

# A G E N D A



Joint Meeting of the City of Salem Budget Committee and  
the Salem Urban Renewal Agency Budget Committee

DATE: Wednesday, April 14, 2021

TIME: 6:00 PM

CHAIRPERSON: Paul Tigan

PLACE: Virtual Online Meeting

STAFF LIAISON:

Josh Eggleston, Budget Officer

503-588-6130

[jeggleston@cityofsalem.net](mailto:jeggleston@cityofsalem.net)

Kali Leinenbach, Senior Fiscal Analyst

503-588-6231

[kleinenbach@cityofsalem.net](mailto:kleinenbach@cityofsalem.net)

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## \*\*\*ADDITIONS AGENDA\*\*\*

### 2. PUBLIC TESTIMONY

- a. Correspondence from Jim Scheppke regarding a mobile response unit
- b. Correspondence from Andrea Champagne regarding a mobile response unit
- c. Correspondence from Lisa Letney regarding a mobile response unit
- d. Correspondence from Annie-Francoise McCuen regarding a mobile response unit
- e. Correspondence from Dr. Caitlin Fewx regarding a mobile response unit
- f. Correspondence from Becky Isom regarding a mobile response unit
- g. Correspondence from Sarah Cutler regarding a mobile response unit
- h. Correspondence from Joseph H. Allan, M.D. regarding a mobile response unit
- i. Correspondence from Brena Moyer Lopez regarding a mobile response unit
- j. Correspondence from Erica Ostergren regarding a mobile response unit
- k. Correspondence from Jessica Heintz regarding a mobile response unit
- l. Correspondence from Rebecca Perkins regarding a mobile response unit
- m. Correspondence from Danae Thaten regarding a mobile response unit
- n. Correspondence from Carlyne Thrasher regarding a mobile response unit
- o. Correspondence from Caroline O'Brien, R.N. regarding a mobile response unit
- p. Correspondence from Tyler Hall regarding a mobile response unit.
- q. Correspondence from Sarah Crawford regarding a mobile response unit
- r. Correspondence from Maureen McGee regarding a mobile response unit.
- s. Correspondence from Nick Eustrom regarding a mobile response unit.
- t. Correspondence from Marie Greene regarding a mobile response unit.
- u. Correspondence from Alex Brown regarding a mobile response unit.
- v. Correspondence from Karen and Ken Freeman regarding a mobile response unit
- w. Correspondence from Delia Appleberry regarding a mobile response unit.
- x. Correspondence from Alan Holland regarding an incident response unit.
- y. Correspondence from Keith and Sarah Chilcote regarding a mobile response unit.
- z. Correspondence from Leah Rhoads, M.S.W. regarding a mobile response unit.
- a.a. Correspondence from Barry Lee Coyne, L.C.S.W regarding a mobile response unit.
- a.b. Correspondence from Kendra Taylor regarding a mobile response unit.
- a.c. Correspondence from Sarah Evans regarding a mobile response unit.
- a.d. Correspondence from E.A. Francis Hruzek regarding a mobile response unit.
- a.e. Correspondence from Rett Weissenfels regarding a mobile response unit.
- a.f. Correspondence from Erica Martin regarding a mobile response unit.
- a.g. Correspondence from Kelli Jaecks regarding a mobile response unit.
- a.h. Correspondence from Laura Vigeland regarding a mobile response unit.
- a.i. Correspondence from Guadalupe O.G. regarding a mobile response unit.

- a.j. Correspondence from Michael Powers regarding a mobile response unit.
- a.k. Correspondence from Brett Stoner-Osborne regarding a mobile response unit
- a.l. Correspondence from Justin Kidd regarding a mobile response unit.
- a.m. Correspondence from Holly Carter regarding a mobile response unit.
- a.n. Correspondence from Lindsay Bigelow regarding a mobile response unit.
- a.o. Correspondence from Drew Mayfield regarding a mobile response unit.
- a.p. Correspondence from Holly Correa, R.N. regarding a mobile response unit.
- a.q. Correspondence from David Maceira regarding a mobile response unit.
- a.r. Correspondence from Melanie Weston regarding a mobile response unit.
- a.s. Correspondence from Jackie Lane regarding a mobile response unit.
- a.t. Correspondence from Clarissa Adams regarding a mobile response unit.
- a.u. Correspondence from Carly Pickens regarding a mobile response unit.
- a.v. Correspondence from Cortnie Hoefel regarding a mobile response unit.
- a.w. Correspondence from Amy McVey regarding a mobile response unit.
- a.x. Correspondence from Erich McVey regarding a mobile response unit.
- a.y. Correspondence from Mercedes Allen regarding a mobile response unit.
- a.z. Correspondence from Mercedes Allen (second submittal) regarding a mobile response unit.
- b.a. Correspondence from Anna Sieber regarding a mobile response unit.
- b.b. Correspondence from Josiah Curtis regarding a mobile response unit.
- b.c. Correspondence from Caroline Brown regarding a mobile response unit.
- b.d. Correspondence from Snarfy Knutson regarding a mobile response unit.
- b.e. Correspondence from Caroline Brown (second submittal) regarding a mobile response unit.
- b.f. Correspondence from Clifford Eiffler-Rodriguez regarding a mobile response unit.
- b.g. Correspondence from Melanie Berry, M.S.W. regarding a mobile response unit.
- b.h. Correspondence from Kris Bifulco regarding a mobile response unit.
- b.i. Correspondence from Autumn Knights regarding a mobile response unit.
- b.j. Correspondence from Sarah Verville regarding a mobile response unit.
- b.k. Correspondence from Justin W. regarding a mobile response unit.
- b.l. Correspondence from Brynn Eiffler regarding a mobile response unit.
- b.m. Correspondence from Tina Noon regarding a mobile response unit.
- b.n. Correspondence from Ben Haley regarding a mobile response unit.
- b.o. Correspondence from Shelly regarding a mobile response unit.
- b.p. Correspondence from Kylie Burbank regarding a mobile response unit.
- b.q. Correspondence from Piper Gillett regarding a mobile response unit.
- b.r. Correspondence from Laurel Brown regarding a mobile response unit.
- b.s. Correspondence from Danielle Howden regarding a mobile response unit.
- b.t. Correspondence from Mallory Turner regarding a mobile response unit.
- b.u. Correspondence from Ivy Clark-Henry regarding a mobile response unit.
- b.v. Correspondence from Brandy Decker regarding a mobile response unit.
- b.w. Correspondence from Freckled Bee regarding a mobile response unit.
- b.x. Correspondence from Kira Nguyen-Manahan regarding a mobile response unit.
- b.y. Correspondence from Nancy Baker regarding a mobile response unit.
- b.z. Correspondence from Casey Kopcho regarding a City auditor position.
- c.a. Correspondence from Maria Young regarding a mobile response unit.
- c.b. Correspondence from Tae Allen regarding a mobile response unit.
- c.c. Correspondence from John Hurles regarding a mobile response unit.
- c.d. Correspondence from Jesse Baughman regarding a mobile response unit.
- c.e. Correspondence from Mariana Praschnik-Enriquez regarding a mobile response unit

3. MINUTES
  - a. Minutes from the January 20, 2021 City of Salem and Urban Renewal Agency Budget Committee Meeting
  
4. ACTION ITEMS
  - b. Errata 1 – Scrivener Correction, Regarding Homeless Programs and Grants (pg. 183)
  
5. INFORMATION ITEMS
  - d. American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Flyer

The City of Salem budget information can be accessed on the internet at: [www.cityofsalem.net/departments/budget](http://www.cityofsalem.net/departments/budget)

NOTE: Disability-related accommodations, including auxiliary aids or services, in order to participate in this meeting, are available upon request. Sign language and interpreters for languages other than English are also available upon request. To request such an accommodation or interpretation, contact Kali Leinenbach, (503) 588-6231 or [kleinenbach@cityofsalem.net](mailto:kleinenbach@cityofsalem.net) at least 2 business days before this meeting. TTD/TTY telephone (503) 588-6439 is also available 24/7.

The City of Salem values all persons without regard to race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, marital status, domestic partnership, disability, familial status, sexual orientation, gender identity and source of income.

**From:** [Jim Scheppke](#)  
**To:** [budgetoffice](#)  
**Subject:** Funding for Mobile Response Units  
**Date:** Monday, April 12, 2021 9:44:30 PM

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Members of the Citizen Budget Committee,

The recent tragic death of a disturbed young man at the hand of a police officer should be a wake up call to city leaders that we need one or more mobile response units in our city and we need them now. We can't wait any longer to see the necessity of having what our neighbor Eugene has had for decades now.

And I don't want to hear that we don't have the funding to do this. The funding should come from the Salem Police Department. Why? Because their call volume will be dramatically decreased if we have a mobile response unit program. The *Statesman Journal* recently reported that CAHOOTS reduced the call volume for the Eugene Police Department by 17%.

I worked in state and local government for 32 years and directed a state agency for 20 years. Anytime responsibilities were reduced or taken away from my agency, the resources that went with it were redirected. That's just good government. So the SPD should fund mobile response. It's that simple.

This has been talked about for years now. It's time to act. We need mobile response in Salem in FY2022.

Sincerely,

Jim Scheppke

Ward 2

**From:** [Brandi Champagne](#)  
**To:** [budgetoffice](#)  
**Subject:** Funding for a mobile response unit  
**Date:** Monday, April 12, 2021 10:55:38 PM

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Members of the Citizen Budget Committee,

I write to urge the Citizen Budget Committee to include funding for a mobile response unit in its budgetary recommendation to Salem City Council. A mobile response unit is a two-person team consisting of a medic (a nurse, paramedic, or EMT) and a crisis worker who has substantial training and experience in the mental health field. They handle a wide range of mental health-related crises, including conflict resolution, welfare checks, substance abuse, suicide threats, and more, relying on trauma-informed de-escalation and harm reduction techniques. The mobile response unit is currently under consideration by the City of Salem and several community partners.

Mobile response units save money, by handling non-emergency medical issues, and avoiding costly ambulance transport and emergency room treatment. We need to add this unit to our public safety toolkit. Out of 24,000 calls to the mobile response unit known as CAHOOTS in Eugene in 2019, only 150 calls resulted in them calling for police back-up. We need the right tool for the right job.

Thank you for your time, and I hope to see this type of program included in the city's budget.

Andrea Champagne  
Citizen of Salem Ward 4

**From:** [Lisa Letney](#)  
**To:** [budgetoffice](#)  
**Subject:** Mobile response unit.  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 13, 2021 4:34:08 AM

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Members of the citizens budget committee,

I'm writing you to urge you to please request a budget for a mobile response unit for our unsheltered neighbors and communities.

I have been doing street outreach for just a couple of months, and in that short time I have seen SO much need!

A few days ago a small camp filled with senior citizens was set in fire by a mentally ill person. The leader of the camp is elderly and was wearing slippers because he has a bone spur/bunion too large to allow him to fit in shoes. The terrain is in the trees and dirt and is steep and unlevelled. So the fire was massive! They chose this place because they thought it to be the safest place away from other camps and out of site.

He slipped in the muddy water as he was trying to put the fire out and popped his knee. He is the provider for the camp and needs to trek up and down a steep dirt incline to refill water. His mother's (camp calls her grandma) home burnt down. She hid in his tent crying while we were there checking on him. We said outloud how we wished there was a mobile crisis unit who could come check on them and provide them some help. They were sooty and In need of a shower and medical attention. We were able to provide them with tents and bedding but didn't have the skills to provide them with medical and crisis support.

This is one of many stories I've personally witnessed in just two months.





Please request funding for a mobile response unit for situations like this. Salem needs it so badly.

Thank you,

Lisa Letney  
971-719-0959



**From:** [Annie Françoise McCuen](#)  
**To:** [budgetoffice](#)  
**Subject:** Mobile Unit Response  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 13, 2021 4:47:17 AM

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As parents of an adult child with mental health issues, we beg you to fund this program of utmost importance. We had to call 911 in the past, specifying that we needed a Wellness Check at our home, specified that there were no guns or knives etc to endanger our policemen or women. But so few people know about requesting Wellness Checks...and fears, apprehension mounts in the mind of our police men or women and dangerous or lethal situations occur. Our gun culture is a very unfortunate one, it creates fear, anger, resentment, panic, other countries do not have to endure this kind of dismal reactions when bad situations arise.

Being a facilitator of Mental Health Recovery program at Salem Hospital for years, we had offered several classes to our police force in the past.

So please, do fund a more gentle, non reactionary Mobil crisis response team.

Thank you,  
Annie-Françoise McCuen  
Salem, Or

Sent from my iPad

**From:** [Caitlin Adele](#)  
**To:** [budgetoffice](#)  
**Subject:** Funding a mobile response unit  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 13, 2021 5:51:23 AM

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Members of the Citizen Budget Committee,

I write to urge the Citizen Budget Committee to include funding for a mobile response unit in its budgetary recommendation to Salem City Council. A mobile response unit is a two-person team consisting of a medic (a nurse, paramedic, or EMT) and a crisis worker who has substantial training and experience in the mental health field. They handle a wide range of mental health-related crises, including conflict resolution, welfare checks, substance abuse, suicide threats, and more, relying on trauma-informed de-escalation and harm reduction techniques. The mobile response unit is currently under consideration by the City of Salem and several community partners.

Mobile response units save money, by handling non-emergent medical issues, avoiding costly ambulance transport and emergency room treatment. We need to add this unit to our public safety toolkit. Out of 24,000 calls to the mobile response unit known as CAHOOTS in Eugene in 2019, only 150 calls resulted in them calling for police back-up. We need the right tool for the right job.

Sincerely,  
Dr. Caitlin Fewx, Pharm.D.

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Becky Isom](#)  
**To:** [budgetoffice](#)  
**Subject:** In support of a mobile response unit  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 13, 2021 7:21:54 AM

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Members of the Citizen Budget Committee,

I write to urge the Citizen Budget Committee to include funding for a mobile response unit in its budgetary recommendation to Salem City Council. A mobile response unit is a two-person team consisting of a medic (a nurse, paramedic, or EMT) and a crisis worker who has substantial training and experience in the mental health field. They handle a wide range of mental health-related crises, including conflict resolution, welfare checks, substance abuse, suicidal ideation, and more, relying on trauma-informed de-escalation and harm reduction techniques. The mobile response unit is currently under consideration by the City of Salem and several community partners.

