



Infrastructure Bond Engagement Steering Committee

Si necesita ayuda para comprender esta información, por favor llame 503-588-6211

Disability-related modification or accommodation, including auxiliary aids or services, in order to participate in this meeting or event, are available upon request. Sign language and interpreters for languages other than English are also available on request. To request such an accommodation or interpretation, contact the City at 503-588-6040 or KBlechsmidt@cityofsalem.net at least two business days before meeting; or TTD/TTY telephone 503-588-6439, is also available 24/7.

Committee Members

Mayor Chuck Bennett, *Chair*
Councilor Jose Gonzalez
Councilor Chris Hoy
Councilor Virginia Stapleton
Councilor Micki Varney

City Staff

Kristin Retherford, *Interim City Manager*
Dan Atchison, *City Attorney*
Josh Eggleston, *Chief Financial Officer*
Peter Fernandez, *Public Works Director*
Krishna Namburi, *Enterprise Services Director*
Mike Niblock, *Fire Chief*
Michelle Teed, *Assistant City Attorney*
Courtney Knox Busch, *Strategic Initiatives Manager*
Brian Martin, *City Engineer*
Robert Romanek, *Parks Planner*
Jennifer Keller, *Parks and Rec Manager*
Julie Warncke, *Transportation Planning Manager*
Tammi Starrs, *Engineering Program Manager*
James Wharton-Hess, *Management Analyst II*
Kelli Blechsmidt, *Management Analyst I*
Kathy Ursprung, *Program Manager*

Guests

Clark Worth, Barney and Worth
Libby Barg – Burke, Barney and Worth
John Horvick, DHM Research

It is the City of Salem's policy to assure that no person shall be discriminated against on the grounds of race, religion, color, sex, marital status, familial status, national origin, age, mental or physical disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, and source of income, as provided by Salem Revised Code Chapter 97. The City also fully complies with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and related statutes and regulations, in all programs and activities.

Meeting Agenda

Friday, April 15, 2022

1:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

City of Salem Public Meeting Channel (YouTube)

To register to provide oral testimony to the committee, please sign up the day of the meeting between 8AM and 12PM on the [Committee webpage](#).

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of 4/4/2022 Meeting Minutes
3. Public Comment – each person has 3 minutes to address the Committee.
 - Correspondence from residents regarding bike lanes
4. Update on Public Opinion and Community Research – DHM Research and Barney & Worth
5. Requested Options for Bond Package
6. Committee Recommendation to Council for Bond Package
7. Adjourn

City of Salem Infrastructure Bond Engagement Steering Committee Minutes

DATE: April 4, 2022

CHAIRPERSON: Chuck Bennett

PLACE: ZOOM

STAFF LIAISONS:

Courtney Knox Busch

cbusch@cityofsalem.net

Josh Eggleston

jeggleston@cityofsalem.net

Members Present:

Mayor Bennett

Councilor Jose Gonzalez

Councilor Chris Hoy

Councilor Virginia Stapleton

Councilor Micki Varney

Staff Present:

Kristin Retherford, Interim City Manager

Peter Fernandez, Public Works Director

Dan Atchison, City Attorney

Josh Eggleston, Chief Financial Officer

Courtney Knox Busch, Strategic Initiatives
Manager

Krishna Namburi, Enterprise Services Director

Mike Niblock, Fire Chief

Brian Martin, City Engineer

Michelle Teed, Asst. City Attorney

James Wharton-Hess, Management Analyst II

Kelli Blechschmidt, Management Analyst I

Jennifer Keller, Parks and Rec Manager

Tammi Starrs, Engineering Program Manager

1. CALL TO ORDER: 12:01 PM / Quorum
2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES MARCH 28, 2022 MINUTES:
Motion by: Member Hoy
Second by: Member Stapleton

Action: Motion passes

Vote:

Aye: Unanimous

Nay:

Abstentions:

3. PUBLIC COMMENT:
 - a. Victor Dodier regarding Streets and Sidewalks projects
Questions or Comments by: Member Stapleton
Answers or Comments by: Victor Dodier
 - b. Steve Anderson regarding Marine Drive
Questions or Comments by: Member Hoy
Answers or Comments by: Steve Anderson
 - c. Jason Cox regarding bike lanes
Questions or Comments by: Chair Bennett
Answers or Comments by: Jason Cox

4. STAFF PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION: FOLLOW UP ITEMS

- a. Brian Martin, City Engineer presented about Transportation SDCs

Questions or Comments by: Members Hoy and Stapleton, Chair Bennett
Answers or Comments by: Brian Martin, City Engineer, Peter Fernandez,
Public Works Director

- b. Jennifer Keller, Parks Manager presented on Parks projects and parking lots

Questions or Comments by: Member Hoy, Member Varney, Chair Bennett, Member
Gonzalez, Member Stapleton

Answers or Comments by: Jennifer Keller, Parks Manager, Kristin
Retherford, Interim City Manager, Peter Fernandez, Public Works
Director.

