansee Park Phase 1 Improvements – Engineering has 95% construction plans and bid package. Bid package should be issued in April. Improvements will include reconstruction of the tennis courts, a multiuse irrigated field, a picnic shelter, stormwater bioswale, trees and new walkways. Park will be under construction summer of 2022.

Fairview Land Donation – The Woods at Fairview – A piece of land known as the “Fairview Woods” property will be donated to the City. This property is approximately 14 acres and extensively wooded. It has old asphalt roads through part of it, as it once was the location of Fairview Training Center employee housing.

Skyline Trail Connection – Sprague High School to Joplin Court S – Salem-Keizer School District (SKSD) is planning to realign the Skyline Trail through the Sprague High School property. The realigned trail will terminate at the northeast corner of the SKSD property near Joplin Court S, leaving a short unimproved gap in the Skyline Trail. City planning and design activities are underway to complete the trail gap to Joplin Court S.

Climate Action Plan – The Climate Action Subcommittee will meet for the first time on Thursday, May 5, from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. The subcommittee is expected to meet six additional times this year to discuss and make recommendations on early implementation of the plan. The subcommittee includes the Mayor and Councilors Gonzalez, Hoy, and Phillips. Meetings will be held virtually, livestreamed, and recorded.

Tree Planting / Arbor Month - Next tree planting will be an Arbor Month event at Brown Road Park April 9. There will also be another Arbor Month planting April 30 at Morningside Park. An Eagle Scout project may plant trees at Secor Park.

Parks Operations Update – April 2022

Unsheltered Population Clean-Up Update

A clean-up was held at Marion Square Park on 3/3/2022. A total of 270 cubic yards of garbage and debris were removed using a combination of a garbage truck, 10-yard dump trucks, and three 20-yard dumpsters. That is equal to about 23 heavy dump truck loads of garbage. Crews were able to remove about 75 percent of the garbage from the park on the day of the clean-up; however, due to time constraints, the crew was not able to clean the planting strips near the park, the center median, or under any of the bridges. Community Service workers were used over the following weekend to perform some more litter patrol and a Marion County AIC crew was used on the following Monday to finish the work in the park and surrounding area.

A clean-up was held at Cascade Gateway Park on 3/10/2022. The crew cleared and cleaned the south meadow of the park that is part of the disc golf course, next to Church at the Park. There were about 25 tents. The move-out of campers went well, weather and conditions were favorable, and crews were able to use heavy equipment and trucks, plus a 14-person Service Master/Gliss crew to remove a total of 180 cubic yards of garbage and debris. Ten yards of that amount was metal for recycling. Crews also removed and returned about 3 dozen shopping carts. A line of boulders were placed along some of the access points between the Church at the Park property and the south meadow to discourage vehicle and shopping cart entry back into the park.





A follow-up day of cleaning was held at Cascade Gateway Park on 3/17/2022. Crews cleaned most of the northwest corner of the park – the area between Walmart/Lowes and Mill Creek. It was a very large area to cover in a day and crews encountered more garbage than anticipated. Using a 14-person crew from Service Master/Gliss crews were able to remove 60 cubic yards of garbage, 5 cubic yards of metal for recycling, and 17 shopping carts.



A third follow-up day of clean-up was held at Cascade Gateway Park on 3/24/2022. This week Parks Operations had an AIC (adult-in-custody) crew from Marion County work in the park on Monday. They removed 50 cubic yards of garbage. On the day of the clean-up an 11-person Service Master/Gliss crew worked for half a day to finish the job and cleaned the eastern portion of the park. Approximately 40 cubic yards of garbage and another 6 cubic yards of metal for recycling were removed from the park. The total for the week from Cascades Gateway Park was 96 cubic yards – equal to 8 heavy dump truck loads for visualization purposes.

Between the prior week clean-up and the clean-up of the 3/24, several campers had moved from Church at the Park back into Cascades Gateway Park – all with new tents and gear.

A clean-up was held at Wallace Marine Park on 3/31/2022. Around 60 vehicles were tagged by Code Compliance Services last week and then were cleared on the Tuesday prior to the Thursday clean-up, with about 12 vehicles towed that day. On clean-up day there was only one abandoned camper on jacks and it conveniently fit into a 40-yard dump box – with some coaxing from our skid steer loader. Using a 12-member Service Master/Gliss crew, a total of 120 cubic yards of garbage and debris were removed, including 10 cubic yards of metals for recycling. Cleaning started from the boat ramp from the south all the way through the gravel parking lots and Fir Grove area to include the areas in the north half of the developed area of the park south and north of the softball complex.