Mobile response units save money, by handling non-emergent medical issues, avoiding costly ambulance transport and emergency room treatment. We need to add this unit to our public safety toolkit. Out of 24,000 calls to the mobile response unit known as CAHOOTS in Eugene in 2019, only 150 calls resulted in them calling for police back-up. We need the right tool for the right job.

**From:** [Sarah Cutler](#)  
**To:** [budgetoffice](#)  
**Subject:** Please read  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 13, 2021 8:17:58 AM

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Dear Citizen Budget Committee,

I am writing to let you know that I am in favor of funding for a mobile response that would respond to mental health calls that do not need a law enforcement response. A friend shared her letter to you this morning and I feel the exact same way so I'm including it below. I believe this would a) save us money in the long run b) free up city police officers to work on criminal complaints and 3) save lives where seeing a police uniform may escalate someone in a mental health crisis but having a professional mental health expert may de-escalate them. We all know there are still going to be mental health cases where law enforcement will have to respond and where tragedy is all but unavoidable. There are many instances, however, where law enforcement isn't required and isn't the correct tool to use because the involvement of the justice system adds an unnecessary burden to families struggling with mental illness. Let's be brave and try this! Let's add some tools to our toolbox!

Sincerely,  
Sarah Cutler

**From:** [JOSEPH ALLAN](#)  
**To:** [budgetoffice](#)  
**Subject:** Please support the Salem mobile response unit. Thank you.  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 13, 2021 8:19:06 AM

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Members of the Citizen Budget Committee:

As a physician and longtime Salem residents (my wife, Karen Saul was born here), I am writing to urge the Citizen Budget Committee to include funding for a mobile response unit in its budgetary recommendation to Salem City Council.

A mobile response unit would likely consist of a two-person team consisting of a medic (a nurse, paramedic, or EMT) and a crisis worker who has substantial training and experience in the mental health field.

They are trained to deal with a wide range of mental health-related crises, including conflict resolution, welfare checks, substance abuse, suicidal threats, unhoused individuals, etc., focused on appropriate de-escalation and harm reduction techniques. The mobile response unit is currently under consideration by the City of Salem and several community partners.

Mobile response units save money, by handling non-emergent medical issues, avoiding costly ambulance transport and emergency room treatment.

Out of 24,000 calls to the mobile response unit known as CAHOOTS in Eugene in 2019, only 150 calls resulted in them calling for police back-up.

We need the right tool for the right job.

Better communication, better medicine, less confrontation.

Thank you for your support of this proposal

Joseph H. Allan MD

**From:** [BRENA LOPEZ](#)  
**To:** [budgetoffice](#)  
**Subject:** Mobile Response Unit  
**Date:** Monday, April 12, 2021 8:39:57 PM

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Dear Members of the Citizen Budget Committee,

I write to urge the Citizen Budget Committee to include funding for a mobile response unit in its budgetary recommendation to Salem City Council. A mobile response unit is a two-person team consisting of a medic (a nurse, paramedic, or EMT) and a crisis worker who has substantial training and experience in the mental health field. They handle a wide range of mental health-related crises, including conflict resolution, welfare checks, substance abuse, suicide threats, and more, relying on trauma-informed de-escalation and harm reduction techniques. The mobile response unit is currently under consideration by the City of Salem and several community partners.

Mobile response units save money, by handling non-emergent medical issues, avoiding costly ambulance transport and emergency room treatment. We need to add this unit to our public safety toolkit. Out of 24,000 calls to the mobile response unit known as CAHOOTS in Eugene in 2019, only 150 calls resulted in them calling for police back-up. We need the right tool for the right job.

Sincerely, Brena Moyer Lopez  
Salem Resident

**From:** [erica.yungen](mailto:erica.yungen)  
**To:** [budgetoffice](mailto:budgetoffice)  
**Subject:** Mobile response unit  
**Date:** Monday, April 12, 2021 8:42:38 PM

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[budgetoffice@cityofsalem.net](mailto:budgetoffice@cityofsalem.net). Sample email:

Citizen Budget Committee Members

I would like to urge the Citizen Budget Committee to include funding for a mobile response unit in its budgetary recommendation to Salem City Council. A mobile response unit is a two-person team consisting of a medic (a nurse, paramedic, or EMT) and a crisis worker who has substantial training and experience in the mental health field. They handle a wide range of mental health-related crises, including conflict resolution, welfare checks, substance abuse, suicide threats, and more, relying on trauma-informed de-escalation and harm reduction techniques. The mobile response unit is currently under consideration by the City of Salem and several community partners.

Mobile response units save money, by handling non-emergent medical issues, avoiding costly ambulance transport and emergency room treatment. We need to add this unit to our public safety toolkit. Out of 24,000 calls to the mobile response unit known as CAHOOTS in Eugene in 2019, only 150 calls resulted in them calling for police back-up. We need the right tool for the right job.

Thank you,

Erica Ostergren

1255 Hansen Av S

Salem, OR 97302

**From:** [Jessica Heintz](#)  
**To:** [budgetoffice](#)  
**Subject:** Mobile Response Unit  
**Date:** Monday, April 12, 2021 9:05:33 PM

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Members of the Citizen Budget Committee,

I am writing to urge the Citizen Budget Committee to include funding for a mobile response unit in its budgetary recommendation to Salem City Council.

A mobile response unit is a two-person team consisting of a medic (a nurse, paramedic, or EMT) and a crisis worker who has substantial training and experience in the mental health field. They handle a wide range of mental health-related crises, including conflict resolution, welfare checks, substance abuse, suicide threats, and more, relying on trauma-informed de-escalation and harm reduction techniques. The mobile response unit is currently under consideration by the City of Salem and several community partners.

Mobile response units save money, by handling non-emergent medical issues, avoiding costly ambulance transport and emergency room treatment. We need to add this unit to our public safety toolkit. As an example, out of 24,000 calls to the mobile response unit known as CAHOOTS in Eugene in 2019, only 150 calls resulted in calling for police back-up. We need the right tool for the right job!

Thank you for your consideration!

Jessica Heintz  
841 Liberty St NE Apt 3  
Salem, OR 97301  
971.218.0156  
Sent from my iPhone



**From:** [Rebecca Perkins](#)  
**To:** [budgetoffice](#)  
**Subject:** Mobile Response unit  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 13, 2021 12:02:19 AM

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Members of the Citizen Budget Committee,

I write to urge the Citizen Budget Committee to include funding for a mobile response unit in its budgetary recommendation to Salem City Council. A mobile response unit is a two-person team consisting of a medic (a nurse, paramedic, or EMT) and a crisis worker who has substantial training and experience in the mental health field. They handle a wide range of mental health-related crises, including conflict resolution, welfare checks, substance abuse, suicide threats, and more, relying on trauma-informed de-escalation and harm reduction techniques. The mobile response unit is currently under consideration by the City of Salem and several community partners.

Mobile response units save money, by handling non-emergent medical issues, avoiding costly ambulance transport and emergency room treatment. We need to add this unit to our public safety toolkit. Out of 24,000 calls to the mobile response unit known as CAHOOTS in Eugene in 2019, only 150 calls resulted in them calling for police back-up. We need the right tool for the right job.

Thank you very much,

Rebecca Perkins  
For the Love of Josh

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

**From:** [Danae Thaten](#)  
**To:** [budgetoffice](#)  
**Subject:** Mobile Response Unit  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 13, 2021 12:13:04 AM

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Members of the Citizen Budget Committee,

I write to urge the Citizen Budget Committee to include funding for a mobile response unit in its budgetary recommendation to Salem City Council. A mobile response unit is a two-person team consisting of a medic (a nurse, paramedic, or EMT) and a crisis worker who has substantial training and experience in the mental health field. They handle a wide range of mental health-related crises, including conflict resolution, welfare checks, substance abuse, suicide threats, and more, relying on trauma-informed de-escalation and harm reduction techniques. The mobile response unit is currently under consideration by the City of Salem and several community partners.

Mobile response units save money, by handling non-emergent medical issues, avoiding costly ambulance transport and emergency room treatment. We need to add this unit to our public safety toolkit. Out of 24,000 calls to the mobile response unit known as CAHOOTS in Eugene in 2019, only 150 calls resulted in them calling for police back-up. We need the right tool for the right job.

Thank you for your time,  
Danae Thaten,  
Salem Resident

**From:** [carolyne.r.thrasher@gmail.com](mailto:carolyne.r.thrasher@gmail.com)  
**To:** [budgetoffice](#)  
**Subject:** Mobile response unit  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 13, 2021 8:06:18 AM

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To the Citizen Budget Community,

I am writing to let you know that I am in favor of funding for a mobile response that would respond to mental health calls that do not need a law enforcement response. I believe this would a) save us money in the long run b) free up city police officers to work on criminal complaints and 3) save lives where seeing a police uniform may escalate someone in a mental health crisis but having a professional mental health expert may de-escalate them. We all know there are still going to be mental health cases where law enforcement will have to respond and where tragedy is all but unavoidable. There are many instances, however, where law enforcement isn't required and isn't the correct tool to use because the involvement of the justice system adds an unnecessary burden to families struggling with mental illness. Let's be brave and try this! Let's add some tools to our city's toolbox!

Carolyne Thrasher  
Manager of a 3-Gen Household

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Caroline OBrien](#)  
**To:** [budgetoffice](#)  
**Subject:** mobile response unit  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 13, 2021 8:23:49 AM

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below is a copied email, I concur 100% and want to see this here in Salem and surrounding county areas

Members of the Citizen Budget Committee,

I write to urge the Citizen Budget Committee to include funding for a mobile response unit in its budgetary recommendation to Salem City Council. A mobile response unit is a two-person team consisting of a medic (a nurse, paramedic, or EMT) and a crisis worker who has substantial training and experience in the mental health field. They handle a wide range of mental health-related crises, including conflict resolution, welfare checks, substance abuse, suicidal threats, and more, relying on trauma-informed de-escalation and harm reduction techniques. The mobile response unit is currently under consideration by the City of Salem and several community partners.

Mobile response units save money, by handling non-emergent medical issues, avoiding costly ambulance transport and emergency room treatment. We need to add this unit to our public safety toolkit. Out of 24,000 calls to the mobile response unit known as CAHOOTS in Eugene in 2019, only 150 calls resulted in them calling for police back-up. We need the right tool for the right job.

This...is one of the most important moves this city or ANY city can make in reducing the budget costs, providing appropriate response to 911 calls, keeping our community safer for not just residents of a certain area but the people involved in these calls.

I am a masters prepared RN with 40 years of experience in many different fields in several areas of the United States and I support this move to a better solution for 911 calls involving mental health crises.

Thank you,

Caroline O'Brien, RN, BSN, MSN, WCC

**From:** [Tyler Hall](#)  
**To:** [budgetoffice](#)  
**Subject:** City of Salem Budget -- Comments from a concerned Voter and Citizen  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 13, 2021 2:50:17 PM

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Esteemed Councilors,

I hope that this email finds you well. In light of recent events in the City and surrounding areas, I no longer feel that I can remain silent. Police violence against the citizens that they are sworn to protect has become an epidemic in this country. It has been this way for many years, but unfortunately until recently many of us remained blind to it's horrors.

I am specifically writing to you today in regards to the Proposed City of Salem Budget for the Fiscal Year 2022. Many in our community were hopeful that Salem would follow Portland and Eugene's lead in developing a CAHOOTS style program for the City of Salem. Eugene's mobile crisis intervention team (CAHOOTS) answers 17% of the Eugene Police Department's overall call volume and saves the city \$8.5 million annually. The Eugene program costs roughly \$2.1 million annually, so the program literally pays for itself several times over.

To me this would seem like a NO BRAINER. Not only does this program save the city money, it also saves HUMAN LIVES, which are invaluable and cannot have a price assigned to them. Instead, the city that we all call home is stuck in the past. We continue to utilize brutal methods of policing that have been proven to do more harm than good for decades now. Less than a week ago I was driving home and I saw a member of our Salem Police shoot Natzeryt Viertel twice. 22 years old, and his life is gone. If there had been an unarmed crisis negotiator on scene to de-escalate the situation, instead of 4 police officers with their guns drawn screaming at a man who is having a mental breakdown, this situation could have turned out differently.

There are many more people who have been killed by Salem Police, just in my short 31 years of life. Mr. Viertel is just the most recent. There is something inherently WRONG with a society who responds to mental illness with bullets. Instead of the help that Natzeryt's mother was looking for when she called 911, The City of Salem sent an executioner. We DO NOT LIVE in a 3rd world country. It is time for us to start acting that way. I ask that you please reconsider allocating money for a CAHOOTS style program in the City of Salem.

Yours Truly,  
Tyler Hall  
Salem, OR  
97302

**From:** [Sarah Crawford](#)  
**To:** [budgetoffice](#)  
**Subject:** Proposed City Budget  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 13, 2021 2:48:32 PM

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I urge you to include funding in this years budget for a program like Eugene's CAHOOTS program - we don't need more police funding, we need to allocate those funds to help our community members in crisis in the least violent way possible.

Sarah Crawford

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

**From:** [Maureen McGee](#)  
**To:** [budgetoffice](#)  
**Subject:** Please fund mobile response units  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 13, 2021 1:55:06 PM

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Members of the Citizen Budget Committee,

I am writing to urge the Citizen Budget Committee to include funding for a mobile response unit in its budget recommendations to the City Council. Mobile response units, also known as mobile crisis or mobile crisis rapid response teams, are mental health services that support the community by providing immediate responses to emergency mental health evaluations and crisis services. In our community and in many others throughout the state and country, the primary options available for responding to persons in crisis is to call the police. Police officers are not adequately trained or prepared to provide trauma-informed or appropriate care in all such situations. Mobile response units not only provide more appropriate care, but do so in a way that reduces risks of harm for both the person in crisis and the first responder, and can reduce the overall costs of care for working with people in crisis.

I understand that the City Council is already considering funding for mobile response units in Salem, modelled after the extremely successful CAHOOTS program in Eugene. I believe that we in Salem need a service like CAHOOTS, particularly to help assist with providing adequate support to our growing population of citizens experiencing houselessness. Please include a budget recommendation for funding a mobile response unit in your next recommendation to the City Council.

Thank you for your consideration,

Maureen McGee

**From:** [Nick D. Eustrom](#)  
**To:** [budgetoffice](#)  
**Subject:** Prioritize Funding for a Mobile Response Unit in the City's Budget  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 13, 2021 1:48:07 PM

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Dear Members of the Citizen Budget Committee,

My name is Nick Eustrom and I am a City of Salem resident. I am writing to urge you to prioritize the funding of a Mobile Response Unit in Salem along the lines of what the City of Eugene has done with CAHOOTS and a Salem Department of Transportation that would handle parking and traffic violations instead of Salem PD.