5. RETURN TO BONDING PROJECTS:

- a. Josh Eggleston, Chief Financial Officer and Courtney Knox-Busch lead the
Committee in a general discussion about the bond composition.

Questions or Comments by: Chair Bennett, Member Hoy, Member Stapleton,
Member Varney.

Answers or Comments by: Fire Chief Niblock, Josh Eggleston, Chief
Financial Officer, Kristin Retherford, Interim City Manager, Dan
Atchison, City Attorney, Peter Fernandez, Public Works Director

Chair Bennett excused himself at 1:12PM leaving the committee under
Member Hoy's direction. Returned at 1:14PM.

- b. Committee returned conversation to discuss Parks projects

Questions or Comments by: Member Stapleton, Member Hoy, Member
Gonzalez, Chair Bennett.

Answers or Comments by: Jennifer Keller, Parks Manager, Peter Fernandez,
Public Works Director, Josh Eggleston, Chief Financial Officer

- c. Committee provided general feedback to staff on some projects and format
of data.

Questions or Comments by: Chair Bennett, Member Stapleton, Member
Varney, Member Hoy

Answers or Comments by Courtney Knox-Busch, Strategic Initiatives
Manager, Josh Eggleston, Chief Financial Officer, Brian Martin, City
Engineer

6. ADJOURNMENT: 2:14 PM

The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, April 15, 2022 at 1:00 PM.

From: [Brian Amstutz](#)
To: [Bond 2022](#)
Subject: Bond engagement committee - written comment
Date: Monday, April 4, 2022 11:00:35 AM

Infrastructure Bond Engagement Steering Committee,

I am unable to (virtually) attend today's meeting, so I wanted to take this opportunity to write in support of infrastructure bond funds directed toward protected bike lanes and other actions as proposed in the Salem Bike Vision. The Salem Bike Vision is a forward-thinking proposal that will prepare Salem for a truly multi-modal transportation network, and safer and healthier communities, amid a rapidly changing climate.

I live in north-central Salem, and commute 5 miles by bike to my workplace in south Salem. Every morning, I don my super-reflective clothing, activate my three high-intensity strobe lights, and set forth into traffic. I am an experienced cyclist, including 5 years of competitive racing, 4 years commuting by bike in Washington DC, and multiple long-distance bike journeys across various countries. yet some of my most terrifying and terrible experiences are here in Salem. It is not safe to take the existing bike lanes when there are vehicles going 50+ mph to the immediate left, and roadside debris (glass, tree limbs, gutters) to the immediate right. It is then positively murderous when those bikes lanes are intersected by commercial parking entrances every 50 feet. And those are the roads with designated bike lanes... Meanwhile my wife will not ride her bike with me to the Saturday market. I live one mile from the Saturday market.

This was probably not the most useful of public comments -- I can only hope you are well-aware of these issues. So I would ask you to please substantively support the Salem Bike Vision into this infrastructure bond planning. It is completely practical yet has the potential to dramatically transform our Salem lives and livelihoods.

Thank you,

Brian Amstutz

21st St NE

From: [Spens Wu](#)
To: [Bond 2022](#)
Subject: Salem Bike Vision Bond
Date: Wednesday, April 6, 2022 1:54:12 PM

To Whom It May Concern,

I wanted to send my support for the Salem Bike Vision program and Bond measure. As a Salem citizen I can't see any other single short-term measure to decrease pollution in Salem than this program. We should provide the opportunity for Salem residents to take advantage of this improvement so that they feel safe enough to enjoy biking in our community. I already commute to work on my bike from West Salem to Lancaster every day, so I am very familiar with the dangers of bicycling near traffic. This program would decrease pollution, improve the health of everyone, and keep us safe. Thanks for all that you do!