PROJECTS

Salem Park Improvement Projects (SPIF): The SPIF committee met on Monday, March 7th and neighborhood associations were notified of the following grant awards:

Neighborhood Association	Park Location	Project Description	Project Cost	Other Funds	Requested Amount	Award Amount
Sunnyslope	Secor	Information kiosk	4,000	200	3,800	3,800
Morningside	Morningside	Four (4) picnic tables	2,400		2,400	2,400
Faye Wright	Hillview	Walking trail rehab & improvement	5,000		5,000	5,000

SWAN	Fircrest	Information kiosk	3,000		4,000	4,000
CANDO	Minto	Bike fix-it station	3,800		3,800	3,800
West Salem	Brush College	Trail rehab; two (2) picnic tables; disk golf practice area w/3 baskets; park entrance sign	15,000	500	14,500	14,500
Northgate	Fisher	Trail rehab; four (4) picnic tables; mutt mitt dispenser	18,000		18,000	18,000
		TOTALS	51,200	700	51,500	51,500

EVENTS

Earth Day: There are currently five (5) scheduled Earth Day events throughout our Parks system. They are as follows:

- 1) Fircrest Park in partnership with Southwest Association of Neighbors (SWAN)
 Date: April 22nd - tree planting
 Date: April 23rd – ivy pull and park clean up.
 Event is from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. on both days.
- 2) Riverfront Park in partnership with SWAN
 Date: April 23rd – park clean up.
 Event is from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 pm (meet by covered restrooms by the playground)
- 3) Deepwood Rehabilitation
 Date: April 23rd – ivy/blackberry pull, trail clearing, and more in the natural area below the formal gardens
 Event is from 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 pm
- 4) Englewood Park
 Date: April 23rd
 Event time TBD
- 5) Park location in NE Salem TBD in partnership with United Methodist Church
 Date: April 23rd
 Event time TBD

Salem Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting

Recreation Update –April 2022

1. Events/Facility Use

- Kathleen Swarm started on Monday, March 14. She is the new (limited duration) staff hired to manage the new Gerry Frank I Salem Rotary Amphitheater. She has been busy learning about the new facility and communicating with interested renters. In addition to the many other activities this facility will surely host, we are proud to announce that FishFest and Reventon (the Fish and El Rey radio station concerts) are the first ones to book their nationally known performers in this venue. FishFest will take place on Saturday, August 20 and Reventon will be held on Sunday, August 21.
- Work is currently being done to update all the facility use permits to include new venues, such as the Gerry Frank I Salem Rotary Amphitheater and to process these electronically in an effort to prepare for the new Customer Service Center that will be developed at City Hall.
- The number of event/permit requests has drastically increased in the last 2-4 weeks. Currently we have the following scheduled:
 - Bush's Pasture Park – 23 rentals (lower Leffelle picnic area, amphitheater, or soap box derby track)
 - Cascade Gateway Park – closed-no rentals
 - Minto-Brown Shelter – 28 rentals
 - Riverfront Park – 80+ rentals (Pavilion, North Meadow, South Meadow, original amphitheater and/or new Gerry Frank I Salem Rotary Amphitheater)
 - River Road Park Shelter – 18 rentals
 - Woodmansee Shelter – 15 rentals

2. Youth Recreation Programs

- The COUNTRY Kids Relays are on hold until next year, and already highly anticipated.
- Summer program listings are on our website and registrations have begun!! We already have one camp fill to capacity and have a couple others that are close to being full. If you know of someone looking for a LEGO camp, we suggest they register soon as space is limited. Registrations are being accepted in the office (Room #325 of City Hall) and online. We also offer have fee waiver opportunities for qualified Salem residents.
- Ballfields have opened and sports groups have started hosting activities on our courts/fields. We event received a “thank you and great job” on the condition of the baseball fields at Geer Park – which we promptly forwarded to our Parks Operations field/turf staff last week.
- Our first STRIDE event is coming up on May 14, at 9 a.m. in Minto-Brown Island Park. We are hosting a 5k and a 10k run/walk event on this date.
- Do you know a sports minded person, age 16 or older, wanting a summer job?! A position to join the Recreation Team will open April 18. We are hiring staff who have knowledge of various sports like tennis, basketball, soccer, and pickleball and staff who enjoy arts and craft activities as well. Interested applicants can view the job description on the City of Salem website under “Jobs”.

3. Softball and Kickball Leagues/Tournaments

- We have 75 league teams registered for this Spring and are in the process of getting leagues started over the next week and a half.
- We are still actively interviewing and hiring staff and are hoping to have enough after the next round of applicants finishes interviewing, but we may have to leave it open a little bit longer.
- A substantial amount of work has been done inside the concession stand at the complex, with some long overdue remodeling completed to allow for our new concessionaire to move in and have a functional and nice-looking space.
- Although recent work has been done by the city to clean-up some of the unsheltered population camps around Wallace, we still plan to hire security to work in and around the complex this season. We are currently working on getting the contract with the previous vendor renewed.