The City of Salem, and cities across the U.S., are in need of community-based public safety systems that provide mental health first responders for crises involving mental illness, homelessness, and addiction, instead of Police Officers.

Alternative enforcement models like CAHOOTS have been in the spotlight recently as our nation struggles with mental illness and deaths at the hands of Police Officers who have struggled to deescalate encounters with citizens during both ordinary traffic stops and mental health crises

I would also propose that the City of Salem Budget provide for funding of a separate Salem Department of Transportation along the lines of what the City of Berkeley is doing with their Berkeley Department of Transportation or BerkDOT. BerkDOT will shift traffic and parking enforcement away from the Berkeley Police Department, replacing them with unarmed BerkDOT agents.

I believe the City of Salem Budget should divert funding from the Salem Police Department for such programs. We are a growing city in the midst of changing times, and it's time for us to evolve and get ahead of the curve.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Nick Eustrom



**From:** [Marie Greene](#)  
**To:** [budgetoffice](#)  
**Subject:** Mobile response unit funding  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 13, 2021 1:25:02 PM

---

Dear Members of the Citizen Budget Committee,

My name is Marie Greene. I'm a Salem resident, homeowner, and small business owner. My husband and I have raised our three sons here and we love this community, but Salem has room for improvement. I have serious concerns about the issues of homelessness in Salem, not just our lack of resources to provide transitional, safe, clean housing for those who might otherwise end up living on our streets, but also with regard to resources for a mobile response unit.

I urge the Citizen Budget Committee to include funding for a mobile response unit in its budgetary recommendation to Salem City Council. A mobile response unit is a two-person team consisting of a medic (a nurse, paramedic, or EMT) and a crisis worker who has substantial training and experience in the mental health field. They handle a wide range of mental health-related crises, including conflict resolution, welfare checks, substance abuse, suicidal ideation, and more, relying on trauma-informed de-escalation and harm reduction techniques. The mobile response unit is currently under consideration by the City of Salem and several community partners.

Mobile response units save money, by handling non-emergent medical issues, avoiding costly ambulance transport and emergency room treatment. We need to add this unit to our public safety toolkit. Out of 24,000 calls to the mobile response unit known as CAHOOTS in Eugene in 2019, only 150 calls resulted in them calling for police back-up. We need the right tool for the right job.

Thank you for your time,

Marie Greene

Candalaria Neighborhood, Ward 7

--



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**From:** [Alex Brown](#)  
**To:** [budgetoffice](#)  
**Subject:** mobile crisis response  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 13, 2021 1:21:03 PM

---

Hi

I am a relatively new Salem resident, moved from Washington last summer. I wanted to write in support of Salem funding and developing a mobile crisis response unit to respond to non-criminal situations where police intervention is not necessary. The program in Eugene is doing phenomenal: <https://www.vera.org/behavioral-health-crisis-alternatives/cahoots>

I heard that the Eugene program saves over four times what it costs and that the Salem City Council approved a measure to establish a similar program but that funding is not included in the proposed budget. Can you please tell me if that is true? If so, what would it take for that to be included? What are the reasons for not including it?

Thank you very much  
Alex Brown  
2162 Bruce St NE, Salem, OR 97301

**From:** [Karen Freeman](#)  
**To:** [budgetoffice](#)  
**Subject:** Mobile Response Unit  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 13, 2021 12:42:21 PM

---

Hello Members of the Citizen Budget Committee,

We write to urge the Citizen Budget Committee to include funding for a mobile response unit in its budgetary recommendation to Salem City Council.

We believe this is a good use of funds that will lead not only to giving people the help they need in time of personal crisis, but also save money for the city and the police department as well as enhance public safety.

Sincerely,

Karen and Ken Freeman

2625 Sunrise Ave S

**From:** [delia.appleberry](#)  
**To:** [budgetoffice](#)  
**Subject:** Mobile response unit  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 13, 2021 12:26:17 PM

---

Yes please! Evidence based decisions/programs. Why waste the police department's time? If it's not effective, doesn't work, isn't needed, just disband it. Why NOT give it a try?  
Thank you!

**From:** [alanholland2](mailto:alanholland2)  
**To:** [budgetoffice](mailto:budgetoffice)  
**Subject:** Incident response team needed  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 13, 2021 11:56:35 AM

---

I urge Salem City Council to direct funds to create and operate a non violent Incident Response Team. I envision a team like " Cahoots" in Eugene.

Thank you

Alan Holland

2099 Woodhaven Ct, NW

97304

Alanholland2@comcast.net

503 551 0580

Sent from Samsung Galaxy smartphone.

**From:** [SARAH CHILCOTE](#)  
**To:** [budgetoffice](#)  
**Subject:** Need for Mobile Medical Unit  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 13, 2021 11:26:24 AM

---

Members of the Citizen Budget Committee,

I write to urge the Citizen Budget Committee to include funding for a mobile response unit in its budgetary recommendation to Salem City Council. A mobile response unit is a two-person team consisting of a medic (a nurse, paramedic, or EMT) and a crisis worker who has substantial training and experience in the mental health field. They handle a wide range of mental health-related crises, including conflict resolution, welfare checks, substance abuse, suicidal ideation, and more, relying on trauma-informed de-escalation and harm reduction techniques. The mobile response unit is currently under consideration by the City of Salem and several community partners.

Mobile response units save money, by handling non-emergent medical issues, avoiding costly ambulance transport and emergency room treatment. We need to add this unit to our public safety toolkit. Out of 24,000 calls to the mobile response unit known as CAHOOTS in Eugene in 2019, only 150 calls resulted in them calling for police back-up. We need the right tool for the right job.

Thank you,  
Keith and Sarah Chilcote  
2983 D St NE  
Salem, OR 97301

**From:** [L.Rhoads](#)  
**To:** [budgetoffice](#)  
**Subject:** Citizen Budget Proposal  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 13, 2021 10:48:29 AM

---

Good morning,

It has come to my attention that there is an opportunity for the City of Salem to provide budget support for a Mobile Response Unit, consisting of a medic and a mental health worker. As a Social Worker in the Salem area, I wholeheartedly endorse this idea. One of the biggest concerns expressed by people who have not done this type of work is that without a police officer on the team, there is a greater risk of harm to the workers; as someone who has done that type of work, I do not feel these concerns are significant. Moreover, recent events throughout the country have created a public perception that police involvement in mental health crises leads to a greater rate of escalation and use of force.

The CAHOOTS model pioneered in the Eugene area does not involve police except in rare circumstances, and has years of data showing its effectiveness in both resolving crises and also in creating equitable outcomes. Creating more equitable outcomes, as well as avoiding unnecessary use of force, is not only a very valid goal in and of itself, but also helps to avoid costly lawsuits against the City.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this matter,

Leah Rhoads, MSW

**From:** [lucky.coyne](#)  
**To:** [budgetoffice](#)  
**Subject:** Support for mobile unit  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 13, 2021 10:25:57 AM

---

Hello Budgeteers...

There is a touch of tragic irony which graces this correspondence. A Brooklyn Center MN police officer accidentally killed a mentally impaired gentlemen..an accident scarred manifold.

We here in Salem must avert a sequel murder.

The need for including a mobile response unit in next year's municipal budget is vital. Life is precious to each of us. Hurting or killing an innocent runs contrary to human morality.

Thou shalt not kill remains an honored commandment we must not abandon.

I speak out to reflect the sentiments of myriad social service people as a licensed therapist at age 79. As a onetime member of our Library Advisory Board here is Salem. Let us begin to welcome a new chapter. You are the prologue.

In appreciation,  
Barry Lee Coyne lcsw  
[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)



**From:** [Kendra Tibbot](#)  
**To:** [budgetoffice](#)  
**Subject:** Please add funding for CAHOOTS!!  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 13, 2021 9:54:00 AM

---

Members of the Citizen Budget Committee,

I write to urge the Citizen Budget Committee to include funding for a mobile response unit in its budgetary recommendation to Salem City Council. A mobile response unit is a two-person team consisting of a medic (a nurse, paramedic, or EMT) and a crisis worker who has substantial training and experience in the mental health field. They handle a wide range of mental health-related crises, including conflict resolution, welfare checks, substance abuse, suicidal ideation, and more, relying on trauma-informed de-escalation and harm reduction techniques. The mobile response unit is currently under consideration by the City of Salem and several community partners.

Mobile response units save money, by handling non-emergent medical issues, avoiding costly ambulance transport and emergency room treatment. We need to add this unit to our public safety toolkit. Out of 24,000 calls to the mobile response unit known as CAHOOTS in Eugene in 2019, only 150 calls resulted in them calling for police back-up. We need the right tool for the right job.

Thank you,

Kendra Taylor of Kindness Closet of Salem

**From:** [Sarah Evans](#)  
**To:** [budgetoffice](#)  
**Subject:** Funding for a mobile response unit  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 13, 2021 5:02:20 PM

---

Dear Members of the Citizen Budget Committee,

I am writing to urge you to include funding for a mobile response unit in your budgetary recommendation to Salem City Council. A mobile response unit is a two-person team consisting of a medic (a nurse, paramedic, or EMT) and a crisis worker who has substantial training and experience in the mental health field. They handle a wide range of mental health-related crises, including conflict resolution, welfare checks, substance abuse, suicidal ideation, and more, relying on trauma-informed de-escalation and harm reduction techniques. The mobile response unit is currently under consideration by the City of Salem and several community partners.

Mobile response units save money, by handling non-emergent medical issues, avoiding costly ambulance transport and emergency room treatment. We need to add this unit to our public safety toolkit. Out of 24,000 calls to the mobile response unit known as CAHOOTS in Eugene in 2019, only 150 calls resulted in them calling for police back-up. We need the right tool for the right job.

If you have any doubt that a unit like this is necessary, you need only to look at the very recent case where Salem Police shot and killed a young man who was in the middle of a suicidal mental health crisis. (See the story in Salem Reporter: <https://www.salemreporter.com/posts/3973/salem-mother-tells-of-efforts-to-help-son-in-moments-before-fatal-police-shooting>). If we had a mobile response unit respond instead, there's a much higher likelihood that Mr. Viertel's death could have been prevented.

Thank you,

Sarah Evans

NE Salem resident

**From:** [E. A. Francis Hruzek](#)  
**To:** [budgetoffice](#)  
**Subject:** Regarding the City Budget: Mobile Crisis Response Unit  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 13, 2021 4:51:59 PM

---

To our city budget committee,

I am writing to urge you to include funding for the Mobile Crisis Response Unit in our city budget.

As you may know, Eugene's mobile crisis intervention team (CAHOOTS) answers 17% of the Eugene Police Department's overall call volume and saves the city \$8.5 million annually. The Eugene program costs roughly \$2.1 million annually, so the program literally pays for itself several times over.

Right now, Salem does not include funding for the program in its proposed budget **even though the City Council previously approved a measure calling for the program.** Launching a CAHOOTS program in Salem is the compassionate, cost-effective thing to do!

Thank you for your consideration of this important matter,  
E. A. Francis Hruzek

Lecturer @ Chemeketa Community College and Englewood Neighborhood Resident

**From:** [Rett Weissenfels](#)  
**To:** [budgetoffice](#)  
**Subject:** Mobile Crises Response Unit Funding  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 13, 2021 4:46:19 PM

---

I'm writing because the city council approved a measure calling for a mobile crisis response unit in Salem, but the budget committee failed to include any funding for it in their proposed budget.

I've worked with the Salem Police Department for most of my career, and I can definitively say they are dedicated civil servants, but they are overworked. A mobile crisis response unit can go a long way toward alleviating mounting pressure on our police department.

Eugene implemented a similar program called CAHOOTS, they answer almost 20% of the Eugene Police Department's annual call volume, and only cost 2.5 million dollars a year, saving the city over 8 million dollars a year.

Implementing a similar program in Salem will not only save the city money, but it will alleviate pressure on our police, and offer a dignified, safe, and effective emergency response for many of our city's most vulnerable population.

It's the right thing to do.

--

Rett Weissenfels  
Owner/Investigator  
Diversified Inquiry Services, LLC

503 428 4205  
[rett.weissenfels@gmail.com](mailto:rett.weissenfels@gmail.com)

**From:** [Erica Martin](#)  
**To:** [budgetoffice](#)  
**Subject:** Funding for Mobile Response Unit  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 13, 2021 4:25:10 PM

---

To the Citizen Budget Committee,

I am writing to state I am in favor of funding for a mobile response team that would respond to mental health calls that do not need a law enforcement response. I believe this would a) save us money in the long run b) free up city police officers to work on criminal complaints and 3) save lives where seeing a police uniform may escalate someone in a mental health crisis but having a professional mental health expert may de-escalate them. We all know there are still going to be mental health cases where law enforcement will have to respond and where tragedy is all but unavoidable. There are many instances, however, where law enforcement isn't required and isn't the correct tool to use because the involvement of the justice system adds an unnecessary burden to families struggling with mental illness.

I have spent a day on a ride-along with a member of SPD and I was shocked at the number of instances we had to respond to that were not criminal or dangerous, but matters of addiction, homelessness and/or mental illness. Let's add a better tool to our toolbox for these instances and release our officers to streamline their work scope.

Sincerely,

Erica Martin, a Salem resident for the last 17 years

--

**Erica Martin**

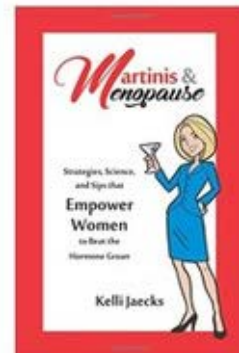
**From:** [Kelli Swanson Jaecks](#)  
**To:** [budgetoffice](#)  
**Subject:** Mobile Response Units needed for homeless Problem  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 13, 2021 4:03:02 PM

---

Members of the Citizen Budget Committee, I write to urge the Citizen Budget Committee to include funding for a mobile response unit in its budgetary recommendation to Salem City Council. A mobile response unit is a two-person team consisting of a medic (a nurse, paramedic, or EMT) and a crisis worker who has substantial training and experience in the mental health field. They handle a wide range of mental health-related crises, including conflict resolution, welfare checks, substance abuse, suicide threats, and more, relying on trauma-informed de-escalation and harm reduction techniques. The mobile response unit is currently under consideration by the City of Salem and several community partners. Mobile response units save money, by handling non-emergent medical issues, avoiding costly ambulance transport and emergency room treatment. We need to add this unit to our public safety toolkit. Out of 24,000 calls to the mobile response unit known as CAHOOTS in Eugene in 2019, only 150 calls resulted in them calling for police back-up. We need the right tool for the right job.