Kind regards,

Spencer Woolley, PharmD
779 Van Buren Dr NW, Salem, OR 97304

From: [Kim Davis](#)
To: [Bond 2022](#)
Subject: bond funding for bike
Date: Wednesday, April 6, 2022 3:06:03 PM

I am writing to request that the bond subcommittee ensures that adequate funding is provided for the Salem Bike Vision plan as a part of the November bond measure. Salem is currently considered one of the most dangerous cities in Oregon by bicyclists, and many who relocate here have to stop riding due to safety issues.

We need to increase active transport city wide, and this would be one way to increase use of bicycles. There could be no better way to invest in Salem's future.

Thanks.
Kim Davis

Public Opinion & Community Research—Recap

Infrastructure Bond Engagement Steering Committee

April 15, 2022

Community Focus Groups (September 2021)

- Homelessness and crime are top issues.
- Support increases after learning this would not increase property tax rates.
- Support increases when more information is provided.
- Voters want to know if projects align with their priorities.

Telephone Survey Highlights (January 2022)

Support for the bond measure increases from 49% (very likely, somewhat likely) to 60% when voters learn they could approve bonds **without increasing property tax rates**

Project Priorities

Response category	n=400	Very high/High	Low/Very low
Maintain and repair existing streets, bridges, and sidewalks		73%	6%
Build new streets and sidewalks where they can reduce congestion and improve safety		58%	15%
Purchase land for affordable housing and shelters		56%	30%
Replace aging fire engines and firefighting equipment		54%	13%
Upgrade the security of the city's data and computer systems		48%	19%
Upgrade existing parks with improved play equipment, restrooms, courts, and fields		37%	28%
Purchase land for future fire stations		26%	34%
Upgrade the Salem Civic Center to current earthquake safety standards		21%	43%

\$100 Budget

Response category	n=400
Street and sidewalk improvements	\$29.80
Fire protection	\$24.90
Technology and cybersecurity	\$16.50
Park improvements	\$15.40
Earthquake safety	\$13.40

Next Steps

- Continue Community Outreach
- Bond Measure Public Engagement Plan
- Improvement Bond Measure Telephone Survey



MEMO

TO: Infrastructure Bond Engagement Committee

FROM: Josh Eggleston
Chief Financial Officer

DATE: April 15, 2022

SUBJECT:

Since the Committee began its work in December, 2021 there has been great progress made toward putting together a comprehensive Infrastructure Bond recommendation to City Council for the November, 2022 ballot. The Infrastructure Bond has been built on the following pillars:

- \$300 Million package
- A levy rate of \$1.20 / \$ 1,000 of assessed value on tax bills
- A 10 – year duration which will have several issuances of the \$300 Million package

Thus far, the Committee has recommended the following to be a part of the package that will be forwarded to City Council for consideration:

- Civic Center Earthquake Safety Improvements : \$39,400,000
- Technology and Cybersecurity: \$17,620,00
- Sites of Affordable Housing / Branch Library Locations: \$7,500,000
- Affordable Housing Opportunity Funds: \$10,000,000
- Fire Engines and Equipment: \$26,000,000

The above projects total \$100,520,000, leaving approximately two thirds of the bond package available to allocate.

The goal of the meeting this afternoon will be to decide on the below projects, including their amounts. Currently, staff is proposing the following allocation.

- Future Fire Stations: \$14,000,000
- Streets and Sidewalks: \$157,075,000
- Park Upgrades: \$31,184,000

The recommended reductions include:

- Marine Drive – reduce to phase 1 of Harritt to Taybin – reduction of: \$24,000,000
- Pringle Creek Path – fund half of project URA funds when available – reduction of: \$3,575,000
- River Road S Slide Mitigation – remove project – reduction of: \$20,000,000
- Fisher Road Park Development – remove project, fund with SDCs – reduction of: \$2,840,000

- Orchard Heights Park Parking Lot Renovations – remove project – reduction of: \$280,000
- Wallace Marine Park Sports Field Lots Pavement – remove project – reduction of: \$1,260,000
- Cascades Gateway Park Walter Wirth Parking Lot Pavement – remove project – reduction of: \$1,480,000
- Pavement R&R Edgewater Street NW: Wallace Rd NW to 200 feet East of Rosemount Ave NW – remove project – reduction of: \$1,040,000
- Signal Replacement Portland Road NE at Lana Avenue NE – remove project – reduction of \$2,030,000
- Orchard Heights Dog Park – remove project – reduction of \$550,000

Staff is available to walk through any questions you may have during the meeting on April 15, 2022 with the Committee. Most of the reductions were based on feedback during the last Infrastructure Bond meeting on April 4, 2022.