

Board members present:

Jon Christenson, Christine Chute, Victor Dodier, John Prohodsky, Ron Rubel, Jim Schepcke, Jeff Schumacher, Roz Shirack, Brian Sund, Carol Snyder, Lorrie Walker, Evan West, Mark Wigg

Guests were present as well. **See Exhibit A - Attendance Roster**

President Victor Dodier called the meeting to order at 6:32 pm with a quorum present.

1. The January 2023 meeting minutes were accepted without corrections.

2. City and County Reports:

a. Councilor Nishioka

The City Council's 2023 priorities will be adopted at the February 13th Council meeting.

Shelter options for the houseless will need \$9 to \$15 million to sustain after Salem's 2023 fiscal year.

Councilor Nishioka participated in the 2023 Point in Time count of the houseless population. It was quite the eye opener for her.

Council voted 9-0 to authorize \$2.4 million from the General Funds for improvements to the airport passenger terminal and 1st year operating expenses. Significant funds from grants were received and additional grants are being pursued. The airline is not publicly known. Initial flights from Salem will be to Burbank, CA and Las Vegas, NV. Additional flights to San Francisco, CA and Phoenix, AZ are a possibility.

One-time funds which allowed Salem to provide services which property taxes and various City fees would not cover will not be available for the 2024 and later City budgets. If additional income is not found, it is highly likely at this time that the budget for the Fire Department and Library will be cut to balance the Salem's budget. Salem residents are encouraged to take the [Balancing Act Survey](#) where one can balance Salem's 2024 budget by increasing revenue and/or cutting services. Councilor Nishioka is an alternative member of the Finance Committee. She mentioned that there are differences between zip codes in the results of the Balancing Act Survey. When asked if a tax on gasoline would help balance Salem's budget, she said revenue from taxes on motor vehicle fuel can only be used for transportation.

3. Announcements

Jim Schepcke said an Afghani family (parents and 7 children) has moved into a house in the 1800 block of High St. SE. Please welcome them to the neighborhood if you see them.

Brian Sund said the 2nd Annual [Polar Plunge](#), a fund raiser for the Special Olympics, is Saturday March 4th. He has donation sheets. Local pledges are shared with the local Special Olympics.

4. Neighborhood Concerns

Removing overlay zones in SCAN was discussed by Austin Ross, a Salem City Planner. The overlay zones' building heights and setbacks conflict with mixed-use zones. The overlay zones restrict a building's height to 35 ft. and the mixed-use zones allow a building's maximum height to be between 55 and 70 feet, depending on the zone.

Jon Christenson asked about the impact of topology on mixed-use building height. He noted that there is a significant difference in elevation between Commercial Street and West Nob Hill Street. Austin said it will impact biking and walking.

Ross was asked about offsite parking in mixed-use zones. Offsite parking, if allowed, must be in the mixed-use zone.

Access from Commercial Street to parking is a concern. Austin said it is governed by the Salem Revised Code on driveways.

5. Representative Tom Anderson made remarks on being a freshman Oregon state legislator.

Committee assignments:

- Judiciary, where he is the Vice-Chair. The committee has 9 members of which 3 are lawyers. Non-lawyers ask really good questions.
- Climate, Environment and Energy Committee
- Early Childhood Education and Human Services

Tom's request to be on the Transportation Committee was declined.

Tom went over his schedule for the day of the SCAN meeting. He was booked solid from 8 am to 7:30 pm.

Tom has sponsored bills regarding:

- A Salem streetcar system
- A feasibility study to extend the Westside commuter rail line to Salem
- Proposing a ban on short term rentals in historic districts

Jim Schepke asked if there was any campaign finance legislation. Tom said Democratic Party leadership has bills on campaign finance. They also have a bill on ranked choice voting. Tom's campaign raised \$672,000 of which Tom personally raised between \$90,000 and \$100,000.

6. Committee Reports and Chair Report

- a. Land Use Committee

The Land Use Committee met in January. The Committee Chair's report (**Exhibit B**) is attached.

A new development has been proposed for the corner of Commercial and Bush Streets. It will have 45 units of housing, 27 parking spaces and a 1 story medical building across the alley. The developer is asking for an adjustment in the setback from the street. They are asking for a 5 ft. setback where the Saginaw Street Overlay Zone's required setback is 30 feet.

The short-term rental at 795 Church Street SE was approved with conditions limiting the house to no more than 3 bedrooms and 6 people.