Please take action on this- we have got to do everything we can to get people off our streets and parks and into a stable environment. -Kelli Jaecks

## Kelli Jaecks!



Speaker, Author, Self-Care Strategist  
President- NSA-OR Chapter

[Kelli@Kellijaecks.com](mailto:Kelli@Kellijaecks.com)

[kellijaecks.com](http://kellijaecks.com)

503.881.5633

**From:** [Laura Vigeland](#)  
**To:** [budgetoffice](#)  
**Subject:** Budget for Mobile Crisis Unit  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 13, 2021 5:27:49 PM

---

Dear Citizen Budget Committee,

I am writing to ask you to include funding for a Salem mobile crisis intervention team in our city budget. Just south of us, Eugene has successfully implemented CAHOOTS, a crisis response team that response to many types of non violent threats, such as mental health crises, suicide concerns, substance abuse, welfare checks, and more. This team is trauma-informed and uses de-escalation techniques, so it is well equipped to serve the community. In Eugene, this crisis unit answers 17% of police calls and saves the city \$8.5 million each year.

It is time for our city to have a mobile crisis unit like this too. We need to invest in our community and provide the resources and trauma-informed care that are needed to truly build a safer and better future Salem.

Sincerely,  
Laura Vigeland  
Salem, OR 97305

**From:** [Lupita Gonzalez](#)  
**To:** [budgetoffice](#)  
**Subject:** Mobile Crisis Response Unit In The City Budget  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 13, 2021 8:01:57 PM

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This is an email to urge Salem's Citizen Budget Committee To Include Funding For A Mobile Crisis Response Unit In The City Budget

Eugene's mobile crisis intervention team (CAHOOTS) answers 17% of the Eugene Police Department's overall call volume and saves the city \$8.5 million annually. The Eugene program costs roughly \$2.1 million annually, so the program literally pays for itself several times over. The City did not include funding for the program in its proposed budget even though the City Council previously approved a measure calling for the program. I am a resident emailing to urge the Citizen Budget Committee to include funding for a Salem mobile response unit by submitting my written testimony. Launching a CAHOOTS program in Salem is the compassionate, cost-effective thing to do!  
-Guadalupe O.G  
971-600-5677



**From:** [Michael Powers](#)  
**To:** [budgetoffice](#)  
**Subject:** Support for funding mobile response unit  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 13, 2021 7:49:48 PM

---

Members of the Citizen Budget Committee:

I write to urge the Citizen Budget Committee to include funding for a mobile response unit in its budgetary recommendation to Salem City Council. A mobile response unit is a two-person team consisting of a medic (a nurse, paramedic, or EMT) and a crisis worker who has substantial training and experience in the mental health field. They handle a wide range of mental health-related crises, including conflict resolution, welfare checks, substance abuse, suicidal threats, and more, relying on trauma-informed de-escalation and harm reduction techniques. The mobile response unit is currently under consideration by the City of Salem and several community partners.

Mobile response units save money, by handling non-emergent medical issues, avoiding costly ambulance transport and emergency room treatment. We need to add this unit to our public safety toolkit. Out of 24,000 calls to the mobile response unit known as CAHOOTS in Eugene in 2019, only 150 calls resulted in them calling for police back-up. We need the right tool for the right job.

Thank you for your consideration.

Michael Powers  
345 Summit View Ave SE  
Salem, 97306

**From:** [Brett](#)  
**To:** [budgetoffice](#)  
**Subject:** We need a Mobile Response Unit  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 13, 2021 7:23:35 PM

---

Members of the Citizen Budget Committee,

I write to urge the Citizen Budget Committee to include funding for a mobile response unit in its budgetary recommendation to Salem City Council. A mobile response unit is a two-person team consisting of a medic (a nurse, paramedic, or EMT) and a crisis worker who has substantial training and experience in the mental health field. They handle a wide range of mental health-related crises, including conflict resolution, welfare checks, substance abuse, suicidal ideation, and more, relying on trauma-informed de-escalation and harm reduction techniques. The mobile response unit is currently under consideration by the City of Salem and several community partners.

Mobile response units save money, by handling non-emergent medical issues, avoiding costly ambulance transport and emergency room treatment. We need to add this unit to our public safety toolkit. Out of 24,000 calls to the mobile response unit known as CAHOOTS in Eugene in 2019, only 150 calls resulted in them calling for police back-up. We need the right tool for the right job.

Sincerely,

Brett Stoner-Osborne

Salem, OR Resident & Community Member

**From:** [Justin Emerson Kidd](#)  
**To:** [budgetoffice](#)  
**Subject:** Mobile Response Unit  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 13, 2021 7:03:59 PM

---

Dear Committee,

Please include funding for a mobile response unit in your recommendation to city council. Homelessness and mental health issues are among the biggest challenges facing Salem right now. It appears to me that a compassionate, effective program like Cahoots could save money and also increase quality of life for all Salemites, including our neighbors without housing. Please fund this vital priority.

Thank you,

Justin Kidd

Court ST NE

**From:** [Holly Carter](#)  
**To:** [budgetoffice](#)  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 13, 2021 6:58:32 PM

---

Members of the Citizen Budget Committee,

I urge you to include funding for a mobile response unit in your budgetary recommendation to Salem City Council. A mobile response unit is a two-person team consisting of a medic (a nurse, paramedic, or EMT) and a crisis worker who has substantial training and experience in the mental health field. They handle a wide range of mental health-related crises, including conflict resolution, welfare checks, substance abuse, suicidal ideation, and more, relying on trauma-informed de-escalation and harm reduction techniques. The mobile response unit is currently under consideration by the City of Salem and several community partners.

Mobile response units save money (and potentially lives), by handling non-emergent medical issues, avoiding costly ambulance transport and emergency room treatment. We need to add this unit to our public safety toolkit. Out of 24,000 calls to the mobile response unit known as CAHOOTS in Eugene in 2019, only 150 calls resulted in them calling for police back-up. We need the right tool for the right job.

Thank you,

Holly Carter  
Salem resident since 2007

**From:** [lindsaybigelow@outlook.com](mailto:lindsaybigelow@outlook.com)  
**To:** [budgetoffice](#)  
**Subject:** For Your Consideration  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 13, 2021 8:25:50 PM

---

Members of the Citizen Budget Committee,

I write to urge the Citizen Budget Committee to include funding for a mobile response unit in its budgetary recommendation to Salem City Council. A mobile response unit is a two-person team consisting of a medic (a nurse, paramedic, or EMT) and a crisis worker who has substantial training and experience in the mental health field. They handle a wide range of mental health-related crises, including conflict resolution, welfare checks, substance abuse, suicidal ideation, and more, relying on trauma-informed de-escalation and harm reduction techniques. The mobile response unit is currently under consideration by the City of Salem and several community partners.

Mobile response units save money, by handling non-emergent medical issues, avoiding costly ambulance transport and emergency room treatment. We need to add this unit to our public safety toolkit. Out of 24,000 calls to the mobile response unit known as CAHOOTS in Eugene in 2019, only 150 calls resulted in them calling for police back-up. We need the right tool for the right job.

Lindsay Bigelow

Salem Resident and Vice President of Kindness Closet of Salem

**From:** [Weekenddrew](#)  
**To:** [budgetoffice](#)  
**Subject:** CAHOOTS Program  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 13, 2021 8:21:42 PM

---

Hello, my name is Drew Mayfield, I am a recent Salem resident and saw that funding for a mobile crisis intervention team is not on the city budget, I believe this is a mistake. I think it would do a lot of good not only in terms of just our police presence and how that affects our community, but also monetarily it is a worthwhile investment.

Please reconsider the city budget and add this program, the people of Salem want this.

**From:** [Holly Correa](#)  
**To:** [budgetoffice](#)  
**Subject:** Mobile Response Unit funding  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 13, 2021 9:08:31 PM

---

Members of the Citizen Budget Committee,

I am writing to urge the Citizen Budget Committee to include funding for the mobile response unit in its budgetary recommendation to Salem City Council.

A mobile response unit is long over due in our community. Surrounding communities that have already implemented a mobile response unit have very successful. In Eugene, of the 24,000 calls made to their mobile response unit only 150 of those resulted in calling for police back up. Had their not been that resource, the police likely would have been called instead for all 24,000 of those.

The mobile response unit will handle a wide range of mental health related crisis. It will consist of a medic and a crisis worker who has substantial training in the mental health field. The mobile response unit is currently under consideration by the city of Salem.

This needs to be made a priority in our community. The mental health crisis has been ignored for too long. Thank you for your time.

Holly Correa, RN, BSN

**From:** [Dave Maceira](#)  
**To:** [budgetoffice](#)  
**Subject:** Mobile response unit  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 13, 2021 10:49:35 PM

---

I am writing to urge the Citizen Budget Committee support funding for a Mobile Crisis Intervention Unit. Our community needs a mobile crisis unit in order to address mental illness in our unsheltered community members, the general population and other challenging situations.

I believe this approach to community mental wellness is best for the following reasons. We know these teams work. For example, the City of Eugene has been successfully operating a nationally-recognized mobile crisis intervention team known as CAHOOTS for decades. The program works by mobilizing two-person teams consisting of a medic (a nurse, paramedic, or EMT) and a crisis worker who has substantial training and experience in the mental health field.

**Saving lives:** A November 2016 study published in the American Journal of Preventative Medicine estimated that 20% to 50% of fatal encounters with law enforcement involved an individual with a mental illness. The CAHOOTS model demonstrates that these fatal encounters are not inevitable.

**Saving money:** By handling non-emergency medical issues in the field, mobile crisis teams avoid costly ambulance transport and emergency room treatment. CAHOOTS estimates saving the City of Eugene approximately eight million dollars per year in public safety spending.

**The right tool for the right job:** Out of 24,000 calls to CAHOOTS in a recent year, only 150 calls resulted in them calling for police back-up. Mobile crisis teams free up law enforcement agencies to focus on higher priority calls.

Lastly, these teams handle a wide range of mental health-related crises, including conflict resolution, wellness checks, substance abuse, suicidal ideation, and more. At their core teams rely on trauma-informed de-escalation and harm reduction techniques. Furthermore, CAHOOTS is being replicated in cities like Portland and it is long past due here in Salem.

It is for these reasons that I strongly urge your support for mobile crisis unit.

Thank you for your time.

Best Regards,

David Maceira



**From:** [Melanie Weston](#)  
**To:** [budgetoffice](#)  
**Subject:** Noble response unit  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 14, 2021 7:32:39 AM

---

Dear Citizen Budget Committee,

Please include a mobile response unit. A two person mobile response unit saves money.

Thank you,  
Melanie Weston

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [noreply@cityofsalem.net](mailto:noreply@cityofsalem.net) on behalf of [True.caribou@gmail.com](mailto:True.caribou@gmail.com)  
**To:** [budgetoffice](mailto:budgetoffice)  
**Subject:** Contact Budget Office  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 14, 2021 8:17:48 AM  
**Attachments:** [ATT00001.bin](#)

Your Name	Jackie Lane
Your Email	True.caribou@gmail.com
Your Phone	5033805121
Street	1025 1/2 13th St NE
City	Salem
State	OR
Zip	97301
Message	Hello, I am writing to plead for a budget allocation for emergency responders specifically for mental health services. Unarmed, trained to de-escalate and provide help to those in mental health crises. I lived in Eugene where Cahoots/white bird clinic is a celebrated part of the city. Cops are not trained to provide these services, as demonstrated by the recent killing of a suicidal man on April 2nd. Please, prioritize safety and health above armed police officers.

This email was generated by the dynamic web forms contact us form on 4/14/2021.

**From:** [Clarissa Adams](#)  
**To:** [budgetoffice](#)  
**Subject:** Cahoots  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 14, 2021 8:19:30 AM

---

I support this! I've lived in Salem since I was six, and went to college at U of O. We used this service there and it was a great deal of help.

Mental health is important and I urge you to make it a priority to protect the people in Salem who have mental health concerns.

I am also a person who supports individuals with disabilities. Violent people with disabilities are manageable with non violent techniques. Some are hands on. We do not need cops to respond to these crisis.

I would be proud to have this service available in my hometown.

Thank you,  
Clarissa Adams

**From:** [carlypickens](#)  
**To:** [budgetoffice](#)  
**Subject:** Concerned Citizen of Salem  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 14, 2021 8:41:29 AM

---

Members of the Citizen Budget Committee,

I write you all today to urge you to include funding for a program similar to CAHOOTS in Eugene in your budgetary recommendation to the Salem City Council. Salem desperately needs a mobile mental health crisis team. This would be a team of two, a trained medic ( a nurse, EMT, or even a paramedic as well as a crisis worker who would have substantial knowledge, training and experience in the mental health field. These teams would be dispatched to calls where right now, our police are dispatched too for which they do not have adequate training compared to the proposed team.

They would respond to a wide array of mental-health related crisis that our police are currently taking calls for, including suicide ideations, conflict-resolution situations , substance abuse, welfare checks and a host of other situations that do not need to include law enforcement due to the state of mind the subject may be in.

These professionals would rely on trauma informed de-escalation and harm reduction techniques that could help save lives.

The mobile response unit has already been considered and supported by the council, the Mayor and the police chief. I've got email from the Mayor Bennet directly stating his support. But he has also stated that there needs to be budget for it.

One of the great things other than saving lives that this mobile response unit would do is save money! By handling non-emergent medical issues, by avoiding costly ambulance transport and emergency room visits. We truly need a to add a unit like this to our ever growing city population. It also frees up our police to take calls that they are better trained for. Last year CAHOOTS in Eugene (a 30 year old program) took 24,000 calls and only 150 of them resulted in the need for police back-up. This is a HUGE number of calls and man hours the police do not have to responde to.

Salem is on true need of this type of mobile response unit, and we the community hope tp have your support in making this happen.

Sincerely,  
Carly Pickens  
97302

**From:** [Cortnie Hoefel](#)  
**To:** [budgetoffice](#)  
**Subject:** Cahoots  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 14, 2021 8:46:34 AM

---

Members of the Citizen Budget Committee,

I write to urge the Citizen Budget Committee to include funding for a mobile response unit in its budgetary recommendation to Salem City Council. A mobile response unit is a two-person team consisting of a medic (a nurse, paramedic, or EMT) and a crisis worker who has substantial training and experience in the mental health field. They handle a wide range of mental health-related crises, including conflict resolution, welfare checks, substance abuse, suicidal ideation, and more, relying on trauma-informed de-escalation and harm reduction techniques. The mobile response unit is currently under consideration by the City of Salem and several community partners.

Mobile response units save money, by handling non-emergent medical issues, avoiding costly ambulance transport and emergency room treatment. We need to add this unit to our public safety toolkit. Out of 24,000 calls to the mobile response unit known as CAHOOTS in Eugene in 2019, only 150 calls resulted in them calling for police back-up. We need the right tool for the right job.

Thank you for your consideration for this very important service to our community. A step in the right direction.

Sincerely,  
Cortnie Hoefel

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Amy McVey](#)  
**To:** [budgetoffice](#)  
**Subject:** Request for Mobile Crisis Response Unit Funding  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 14, 2021 8:54:34 AM

---

I am a resident of Salem and writing to ask that the Citizen Budget Committee urgently work to include funds for a Mobile Crisis Response Unit in the city's budget. This is desperately needed to ensure the safety of all individuals involved when crisis intervention is needed. After the recent killing of Natzerlyt Viertel, your time and attention for this issue is imperative, and will show that Salem is pursuing a course of action that best serves the needs of our community. Imagine if a crisis intervention team had responded to the call about Mr. Viertel instead of Corporal Clinton Sealy. He may still be alive today.

As I'm sure you're aware, Eugene has a mobile crisis intervention team (CAHOOTS). The success story of CAHOOTS is an excellent model on which the City of Salem could base a similar program. Answering 17% of the Eugene Police Department's call volume, the operational cost of the CAHOOTS program is over \$2 million annually, but saves the city \$8.5 million annually. Even without the lense of compassion and dignity for all members of our society, it just makes fiscal sense.

I urge the Citizen Budget Committee to address this need in our community to provide Salem with a mobile response unit similar to that of Eugene's CAHOOTS program. It is the cost-effective and compassionate answer to crisis response needs in our community.

Thank you for your time!  
Amy McVey

--

Amy McVey  
503.507.9973

**From:** [Erich Mcvey](#)  
**To:** [budgetoffice](#)  
**Subject:** Mobile Crisis Response Unit  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 14, 2021 8:57:51 AM

---

Hi,

I am a resident of Salem and am writing to ask that the Citizen Budget Committee urgently work to include funds for a Mobile Crisis Response Unit in the city's budget. This is desperately needed to ensure the safety of all individuals involved when crisis intervention is needed. After the recent killing of Natzerlyt Viertel, your time and attention for this issue is imperative, and will show that Salem is pursuing a course of action that best serves the needs of our community. Imagine if a crisis intervention team had responded to the call about Mr. Viertel instead of Corporal Clinton Sealy. He may still be alive today.

As I'm sure you're aware, Eugene has a mobile crisis intervention team (CAHOOTS). The success story of CAHOOTS is an excellent model on which the City of Salem could base a similar program. The operational cost of the CAHOOTS program is over \$2 million annually, but SAVES the city \$8.5 million annually, answering 17% of the Eugene Police Department's call volume. Even without the lense of compassion and dignity for all members of our society, it just makes fiscal sense.

I urge the Citizen Budget Committee to address this need in our community to provide Salem with a mobile response unit similar to that of Eugene's CAHOOTS program. It is cost-effective, compassionate, and beneficial to everyone. Thank you.

Best,  
Erich

--

ERICH MCVEY  
[WEB](#) | [INSTAGRAM](#) | [MAKE & STOW](#)  
*phone: 503.910.4994*

**From:** [Mercedez Allen](#)  
**To:** [budgetoffice](#)  
**Subject:** Citizen Budget Committee  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 14, 2021 9:27:56 AM

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Members of the Citizen Budget Committee,

I write to urge the Citizen Budget Committee to include funding for a mobile response unit in its budgetary recommendation to Salem City Council. A mobile response unit is a two-person team consisting of a medic (a nurse, paramedic, or EMT) and a crisis worker who has substantial training and experience in the mental health field. They handle a wide range of mental health-related crises, including conflict resolution, welfare checks, substance abuse, suicidal ideation, and more, relying on trauma-informed de-escalation and harm reduction techniques. The mobile response unit is currently under consideration by the City of Salem and several community partners.

Mobile response units save money, by handling non-emergent medical issues, avoiding costly ambulance transport and emergency room treatment. We need to add this unit to our public safety toolkit. Out of 24,000 calls to the mobile response unit known as CAHOOTS in Eugene in 2019, only 150 calls resulted in them calling for police back-up. We need the right tool for the right job.



**From:** [Mercedes Allen](#)  
**To:** [budgetoffice](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Citizen Budget Committee  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 14, 2021 10:31:16 AM

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I'd also like to add that the murder of Natzerly Viertel could have been avoided had Salem had a CAHOOTS/mobile response unit. Viretel's mother publicly stated how her son was going through a mental crisis and had mentioned wanting to go to an inpatient mental health treatment facility. While Nat's death cannot be undone, this is a prime example why Salem would benefit from said response teams. The police are simply not trained to handle these measures and have other obligations they need to adhere to.

> On Apr 14, 2021, at 9:35 AM, budgetoffice <[Budgetoffice@cityofsalem.net](mailto:Budgetoffice@cityofsalem.net)> wrote:

>

> Hello,

>

> Thank you for your testimony. Your testimony will be provided to the Budget Committee as part of their meeting this evening.

>

> Best,

>

>

> Kelli Blechschmidt

> Management Analyst I

> City of Salem | Finance Department

> 555 Liberty St SE, Suite 230 Salem, OR 97301

> [kblechschmidt@cityofsalem.net](mailto:kblechschmidt@cityofsalem.net) | Office: 503-588-6049

>

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Mercedes Allen <[cedez99@icloud.com](mailto:cedez99@icloud.com)>

> Sent: Wednesday, April 14, 2021 9:28 AM

> To: budgetoffice <[Budgetoffice@cityofsalem.net](mailto:Budgetoffice@cityofsalem.net)>

> Subject: Citizen Budget Committee

>

> Members of the Citizen Budget Committee,

>

> I write to urge the Citizen Budget Committee to include funding for a mobile response unit in its budgetary recommendation to Salem City Council. A mobile response unit is a two-person team consisting of a medic (a nurse, paramedic, or EMT) and a crisis worker who has substantial training and experience in the mental health field. They handle a wide range of mental health-related crises, including conflict resolution, welfare checks, substance abuse, suicidal ideation, and more, relying on trauma-informed de-escalation and harm reduction techniques. The mobile response unit is currently under consideration by the City of Salem and several community partners.

>

> Mobile response units save money, by handling non-emergent medical issues, avoiding costly ambulance transport and emergency room treatment. We need to add this unit to our public safety toolkit. Out of 24,000 calls to the mobile response unit known as CAHOOTS in Eugene in 2019, only 150 calls resulted in them calling for police back-up. We need the right tool for the right job.

**From:** [Anna Sieber](#)  
**To:** [budgetoffice](#)  
**Subject:** In support of a mobile response unit  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 14, 2021 10:26:34 AM

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Hello!

I am writing today in support of developing/funding a mobile response unit in the Salem area. We have seen great success with these in other cities (such as the CAHOOTS program in Eugene) in connecting the appropriate kind of support for many of the emergencies that arise in the community.

As a mental health professional in the community, I believe this would be a great step in supporting individuals who live in this area, particularly with mental health issues. So often, when someone is in crisis, the only option is calling the police. Having an option for a mobile response unit would support greater safety, care, and access to resources for individuals in the community.

Please let me know if I can provide further information.

Thank you!  
Anna Sieber  
(Salem resident)

**From:** [josiah.custis](#)  
**To:** [budgetoffice](#)  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 14, 2021 10:24:12 AM

---

Members of the Citizen Budget Committee,

I write to urge the Citizen Budget Committee to include funding for a mobile response unit in its budgetary recommendation to Salem City Council. A mobile response unit is a two-person team consisting of a medic (a nurse, paramedic, or EMT) and a crisis worker who has substantial training and experience in the mental health field. They handle a wide range of mental health-related crises, including conflict resolution, welfare checks, substance abuse, suicidal ideation, and more, relying on trauma-informed de-escalation and harm reduction techniques. The mobile response unit is currently under consideration by the City of Salem and several community partners.

Mobile response units save money, by handling non-emergent medical issues, avoiding costly ambulance transport and emergency room treatment. We need to add this unit to our public safety toolkit. Out of 24,000 calls to the mobile response unit known as CAHOOTS in Eugene in 2019, only 150 calls resulted in them calling for police back-up. We need the right tool for the right job.

**From:** [Caroline Brown](#)  
**To:** [budgetoffice](#)  
**Subject:** Mobile Crisis Response Unit  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 14, 2021 10:20:17 AM

---

Hello, my name is Caroline Brown. It has come to my attention that there was no proposed funding in the budget for a Mobile Crisis Response Unit in Salem. This is incredibly disappointing. I urge the city to prioritize funding this life saving service.

With a CAHOOTS type program in our city, Natzerlyt Vierteles could still be alive. The inadequate training of police cost someone their life. Someone who deserved help and understanding, someone who deserved a trained mental health professional. Police are not, and cannot be that. PLEASE save lives and invest in a mobile crisis response unit.

Caroline Brown

**From:** [Snarfy Knutson](#)  
**To:** [budgetoffice](#)  
**Subject:** Adding A Crisis Care Unit to the Budget  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 14, 2021 10:11:17 AM

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Hello city,

The pre-written letter articulates my needs better than I can. Thank you for listening.

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Members of the Citizen Budget Committee,

I write to urge the Citizen Budget Committee to include funding for a mobile response unit in its budgetary recommendation to Salem City Council. A mobile response unit is a two-person team consisting of a medic (a nurse, paramedic, or EMT) and a crisis worker who has substantial training and experience in the mental health field. They handle a wide range of mental health-related crises, including conflict resolution, welfare checks, substance abuse, suicide threats, and more, relying on trauma-informed de-escalation and harm reduction techniques. The mobile response unit is currently under consideration by the City of Salem and several community partners.

Mobile response units save money, by handling non-emergent medical issues, avoiding costly ambulance transport and emergency room treatment. We need to add this unit to our public safety toolkit. Out of 24,000 calls to the mobile response unit known as CAHOOTS in Eugene in 2019, only 150 calls resulted in them calling for police back-up. We need the right tool for the right job.

Thank you,  
Snarfy Knutson

**From:** [Caroline Brown](#)  
**To:** [Jackie Leung](#); [Vanessa Nordyke](#); [budgetoffice](#); [Chris Hoy](#); [citycouncil](#); [Jose Gonzalez](#); [Jim Lewis](#); [Tom Andersen](#); [Trevor Phillips](#); [Virginia Stapleton](#)  
**Subject:** Mobile Crisis Response Unit funding  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 14, 2021 10:07:50 AM

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With a CAHOOTS type program in our city, Natzeryt Viérteles could still be alive. The inadequate training of police cost someone their life. Someone who deserved help and understanding, someone who deserved a trained mental health professional. Police are not, and cannot be that. PLEASE save lives and invest in a mobile crisis response unit.

Thank you,  
Caroline Brown

**From:** [Josh Eggleston](#)  
**To:** [budgetoffice](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Funding Priority - Mobile Crisis Intervention Team like CAHOOTS  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 14, 2021 10:53:25 AM

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**From:** Clifford Eiffler-Rodriguez <[cpeiffler@gmail.com](mailto:cpeiffler@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 14, 2021 3:02 AM  
**To:** Budgetcommittee <[Budgetcommittee@cityofsalem.net](mailto:Budgetcommittee@cityofsalem.net)>  
**Cc:** CityRecorder <[CityRecorder@cityofsalem.net](mailto:CityRecorder@cityofsalem.net)>; citycouncil <[citycouncil@cityofsalem.net](mailto:citycouncil@cityofsalem.net)>; SALEM Manager <[MANAGER@cityofsalem.net](mailto:MANAGER@cityofsalem.net)>  
**Subject:** Funding Priority - Mobile Crisis Intervention Team like CAHOOTS

Salem Police killed Natzerly Viertel on April 2nd.

He was experiencing suicidal thoughts. When he threatened firefighters he was killed, shot by Corporal Clinton Sealey of the Salem Police Department.

No mental health professional was dispatched to the scene.


Eugene has had a mobile crisis intervention for 30 years. With proven outcomes it's time for actual change. Time to dismantle a piece of the harm is perpetuated by the police's mismanagement of mental health crisis calls in this community. We need people who have the tools to help members of our community at a time of crisis.

It's time to allocate funds to a mobile crisis intervention team. It's time for Salem to grow up.

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Public Testimony

This is a public meeting and time for testimony is on the agenda.

How can citizens sign up to speak? The page doesn't have the instructions 

I would like to sign up if those are conducted through this email.

What is the deadline for signing up to testify? So that it can be made publically available.

**From:** [Melanie Berry](#)  
**To:** [budgetoffice](#)  
**Subject:** In Support of a Mobile Crisis Unit  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 14, 2021 10:47:27 AM

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Members of the Citizen Budget Committee,

I am a licensed clinical social worker employed by Salem Hospital. As a mental health professional, I am all too familiar with mental health crises, and I have experienced the trauma patients and friends have experienced after receiving a "welfare check" from police officers. Mobile crisis units offer trained individuals who are equipped to connect with people in a mental health crisis, and they are more likely to help them get appropriate care and follow-up. The emergency room is often a traumatic and ineffective experience for individuals in crisis, so having a mobile crisis unit would both decrease inappropriate use of the emergency room, and help citizens access needed care more quickly.

Eugene provides us with a wonderful example of how a mobile crisis unit can work, with their CAHOOTS program.

Please include funding for a similar mobile response unit in your budgetary recommendation to the Salem City Council

Respectfully,

--

Melanie S. Berry, MSW, LCSW, OSW-C



**From:** [Kris Bifulco](mailto:kris.bifulco@gmail.com)  
**To:** [budgetoffice](mailto:budgetoffice)  
**Subject:** Re: Please Fund Mobile Crisis  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 14, 2021 10:37:30 AM

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Sorry, the state bill I referenced is HB 2417, not SB.

Thanks!