The Hunsaker Dental Office application is not complete,

b. Historic Preservation, Parks, and Gardens Committee

The Historic Preservation, Parks, and Gardens (HPPG) Committee met in January. The Committee Chair's report (**Exhibit C**) is attached.

The HPPG Committee prepared and submitted a SPIF grant application for \$3,000 to restore the Mae Tartar Old Rose Collection in Bush's Pasture Park. The value of the in-kind labor is estimated to be \$2,200. The Mission Street Park Conservatory is very grateful for SCAN's assistance in obtaining a SPIF grant for restoring the old rose collection.

c. Transportation Committee

The Transportation Committee met in January. The Committee Chair's report (**Exhibit D**) is attached.

Photo Radar

There is a problem with drivers speeding on Liberty and Commercial Streets. There is a bill, HB 2095, allowing mobile photo radar units. The Transportation Committee proposed the motion:

The South Central Association of Neighbors (SCAN) supports the use of photo radar to improve traffic safety and supports passage of HB 2095 that would allow the City of Salem to use photo radar. SCAN encourages the City of Salem to work with Salem area legislators to achieve passage of HB 2095.

The motion passed with 12 yes votes and 0 no votes.

Vision Zero

SCAN has discussed Vision Zero in the context of "20 is Plenty." The Transportation Committee was going to offer a motion recommending that Vision Zero be incorporated into the Salem Transportation System Plan, but it became moot after Council adopted a motion incorporating Vision Zero into the TSP at its January 23rd meeting.

Minimum Parking Requirements

The State is asking local governments to eliminate minimum parking requirements. Victor introduced a motion supporting the elimination of minimum parking requirements. Jim Schepke seconded the motion. Evan West moved to table the motion. The motion to table was approved with 7 yes votes and 5 no votes.

d. Chair's report

Although Salem pays for SCAN's website from SCAN's communications fund, SCAN needs to authorize the City to pay for the website with money from SCAN's communications fund. Victor moved and John Prohodsky seconded a motion:

The South Central Association of Neighbors approves the expenditure of \$192.00 to pay the annual cost of maintaining SCAN's web site.

The motion passed with 13 yes votes and 0 no votes.

April is Arbor Month in Salem. As part of Arbor Month Salem Parks is organizing volunteers to improve Salem parks. One of those volunteer projects is the removal of English ivy in Fairmont Park. The proposed dates are either Saturday April 1st or Saturday April 8th.

Meeting adjourned at 8:42 pm.

Exhibit A

Attendees for Month Day, 2023 SCAN Meeting

Board Member	Email Address	Present	Board Member	Email Address	Present
Christenson, Jon	scan.50yrs.1973.2023@gmail.com	X	Shirack, Roz	rozshirack7@gmail.com	X
Chute, Christine	cachute@gmail.com	X	Sund, Brian	sund60@icloud.com	X
Dodier, Victor	vidodier@teleport.com	X	Snyder, Carol	snyder2858@comcast.net	X
Prohodsky, John	johnmpro@gmail.com	X	Walker, Lorrie	dakotalor@msn.com	X
Rubel, Ron	ronrubel@comcast.net	X	West, Evan	evanwest714@gmail.com	X
Scheppke, Jim	jschepke@comcast.net	X	Wigg, Mark	mark_wigg@hotmail.com	X
Schumacher, Jeff	jeff.schumacher@gmail.com	X			

Other Attendees

Linda Nishioki, City Councilor Ward 2
Austin Ross
Leni Kathy Lingo
Heather O'Brien
Stephen and Rachel Wood
David Helisdens
Monica McQueen
Wally Benson

Exhibit B

Land Use Committee Report

Overlay Zone Removal

The Committee met January 12, 2023, with City planning staff Eunice Kim and Austin Ross to discuss the impact of removing the five overlay zones on commercial zoned property along Commercial St. SE, as proposed by City Council. Committee members attending were John Prohodsky, Jon Christenson, Lorrie Walker, Board member Evan West, and Roz Shirack, chair.

The purpose of the overlay zones, established in the mid-1980's in response to the widening of Commercial St SE, is to establish development standards that minimize the impacts of nonresidential development on existing residential uses.