On Wed, Apr 14, 2021 at 10:36 AM Kris Bifulco <[kris.bifulco@gmail.com](mailto:kris.bifulco@gmail.com)> wrote:

Dear Citizen Budget Committee,

I'm writing as a fellow citizen of Salem to strongly urge you to include funding for a mobile crisis response unit in your recommendations to Salem City Council. Mobile Crisis response units use trained medical (nurse, paramedic, EMT) and mental health professionals to respond to non-criminal crises. Mobile crisis units can help with conflict resolution, welfare checks, suicidal crises, substance abuse issues, and more. They are trained in trauma informed care, de-escalation, and harm reduction techniques to help people.

We've seen a push nationally for these types of units because we've seen police-led interventions for mental health issues go wrong too many times (and it shouldn't be their job to respond to such anyway). We've unfortunately seen that play out here in Salem just this month, with one of our neighbors dying at the hands of police while he was in suicidal crisis. This could have been avoided if we had a mobile crisis unit.

Mobile crisis has been used in Eugene for over 30 years with their CAHOOTS program. Out of 24,000 calls in 2019, they only had to request police intervention backup 150 times. The rest of their calls were resolved and connected people to the resources they needed in their moment of crisis and beyond. Mobile crisis also saves us money and resources, making it a smart investment for our city. There is even legislation happening at a state level (SB 2417) to help cities and counties make the investment to improve current mobile crisis or to create mobile crisis teams. With this pathway and state support, now is the time for us to act and develop our own mobile crisis unit.

So again, I'm urging you to include this as a budget recommendation. Mobile crisis is needed, and we need you to lift that up to City Council.

Thank you,  
Kris Bifulco

**From:** [Autumn Knights](#)  
**To:** [budgetoffice](#)  
**Subject:** Please include funding for a mobile crisis response unit!  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 14, 2021 10:35:23 AM

---

Hello, my name is Autumn. It has recently come to my attention that There was no proposed funding in the budget for a Mobile Crisis Response Unit in Salem. This is so incredibly disappointing. I urge you to please prioritize this life saving service.  
Thank you for your time.  
-Autumn Knights

**From:** [Sadie Verville](#)  
**To:** [budgetoffice](#)  
**Cc:** [Chris Hoy](#); [Vanessa Nordyke](#); [Brad Nanke](#); [Chuck Bennett](#); [ckaser@cityofsalem.net](#); [Jackie Leung](#); [Jim Lewis](#); [Matthew Ausec](#); [Tom Andersen](#)  
**Subject:** Upcoming Budget Funds - Support for CAHOOTS  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 14, 2021 11:29:21 AM

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To the Citizen Budget Committee,

I am a resident of ward two in the city of Salem, near the downtown area. I would like to advocate for funding to go to a mobile crisis intervention team similar to the CAHOOTS program in Eugene, Oregon.

Their program has been incredibly successful in responding to crisis calls - the program saves the city of Eugene \$8.5 million annually by responding to 17% of calls made to the Eugene Police Department. By investing in this now, a mobile crisis unit will ultimately save the city money in the long run, as well as provide safe and healthy spaces for people to thrive.

A unit such as this could heal the community, especially in regards to the recent tragedy here in Salem. The police murdered a young person named Natzeryt Viertel because they were having a mental health crisis. When the police became involved in the situation, they escalated it far out of proportion and shot them instead of helping them. Murder should never be the response to a mental health crisis. This is not how we protect our community. Involving a team of trained mental health professionals could have saved that person's life. The ripple effects of the trauma from this incident will stay with this community for generations. Providing funding for a mobile crisis unit will save the lives of many members of the Salem community and will begin the long overdue process of healing our community members. It isn't justice for the person who was killed, but it is a step in the right direction.

Thank you,  
Sadie Verville

**From:** [Justin W](#)  
**To:** [budgetoffice](#)  
**Subject:** In Support for Mobile Crisis Response Unit  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 14, 2021 11:27:27 AM

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Hello. My name is Justin Wanner. I have recently learned that there is no proposed funding in the budget for a Mobile Crisis Response Unit in Salem. We just had SPD murder someone having a mental health crisis. They would still be alive today if we had a service like cahoots to handle mental health crises with care. I am disappointed with the lack of funding towards this project. I urge the city to prioritize funding for this life saving service.

**From:** [noreply@cityofsalem.net](mailto:noreply@cityofsalem.net) on behalf of [brynneiffler@gmail.com](mailto:brynneiffler@gmail.com)  
**To:** [budgetoffice](mailto:budgetoffice)  
**Subject:** Contact Budget Office  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 14, 2021 11:30:40 AM  
**Attachments:** [ATT00001.bin](#)

Your Name	Brynn L Eiffler
Your Email	brynneiffler@gmail.com
Your Phone	5037796472
Street	2680 Englewood Ave NE
City	Salem
State	OR
Zip	97301
Message	<p>Hello, I am writing to ask that you please include crisis intervention as a priority to fund. It is imperative that we use a crisis intervention organization like has been shown to be effective in Eugene. Please follow Councilor Nordyke's lead in advocating for this. Please include funding for a mobile response unit in its budgetary recommendation to Salem City Council. A mobile response unit is a two-person team consisting of a medic (a nurse, paramedic, or EMT) and a crisis worker who has substantial training and experience in the mental health field. They handle a wide range of mental health-related crises, including conflict resolution, welfare checks, substance abuse, suicidal ideation, and more, relying on trauma-informed de-escalation and harm reduction techniques. The mobile response unit is currently under consideration by the City of Salem and several community partners. Mobile response units save money, by handling non-emergent medical issues, avoiding costly ambulance transport and emergency room treatment. We need to add this unit to our public safety toolkit. Out of 24,000 calls to the mobile response unit known as CAHOOTS in Eugene in 2019, only 150 calls resulted in them calling for police back-up. We need the right tool for the right job.</p>

This email was generated by the dynamic web forms contact us form on 4/14/2021.

**From:** [Tina N](#)  
**To:** [budgetoffice](#)  
**Subject:** Budget Comment  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 14, 2021 11:50:04 AM

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Dear Budget Committee,

April is Autism Acceptance Month. Autism is a neurotype, not a disease, and it describes a different kind of sensory processing that is presently observed in 1 in 54 children as of 2020, including my 4 year old son. Autism is not a dangerous condition, even in those with high support needs, it is just different from what folks expect from a "normal" person. I am also Autistic.

Autistic people experience heightened sensory input and often appear to "over react" or "lash out" when experiencing a stimulus that our brains process as pain. Loud noises, certain textures, and bright lights can create such distress within us that we can overload and meltdown. Autism does not change as you age. Autistic adults also experience meltdowns. We learn to avoid meltdowns through various self-regulating techniques, such as wearing ear defenders, covering our skin with clothing and masks, or "stimming", either physically, like flapping our hands, or vocally, by singing, speaking, or just making "sounds".

These realities look almost cute in a child like mine. They look less appealing in adults. Society often cannot distinguish between a person trying to have a good day and a person trying to cause harm (Elijah McClain). Lack of comprehension of Autism can lead to the wrongful and traumatic conviction of individuals by police (Matthew Rushin). This extends beyond Autism and into other forms of mental illness (Saraya Rees). Too often, when police respond to a mental health crisis, the person in crisis ends up dead (Natzeryt Viertel, Walter Wallace Jr., Andre Gladen).

A mobile crisis response team is necessary to provide accessibility to those with disabilities and mental illness. Omitting it from your budget is ableist on its face.

My son is white. He was diagnosed early and will have every opportunity to learn how to exist safely in this world that oppresses him at every turn. And I know that the likelihood of the police being called on him are slim. Not everyone has the privilege of knowing their condition. Not everyone has the privilege of being taught appropriate regulating techniques. And even those who do have that privilege may not survive a walk down the street because the police cannot tell the difference between a dangerous person and a person who makes them uncomfortable.

A mobile crisis response team will save the lives of those you are still learning to accept and understand. You must do your part to fund our protection and well-being. Please add the mobile crisis response team to the budget to be implemented immediately.

Sincerely,  
Tina Noon

**From:** [Benjamin Haley](#)  
**To:** [budgetoffice](#)  
**Subject:** Mobile Response Unit  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 14, 2021 11:46:24 AM

---

Good morning,

I hope this email finds you well. My name is Ben Haley and I am a downtown resident. I am writing in support of allocating funds to a mobile response unit. As a downtown resident I often see people exhibiting signs of mental distress. I believe that a mobile response unit would help connect these people to compassionate sources of help. This would make me feel more secure in my neighborhood.

Thanks,  
Ben

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [noreply@cityofsalem.net](mailto:noreply@cityofsalem.net) on behalf of [sjackm2@gmail.com](mailto:sjackm2@gmail.com)  
**To:** [budgetoffice](mailto:budgetoffice)  
**Subject:** Contact Budget Office  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 14, 2021 11:58:27 AM  
**Attachments:** [ATT00001.bin](#)

Your Name	Shelly
Your Email	<a href="mailto:sjackm2@gmail.com">sjackm2@gmail.com</a>
Your Phone	8172298921
Message	<p>Hi, My name is Shelly and I am a resident of Salem. I am writing to ask Salem to fund mental health responders (ideally from the police budget), similar to the successful and cost-saving CAHOOTS program out of Eugene. <a href="https://whitebirdclinic.org/what-is-cahoots/">https://whitebirdclinic.org/what-is-cahoots/</a> The events on April 3, 2021, where Salem Police shot and killed a suicidal man are disturbing and unfair. I have had two family members with schizophrenia, both with run-ins with police who didn't understand their condition or state and this recent news story is yet another reaction that could have been prevented. Please consider funding mental health responders for the sake of our residents and police force. <a href="https://www.salemreporter.com/posts/3954/police-shoot-kill-suicidal-man-in-south-salem-friday">https://www.salemreporter.com/posts/3954/police-shoot-kill-suicidal-man-in-south-salem-friday</a> Thank you, Shelly</p>

This email was generated by the dynamic web forms contact us form on 4/14/2021.



**Kali Leinenbach**

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**From:** Kylie Burbank <kylieburbank@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 14, 2021 12:41 PM  
**To:** budgetoffice  
**Subject:** Necessary Mobile Health Crisis Relief

Hello, my name is Kylie Burbank. I am extremely upset & disappointed in hearing about the passing of Nat Viertel. Salem needs something similar to CAHOOTS like Eugene has. The police are not trained well enough in mental health crisis cases to handle them as we have seen with Nat's case. Please, I urge you to consider something like this. We need trained mental health professionals instead of ready to fire police. Thank you.

**Kali Leinenbach**

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**From:** Piper Gillett <pipergillett123@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 14, 2021 12:52 PM  
**To:** budgetoffice  
**Subject:** regarding CAHOOTS for our community

Members of the Citizen Budget Committee,

I write to urge the Citizen Budget Committee to include funding for a mobile response unit in its budgetary recommendation to Salem City Council. A mobile response unit is a two-person team consisting of a medic (a nurse, paramedic, or EMT) and a crisis worker who has substantial training and experience in the mental health field. They handle a wide range of mental health-related crises, including conflict resolution, welfare checks, substance abuse, suicidal ideation, and more, relying on trauma-informed de-escalation and harm reduction techniques. The mobile response unit is currently under consideration by the City of Salem and several community partners.

**Kali Leinenbach**

---

**From:** Laurel Brown <l4urelbrown@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 14, 2021 12:58 PM  
**To:** budgetoffice  
**Subject:** CAHOOTS Funding

Hello, my name is Laurel Brown and I'm a resident in Salem.

It has come to my attention that there is no proposed funding in the budget for a mobile crisis response unit in Salem. This is incredibly disappointing and I am urging the city to prioritize funding for this life saving service. Natzerlyt Viertel was just murdered in Salem by the police while suffering a mental health crisis and no one has any right to take a life away. The implementation of such a program is long overdue and is absolutely necessary for the healing Salem desperately needs.

Regards,  
Laurel B.

Sent from my iPad

**Kali Leinenbach**

---

**From:** Danielle Howden <danielle.howden@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 14, 2021 1:02 PM  
**To:** budgetoffice  
**Subject:** Mobile Response Unit for the City of Salem

Members of the Citizen Budget Committee,

I am a resident of Salem, OR. I am writing in urging you to fund the mobile response unit in your budgetary recommendation to Salem City Council.

A mobile response unit is a two-person team consisting of a medic and a crisis worker who has substantial training and experience in the mental health field. I am certain you have many other emails from community members describing what this looks like in practice.

I would ask that you act on all the words and performance we saw last summer from the council. This has been expressed over and over again as a deep need in our community, from the Salem City Council, law enforcement, service providers and community members. This has been in "review" and "recommendation" since last summer. Please act on that care. Please back your words with action.

The lives of my friends and my family depend on this. Mental health crises have escalated as COVID-19 has furthered trauma and distress. The people in my life are struggling. I am struggling. We all watched Salem law enforcement take a life that was struggling. Law enforcement should not be the first responders to a mental health crisis. People need help and care and support. I urge you to take this seriously. This is not just rhetoric. The lives of people I love and invest in depend on this.

Please consider all the resources going into services that are not equipped. The law suits. The trauma. The deep negative community impact. Mobile response units not only save lives, they save money and resources, by handling non-emergent medical issues, avoiding costly transport and aids. We need to add this unit to our public safety resources. There is a deeper need more now than ever. Out of 24,000 calls to the mobile response unit known as CAHOOTS in Eugene in 2019, only 150 calls resulted in them calling police for back-up. Please fund and support the people equipped to help in mental health crises.

Please follow through with what you said you would.

Thank you,  
D (Danielle) Howden  
Ward 1

**Kali Leinenbach**

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**From:** Mallory Turner <mrtturner21@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 14, 2021 1:15 PM  
**To:** Budgetcommittee  
**Subject:** Mobile Crisis Intervention

Good afternoon,

I am a resident of Salem, OR and I urge you to implement a budget for a mobile crisis intervention in Salem. Eugene has used this intervention system for 30 years and has proven positive quantitative and qualitative results. It is time to dismantle a tool of the harm and trauma in this community. We need to provide appropriate tools and resources to help the members of our community who are in crisis.

Thank you,

--

**Mallory Turner** (she/ her)  
+1 (618) 889-2465

**Kali Leinenbach**

---

**From:** Ivy Clark-Henry <ivy.clark.henry@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 14, 2021 1:35 PM  
**To:** Budgetcommittee  
**Subject:** 04/14/2021 Budget Committee Agenda

Good morning,

I hope you're doing well. My name is Ivy Clark-Henry, and I am a resident of Salem, Oregon. I was born in Salem, raised in Salem, and got married and bought a home in Salem - this is my home.