The Committee's initial reaction is that the purpose and need for the overlay zones still exist, especially after the recent rezoning of 1.5 miles of Commercial St. SE through SCAN for mixed-use development. Removing the overlay zones would remove those protections and allow the underlying mixed use zones to control development, which allow taller buildings, closer to residents, and more dense development than would be allowed by the overlay zones.

During the Our Salem Project SCAN supported a moderate level of mixed-use zoning as appropriate for Commercial St., which has frequent (15 minutes) transit service. But that was with the understanding that the five overlay zones would remain in place. Neither staff, nor Planning Commission, nor Council proposed removing the overlay zones throughout the 4 year long update of the Comprehensive Plan. Now Council's proposal to remove the overlay zones shifts the balance in favor of the mixed-use properties along Commercial St. at the expense of livability, quality of life, and property values of the existing residential uses adjacent to the mixed-use zones on the east and west side of Commercial St.

Background: At its November 14 meeting City Council directed staff to initiate an ordinance to eliminate these five overlay zones:

- Saginaw Street Overlay Zone
- Superior-Rural Overlay Zone
- Oxford-West Nob Hill Overlay Zone
- Oxford-Hoyt Overlay Zone
- Hoyt-McGilchrist Overlay Zone

Council noted that these overlays complicate the process and diminish the potential in this walkable neighborhood with access to frequent transit. This change will provide more opportunities to meet our housing, walkability, and climate goals and reduce complication for development on these properties.

Short-Term Rental Request for 795 Church St. SE was approved January 25

The Hearings Officer approved the Conditional Use Permit to allow this existing single-family dwelling to be used as a short-term rental. Approval included a number of conditions, including:

Condition 1: The number of guest rooms shall be limited to three and the maximum number of occupants shall not exceed six persons, not counting children under 12.

Condition 2: The short-term rental shall be rented to only one group of guests at a time.

Condition 3: Use of the short-term rental shall be limited to the provision of lodging.

And others. This decision may be appealed up to Feb 10.

New Hunsaker Dental Office at 835-877 Commercial St. SE

The development application is still not complete.

No new development applications are under review.

The next Land Use Committee meeting is Thursday, Feb 16 at 4 pm.

Submitted by Roz Shirack, Chair

Exhibit C

Historic Preservation, Parks, and Gardens Committee Report

On Tuesday, January 24, 2023, the Historic Preservation, Parks & Gardens Committee met via ZOOM.

1. GARDENS

Christine provided an overview of the proposed new ornamental WOODLAND GARDEN in Bush's Pasture Park that has been approved for east of the Bush House. In late May-early June 2022, the proposal NOTICE of FILING was received and reviewed by members of the HPPG Committee (Minor Historic Design Review Case No. HIS22-13).

Committee members also discussed next steps for the SPIF proposal to assist the RESTORATION OF THE MAE TARTAR OLD ROSE COLLECTION in the Municipal Rose Garden in Bush's Pasture Park. Consensus to move forward with a funding request to include plant materials, and educational ID signs.

Following the HPPG meeting, a formal SPIF grant application was prepared. Submitted to the SCAN president for approval signature, and delivered to City Parks & Recreation Department on January 30.

An estimated 150 Heritage roses are to be selected, assigned locations and planted, in partnership with the Mission Street Parks Conservancy (MSPC).

Each Heritage variety will be identified with signage. Labor for the fabrication of the sign holders will be donated. The planting will be by volunteers.

ELAINE SEDLACK

Expertise on Heritage roses selection will be guided, gratis, by Elaine S. Sedlack. Elaine is a retired businesswoman in landscaping, now living in Oregon, a native of Oakland, California, former staff at the University of California Botanical Garden (UCBG) at Berkeley (for 31 years): at UCBG in charge of the Asian Collection, speaks and writes in Mandarin. Past member of the Heritage Rose Group, the ARS, International Dendrology Society, and the Herb Society of America. Elaine is being invited to meet with HPPG Committee members, depending on her schedule, maybe at Gaiety Hollow. Should be fun and very informative.

VOLUNTEERS ARE WELCOME

An estimate is, collectively, a 1000 volunteer hours will be needed on the MAE TARTAR OLD ROSE COLLECTION RESTORATION. Board members and neighbors interested in volunteering to assist planting should contact - please e-mail - Christine Chute at cachute@gmail.com -- or catch up with Christine at a SCAN Board meeting.