I am writing to stress the importance of a budget for a mobile mental health crisis response here in Salem. We are behind the times, and are seeing the devastating effects of it: the shooting of a young man who was having a mental health crisis, earlier this month. CAHOOTS in Eugene has been running for years with success, and I think Salem is growing at a rate that we can't just say "that's for big cities", a statement I've heard too much of. We are too big to ignore our neighbors and folks who need help, and the SPD cannot provide that help without making the situation unsafe.

I have many loved ones who live here who have battled with mental health issues in their lifetime, myself included. I'm sure you do, too. I would hope that if my friend was having a crisis, there would be someone who I can call without being worried they were going to be shot.

Thank you,  
-Ivy

## Kali Leinenbach

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**From:** Brandy Decker <spillthebeansetc@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 14, 2021 1:40 PM  
**To:** Budgetcommittee  
**Subject:** Please read.

Members of the Citizen Budget Committee,

I write to urge the Citizen Budget Committee to include funding for a mobile response unit in its budgetary recommendation to Salem City Council. A mobile response unit is a two-person team consisting of a medic (a nurse, paramedic, or EMT) and a crisis worker who has substantial training and experience in the mental health field. They handle a wide range of mental health-related crises, including conflict resolution, welfare checks, substance abuse, suicidal ideation, and more, relying on trauma-informed de-escalation and harm reduction techniques. The mobile response unit is currently under consideration by the City of Salem and several community partners.

Mobile response units save money, by handling non-emergent medical issues, avoiding costly ambulance transport and emergency room treatment. We need to add this unit to our public safety toolkit. Out of 24,000 calls to the mobile response unit known as CAHOOTS in Eugene in 2019, only 150 calls resulted in them calling for police back-up. We need the right tool for the right job.

Visit our website:

[www.spillthebeansetc.com](http://www.spillthebeansetc.com)

and follow us on:

[instagram.com/spillthebeansetcco](https://www.instagram.com/spillthebeansetcco)

[Facebook.com/spillthebeansetclv](https://www.facebook.com/spillthebeansetclv)

**Kali Leinenbach**

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**From:** Freckled Bee <thefreckledbeeco@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 14, 2021 1:35 PM  
**To:** Budgetcommittee  
**Subject:** Mobile Response Unit Requested

Members of the Citizen Budget Committee,

I write to urge the Citizen Budget Committee to include funding for a mobile response unit in its budgetary recommendation to Salem City Council. A mobile response unit is a two-person team consisting of a medic (a nurse, paramedic, or EMT) and a crisis worker who has substantial training and experience in the mental health field. They handle a wide range of mental health-related crises, including conflict resolution, welfare checks, substance abuse, suicidal ideation, and more, relying on trauma-informed de-escalation and harm reduction techniques. The mobile response unit is currently under consideration by the City of Salem and several community partners.

Mobile response units save money, by handling non-emergent medical issues, avoiding costly ambulance transport and emergency room treatment. We need to add this unit to our public safety toolkit. Out of 24,000 calls to the mobile response unit known as CAHOOTS in Eugene in 2019, only 150 calls resulted in them calling for police back-up. We need the right tool for the right job.



**From:** [Kira Nguyen-Manahan](#)  
**To:** [budgetoffice](#)  
**Subject:** Budget for mobile crisis response unit  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 14, 2021 2:14:21 PM

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Hello,

My name is Kira Nguyen-Manahan and I live in Salem, I'm reaching out to ask that you please include a budget for a mobile crisis response unit. The CAHOOTS program in Eugene has proven to be beneficial to their city and has saved the city so much money. Salem could really use this, it would help our community be safer and healthier.

Thank you,

Kira Nguyen-Manahan

## Kali Leinenbach

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**From:** Nancy Baker-Krofft <nbakerkrofft@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 14, 2021 8:23 AM  
**To:** Budgetcommittee  
**Subject:** Cahoots Support

It is the most painful thing a mother of a mentally ill young person can face....legal consequences when the young person cannot help their condition. We do not shoot diabetics or those with cancer, but in Salem and elsewhere a bounty of mania or a psychotic attack can get you to jail or even prison, perhaps dead. My son has lived in Salem his whole life. 3 years ago he watched as a homeless man broke a window, and although the other person had a short jail stay, my son ( after delays due to being in Salem Hospital Psychiatric Unit and Oregon State Hospital, he was charged with a felony. In San Francisco he had broken a government building window himself, also, while in the throws of mania. Their Public Defender got it lowered to a civil offense and he paid off the window replacement. Here he paid for 3 years the court costs, but when mania struck again and there were no mental health beds available in the state due to victims of the wildfires using many of them, Salem Police said the only way they could get him into treatment was to have me get a restraining order. He was served in the hospital, but they released him although definitely unable to manage. He broke window in his home again, and spent 2 months in jail! He lost 60 pounds there due to ill treatment, and was FINALLY sent to the OSH. He spent months there, and is now stable. The DA has offered him prison now ( since this was a break in probation) or Mental Health Court with no contact with his mom or home! He has lived at home his whole 25 years. I had the Order reversed 6 weeks after requesting it, and that was back in November. What kind of evil system does this to a young man, giving him a record and tearing apart his family? WE NEED A PROGRAM FUNDED LIKE CAHOOTS AND WE NEEDED IT YESTERDAY.

It may be too late for my son, or my broken heart, but please...before you make any other important decision today, vote to fund a mental health alternative in Salem to support our mentally ill without adding legal issues on top of their troubles.

Nan Baker-Krofft  
676 Catterlin NE  
97301

**From:** [Commissioner Kopcho](#)  
**To:** [budgetoffice](#); [CityRecorder](#)  
**Subject:** Budget Committee Testimony: Item 5a - Proposed Budget  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 14, 2021 2:43:45 PM

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Mayor, Councilors, and Members of the Citizen Budget Committee,

I write to urge the Citizen Budget Committee to include in the budget, an item to staff a city auditor position. Auditors' work serves to at once identify cost savings and increase public trust by providing analysis and recommendations related to efficiency & effectiveness of governance, programs, and services; compliance with rules, laws and legal agreements; assessment of risks and threats; and investigations of potential fraud and abuse. Audit work can lead to positive outcomes including:

- improved programs and services;
- cost savings;
- increased revenue;
- improved performance accountability;
- improved awareness of risks; and
- prevention of future problems.

Local governments without strong audit functions or those that do not heed auditor advice run the risk of adverse circumstances. For example, in early 2018, an auditor warned the City of Atlanta of key information technology vulnerabilities; however, city officials chose not to address the risk, and shortly after, city information systems were held at ransom by hackers. Services were incapacitated for more than a week before city officials agreed to pay over \$50,000 to unlock the computer systems.

The Association of Local Government Auditors describes auditors as a wise investment, citing audits that led to significant public savings, increased revenue, improved performance, or discovery of fraud:

- Oregon auditors identified a major problem in Medicaid services that was addressed by leadership with estimated **\$12.6 million saved each month**
- A Tennessee city **saved over a million dollars** with an audit of employee health coverage
- A city of Chardon, Ohio audit found the **city could save \$463,000** through: dispatch operations consolidation, staffing reduction, overtime optimization, and formalized policies and procedures; and
- Auditors in Atlanta identified about **\$1.8 million in improper payments to deceased pensioners**.

If structured and staffed appropriately, an independent performance audit department can be extremely effective and productive. In addition to work that leads to new revenue, cost recovery, and economic impact, performance audits can also address highly complex social issues like homelessness:

- An audit of the Denver's efforts to address homelessness found efforts were fragmented and understaffed. The audit also showed the city's Unauthorized Camping Ordinance exposed the city to risk as the city lacked adequate shelter necessary to mitigate harm from the ordinance

- An King County, Washington audit found the homeless crisis demands a unified, accountable, and dynamic regional response and provided 12 recommendations for improvement; and
- The Portland City Auditor issued an audit with seven recommendations for improving communications and data related to city efforts to cleanup homeless camps.

As Salem wraps up its costly performance assessment of the city's Community Policing programs, it's important to note that such an assessment could have been performed by an independent and objective city auditor a more economical cost. If the city is serious about fiscal responsibility then one of the greatest assets would be the acquisition of a city auditor. As it stands, the city continues to lag behind the rest of the nation in its failure to create an office that would provide a future cost savings and increase public trust through transparency, accountability, and integrity. Auditors can intercept emerging concerns before they become costly to the city and its taxpayers.

Very respectfully,  
Casey Kopcho

[Casey Kopcho](#)  
Planning Commissioner  
City of Salem  
555 Liberty ST SE RM 305  
Salem, OR 97301  
Sent with [ProtonMail](#) Secure Email.

**Kali Leinenbach**

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**From:** noreply@cityofsalem.net on behalf of Godesmiaz82@gmail.com  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 14, 2021 9:46 AM  
**To:** Budgetcommittee  
**Subject:** Salem needs a mobile response unit.  
**Attachments:** ATT00001.bin

Your Name	Maria Young
Your Email	Godesmiaz82@gmail.com
Message	I am writing today in hopes that our budget committee will add funds for a mobile response unit here in Salem like the one in Eugene, Cahoots. Salem has long needed a mobile response unit to respond to people who are having a mental health crisis or do not need assistance of a police officer. There is no reason why our budget committee and the city of Salem cannot find funds in order to fund a mobile response unit here in Salem.

This email was generated by the dynamic web forms contact us form on 4/14/2021.

## Kali Leinenbach

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**From:** tae Allen <prentasia@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 14, 2021 10:25 AM  
**To:** Budgetcommittee  
**Subject:** Mobile response is needed.

I write to urge the Citizen Budget Committee to include funding for a mobile response unit in its budgetary recommendation to Salem City Council. A mobile response unit is a two-person team consisting of a medic (a nurse, paramedic, or EMT) and a crisis worker who has substantial training and experience in the mental health field. They handle a wide range of mental health-related crises, including conflict resolution, welfare checks, substance abuse, suicidal ideation, and more, relying on trauma-informed de-escalation and harm reduction techniques. The mobile response unit is currently under consideration by the City of Salem and several community partners.

The shooting death of Natzeryt Viertel could have been avoided if Salem had a mobile response unit. Mr. Viertel's mother had publicly stated that he was having a mental health crisis after telling her he wanted to do inpatient mental health treatment. While we cannot undo the situation, this incident highlights why we need a mobile response unit that is trained in specialized de-escalation while someone is having a moment of suicidal ideation.

Mobile response units save money, by handling non-emergent medical issues, avoiding costly ambulance transport and emergency room treatment. We need to add this unit to our public safety toolkit. Out of 24,000 calls to the mobile response unit known as CAHOOTS in Eugene in 2019, only 150 calls resulted in them calling for police back-up. We need the right tool for the right job.

**Kali Leinenbach**

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**From:** John Hurles <hurlesjohn@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 14, 2021 11:13 AM  
**To:** Budgetcommittee

Members of the Citizen Budget Committee,

I write to urge the Citizen Budget Committee to include funding for a mobile response unit in its budgetary recommendation to Salem City Council. A mobile response unit is a two-person team consisting of a medic (a nurse, paramedic, or EMT) and a crisis worker who has substantial training and experience in the mental health field. They handle a wide range of mental health-related crises, including conflict resolution, welfare checks, substance abuse, suicidal ideation, and more, relying on trauma-informed de-escalation and harm reduction techniques. The mobile response unit is currently under consideration by the City of Salem and several community partners.

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## **Kali Leinenbach**

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**From:** Jesse Baughman <flyinggrayson14@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 14, 2021 10:48 AM  
**To:** Budgetcommittee  
**Subject:** Mobile Response Unit

Members of the Citizen Budget Committee,

I write to urge the Citizen Budget Committee to include funding for a mobile response unit in its budgetary recommendation to Salem City Council. A mobile response unit is a two-person team consisting of a medic (a nurse, paramedic, or EMT) and a crisis worker who has substantial training and experience in the mental health field. They handle a wide range of mental health-related crises, including conflict resolution, welfare checks, substance abuse, suicidal ideation, and more, relying on trauma-informed de-escalation and harm reduction techniques. The mobile response unit is currently under consideration by the City of Salem and several community partners.

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**From:** [Mariana Praschnik](#)  
**To:** [budgetoffice](#)  
**Subject:** URGENT: consideration for Salem emergency response unit  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 14, 2021 2:53:09 PM

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To whom it may concern,

Currently there is no budget allocated for an emergency response unit in Salem and we desperately need one. I would like to voice my support as a neighbor and member of the Salem community for an adequate budget to be allotted for the successful development and implementation of an emergency response unit with appropriate resources, training, and compensation for emergency responders.

Your deep consideration and representation of the entire Salem community, including those who experience the greatest levels of harm and marginalization, is deeply appreciated.

Sincerely,

Mariana Gabriella Praschnik-Enriquez

# MINUTES REVISED



Joint Meeting of the City of Salem Budget Committee and the Salem Urban Renewal Agency Budget Committee

DATE:	Wednesday, January 20, 2021	STAFF LIAISON:
TIME:	6:00 PM	Josh Eggleston, Budget Officer
CHAIRPERSON:	Paul Tigan	503-588-6130
		<a href="mailto:jeggleston@cityofsalem.net">jeggleston@cityofsalem.net</a>
PLACE:	Virtual	Kelli Blechschmidt, Mgmt Analyst I
		503-588-6049
		<a href="mailto:kblechschmidt@cityofsalem.net">kblechschmidt@cityofsalem.net</a>

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1. OPENING EXERCISES – Chairperson Tigan called the meeting to order at 6:01pm

Members present: Stapleton, Tigan, Tom Andersen, Shirack, Phillips, Davis, McCoid, Brown, Hoy, William Andersen, Nordyke, Sund, DoCarmo

Pledge of Allegiance by Chair Tigan

2. PUBLIC TESTIMONY

No one signed up for public comment. Written testimony can be submitted to [budgetoffice@cityofsalem.net](mailto:budgetoffice@cityofsalem.net)

- a. Correspondence from Michael Macbeane regarding Camp Hope
- b. Correspondence from Alan C. Scott regarding sidewalks

Questions or comments by: None

3. MINUTES

- a. Minutes from May 13, 2020 City of Salem and Urban Renewal Agency Budget Committee Meeting

**Motion:** Move to approve the meeting minutes from the May 13, 2020 City of Salem Budget Committee and Urban Renewal Agency Budget Committee Meeting.