Also thank you to Christine, Victor, Gretchen for availability, help on your parts to submitting an on-time SPIF application to the City. Good teamwork. And to Brian Sund for a good teacher proofread, if we had needed, + his willingness to be drafted for a task. We submitted a quality application.

2. HISTORIC DESIGN REVIEWS

There are currently no Historic Design Reviews or before the HLC for properties in SCAN.

Jon Christenson

Exhibit D
Transportation Committee Report

The SCAN Transportation Committee met on January 18, 2023 in the community room of Fairmont Cottages. Attending: Brian Sund, Jim Schepcke, and Victor Dodier

Our agenda was:

- Discussion of the City proposals regarding minimum parking
- Discussion of HB 2095, authorizes all cities to operate photo radar ... see [HB 2095](#)
- Discussion of Vision Zero
- Other topics suggested by committee members

City proposals regarding minimum parking

We discussed the City's proposal to eliminate minimum parking requirements city wide in order to prepare whomever would attend the City's open house on January 31. Of those present, Schepcke and Dodier planned to attend.

The City's proposal is in response to the DLCDC Climate Friendly and Equitable Communities rule. The DLCDC rule gives three options. The City can eliminate minimum parking requirements with little city expense within the time frame set by the rule. Other options offered in the rule would require more time / expense.

Those present generally agreed that eliminating minimum parking is the best way to go. As it stands, even auto-centric uses (i.e., Willamette Valley Mall, Costco) seldom fill their enormous parking lots. And, Willamette Valley Mall has been filling in its large parking lot with development pads for years. Further, the other options provided in the DLCDC rule would be difficult to implement; City does not have much choice but to eliminate minimum parking requirements.

NOTE: The Transportation Committee did not recommend a motion at its meeting since it was preparing for the January 31 open house. A motion of support for the City's proposal was prepared after the open house and circulated to SCAN board members by email.

HB 2095, authorizes all cities to operate photo radar

The League of Oregon Cities requested HB 2095. The bill, if enacted, would allow any city to operate photo radar (i.e., mobile photo radar units). Currently, only certain cities (Albany, Beaverton, Bend, Eugene, Gladstone, Medford, Milwaukie, Oregon City, Portland and Tigard) may operate photo radar units. In addition, HB 2095 removes the requirement that photo radar may only be used for four hours in any one location.

Under current law, City of Salem can use photo radar in conjunction with traffic signals and has speed cameras on traffic signals at three intersections.

The cities that currently use photo radar typically contract out the operation, although the citation must be reviewed and signed by a sworn officer (the law recently changed to allow a trained individual to perform this function).

Cities that use photo radar must file a biennial report. Dodier reported that it's difficult to tell whether photo radar costs more than the total fines collected, breaks even, or is raises money. The reports are not well written. At best, photo radar breaks even. Regardless, the reason for photo radar is traffic safety and better compliance with speed limits.

The City of Salem supports HB 2095.

The Transportation Committee recommends the following motion in support:

The South Central Association of Neighbors (SCAN) supports the use of photo radar to improve traffic safety and supports passage of HB 2095 that would allow the City of Salem to use photo radar. SCAN encourages the City of Salem to work with Salem area legislators to achieve passage of HB 2095.

NOTE: The Joint Committee on Transportation held a public hearing on HB 2095 on January 31. Mayor Hoy testified in support of HB 2095 along with other city, county and transit officials.

Legislators' questions brought of issues of whether photo radar is simply a revenue raising tool, disparate impact on BIPOC communities, and unregulated use.

Vision Zero

We've talked about Vision Zero in the past in the context of "20 is plenty." We deferred discussion of Vision Zero about a year ago when we considered a SCAN motion in support of Councilor Stapleton's "20 is Plenty" proposal. Background on Vision Zero can be found at the [Vision Zero Network](#) web site. The [City of Portland](#) also has a web page devoted to Vision Zero.

The reason for this discussion was Councilor Stapleton's stated intent to bring a motion to Council to incorporate Vision Zero into the update of the City's Transportation System Plan.

After a brief discussion, the Transportation Committee recommends the following motion:

The South Central Association of Neighbors (SCAN) supports Vision Zero and encourages the City of Salem to incorporate Vision Zero into the update of the Salem Transportation System Plan.

NOTE: This motion has been overtaken by events. Councilor Stapleton offered her motion at Salem City Council's January 23, 2023 meeting. The motion was adopted with one no vote.

Submitted

Victor Dodier

Chair, Transportation Committee