Motion by:	Member Hoy
Seconded by:	Member T. Andersen

**Action:** Motion passes

Vote:

Aye: Unanimous

Nay:

Abstentions:

4. ACTION ITEMS

- a. Election of Officers- Chairperson

**Motion:** Move to nominate Paul Tigan for Chairperson of the City of Salem Budget Committee and Urban Renewal Agency Budget Committee.

Motion by: Member Hoy  
Seconded by: Member T. Andersen

**Action:** Motion passes  
**Vote:**  
Aye: Unanimous  
Nay:  
Abstentions:

**Motion:** Motion to elect Vicechair and Secretary at next Budget Committee Meeting

Motion by: Member Hoy  
Seconded by: Member Nordyke

**Action:** Motion passes  
**Vote:**  
Aye: Unanimous  
Nay:  
Abstentions:

5. INFORMATION ITEMS

- a. FY 2020 Q4 Financial Report for the City of Salem
- b. FY 2020 Q4 Financial Report for the Urban Renewal Agency
- c. FY 2021 Q1 Financial Report for the City of Salem
- d. FY 2021 Q1 Financial Report for the Urban Renewal Agency
- e. FY 2022- FY 2026 Five- Year Forecast

Questions or comments by: None

6. PUBLIC HEARINGS

- a. None

7. SPECIAL ORDERS OF BUSINESS

- a. Presentation of Five-Year Forecasts – General Fund, Transportation Services Fund, Utility Fund, and Willamette Valley Communications Center Fund
  - Presentation by Budget Officer Josh Eggleston
  - Discussion and review

Questions or comments by: Members W. Andersen, T. Andersen, McCoid, Brown, DoCarmo, Stapleton, Tigan.

Answers & explanations by : Director Fernandez and Budget Officer Eggleston

Member Leung joined the meeting at 6:19PM

8. PUBLIC TESTIMONY FOR FUTURE BUDGET ISSUES

The Budget Committee has set aside time for public comment to address items not on the agenda. Each individual testifying will be limited to no more than three (3) minutes.

None

9. COMMITTEE DISCUSSION

Questions or comments by: Members Nordyke, T. Andersen, and McCoid, DoCarmo, Tigan, W. Andersen, Leung, Shirack, and Stapleton

Answers & explanations by : Director Fernandez, Chief Financial Officer Barron and Budget Officer Eggleston

**Motion:** Motion to enter Budget Committee additions agenda into the record

Motion by: Member Hoy  
Seconded by: Member Stapleton

**Action:** Motion passes  
**Vote:**  
**Aye:** Unanimous  
**Nay:**  
**Abstentions:**

10. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:49 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Kelli Blechschmidt  
Minutes Recorder

*The next Budget Committee meeting will be virtually held Wednesday, April 14, 2021 at 6:00 pm in for presentation of the City Manager's proposed FY 2022 budget.*

*Budget staff is available for your convenience to discuss the budget document and process. Please call the staff listed above or 503-588-6040 if you have any questions.*

The City of Salem budget information can be accessed on the internet at: [www.cityofsalem.net/budget](http://www.cityofsalem.net/budget)  
NOTE: Disability-related accommodations, including auxiliary aids or services, in order to participate in this meeting, are available upon request. Sign language and interpreters for languages other than English are also available upon request. To request such an accommodation or interpretation, contact Kali Leinenbach, (503) 588-6231 or [kleinenbach@cityofsalem.net](mailto:kleinenbach@cityofsalem.net) at least 2 business days before this meeting. TTD/TTY telephone (503) 588-6439 is also available 24/7.

The City of Salem values all persons without regard to race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, marital status, domestic partnership, disability, familial status, sexual orientation, gender identity and source of income.

For the Budget Committee Meeting of: April 14, 2021  
Agenda Item Number: 4.b.

**TO:** Budget Committee  
**FROM:** Steve Powers, City Manager  
**SUBJECT:** Errata Sheet 1 – Homeless Programs and Grants  
**ISSUE:**

To inform the Budget Committee about errors and corrections, or updated information regarding the Proposed FY 2022 City of Salem Budget

**RECOMMENDATION:**

1. Accept a change to the Homeless Rental Assistance Program on page 183 of the Proposed FY 2022 to separate out Homeless Programs and Grants in an amount funded in FY 2022 of \$794,380. There is no budgetary impact to this change.

**SUMMARY AND BACKGROUND:**

Errata sheets are used in the budget process to identify and correct errors to the proposed budget or provide updated information. Small errors in formatting, spelling, and grammar may not be included in an errata sheet, but instead will be corrected prior to publication of the adopted budget. When an error or updated information has a budgetary impact or could affect comprehension, an errata sheet is prepared.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**






During the review process of the printed budget book, this scrivener error was found by staff. The approval of the errata will separate out the costs of the Homeless Rental Assistance Program through Salem Housing Authority from other programs and grants for the unsheltered.

Josh Eggleston  
Budget Officer

**Attachments:**

1. Errata 1 replacement page

### 3. Non Departmental Summary of Services and Programs

	FY 2021 Program Budget	FY 2022 Program Budget	Staff	Alignment					
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**General Fund Program**

Homeless Rental Assistance Program	1,570,000	1,160,000	0.00	Less	✓	✓		✓	✓
Homeless Programs and Grants	-	794,380	0.00	New program.					
<b>Total General Fund</b>	<b>\$ 1,570,000</b>	<b>\$ 1,954,380</b>	<b>0.00</b>						

**Cultural / Tourism Fund Program**

Cultural and Tourism Grants	573,530	469,810	0.00	Least				✓	✓
<b>Total Cultural / Tourism Art Fund</b>	<b>\$ 573,530</b>	<b>\$ 469,810</b>	<b>0.00</b>						

**Public Art Fund Program**

Public Art Collection	67,910	42,370	0.00	Least			✓		✓
<b>Total Public Art Fund</b>	<b>\$ 67,910</b>	<b>\$ 42,370</b>	<b>0.00</b>						

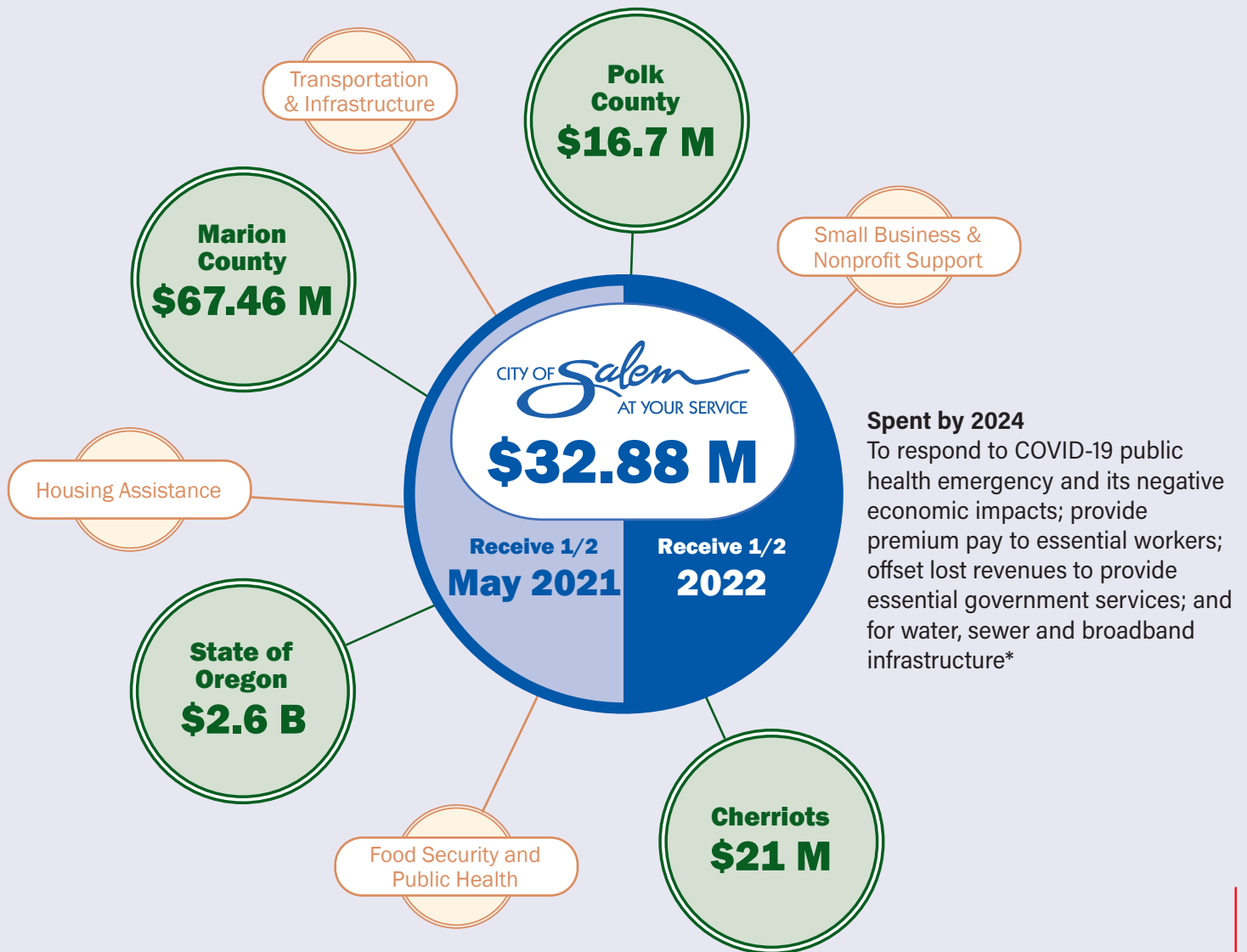
**Total Non-Departmental**    \$ 2,211,440    \$ 2,466,560    0.00

# 2021 American Rescue Plan Act

**Many sources,  
one goal:  
economic  
recovery**

**President Biden signed into law the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, on Thursday, March 11, 2021.** Funds directed to local government will be coming from a new program at the US Treasury. More guidance and information is expected soon. For now, the City of Salem is expecting about \$32,876,000 in two separate installments. The first half could be available by May and the second half one year later. States and counties are also receiving assistance.

For cities, CARES Act funding reimbursed direct COVID-19 expenses. It did not cover all Salem's direct COVID expenses since the funds ran out in the fall of 2020, and it did not cover COVID-related losses in revenue.



More information about these topics on page 4.

\*Excludes reducing taxes by legislation, regulation, or administration; and deposits into pension funds.

# A framework for long-term, lasting, local community impact

## OPPORTUNITY #1

### **Community Conversations: Through 2021 Budget**

**Budget Committee:** April 14, 21, 28, May 5

**City Council:** June 14

## TOPICS

**Continue community services, replace  
COVID-related losses.**

**Immediate: Stabilize the budget**

- ▶ **General Fund**  
Due to the COVID-19 pandemic the revenue loss since the start of the pandemic through the end of FY 2022 totals \$11.3 million
- ▶ **Cultural and Tourism Fund**  
The Cultural and Tourism fund is expected to have lost a total of \$3.2 since the beginning of pandemic through the end of FY 2022
- ▶ **Transportation Services Fund**  
The Transportation Services fund is

expected to have lost a total of \$1.6 since the beginning of pandemic through the end of FY 2022.

- ▶ **Downtown Parking Fund**  
The Downtown Parking fund is expected to have lost a total of \$.5 since the beginning of pandemic through the end of FY 2022.
- ▶ **Utility Fund**  
The Utility fund is expected to have lost a total of \$2.6 since the beginning of pandemic through the end of FY 2022.
- ▶ **COVID Recovery Reserve**  
The City anticipates \$8.1 million will be available for community investment, within the guidelines from US Treasury.

For FY 22, we're planning to invest \$300,000 in restoring Wallace Marine and Cascades Gateway parks. We are also covering \$5.6 million in direct COVID-related City expenses.



**A framework for  
long-term, lasting,  
local community impact**

**OPPORTUNITY #2**

**Summer 2021**

**TOPICS**

**Support to local households, small businesses, and non-profits**

**Near-term: Recover by stepping in and helping local residents, non-profits, and businesses with COVID recovery.**

- ▶ Ensure our recovery creates a more a resilient, prosperous, healthy, equitable, and just community
- ▶ Consider community need, capacity to deliver, eligibility of uses, and what our partners consider as part of their investment strategy
- ▶ Looking for things that CARES, other American Rescue Plan and other sources may have missed
- ▶ Avoid duplication of effort and meets the needs of our community in a coordinated way

**OPPORTUNITY #3**

**Fall 2021**

**TOPICS**

**Gather ideas for one-time catalytic community investments.**

**Long-term: Rebuild with meaningful investments that impact our community for years to come.**

- ▶ Avoid adding to annual ongoing costs to the City's budget because revenues are not keeping pace and community needs exceed available resources
- ▶ Ensure equity of impact – emphasize local, cultural communities, geographic spread
- ▶ Align with community and Council priorities in Strategic Plan
- ▶ Bridge to new, ongoing revenue or new partnerships
- ▶ Be achievable – complete spending by December 31, 2024
- ▶ Be strategic – focus on areas not covered by other sources in American Rescue Plan Act

Transportation & Infrastructure

- to states for capital projects for work, education, and health monitoring - **\$10B**
- to Federal Transit Administration for transportation and public transportation - **\$30.5B**
- to airports for operations - **\$8B**
- to Environmental Protection Agency for environmental justice grants - **\$100M**

Small Business & Nonprofit Support

- to Economic Development Administration for economic injury resulting from COVID - **\$3B**
- to Small Business Administration for payroll protection program, restaurant revitalization grants, community navigator pilot programs - **\$39.95B**
- shuttered event venue grants - **\$1.25B**
- disaster loan advance payments for small business and non profit organizations - **\$15B**
- to National Endowment for the Arts for grants and arts organizations - **\$135M**
- to National Endowment for the Humanities for cultural organizations and libraries - **\$135M**
- to Institute of Museum and Library Services for museum and libraries - **\$200M**

Housing Assistance

- to states for emergency rental assistance - **\$21.5B**
- to public housing agencies for emergency housing vouchers - **\$5B**
- to states for low-income home emergency assistance - **\$4.5B**

Food Security and Public Health

- for supplemental nutrition assistance benefits - **\$1.1B**
- to public health departments for COVID-19 testing, tracing and mitigation and for public health workforce - **\$55.46B**
- for community health centers' COVID response - **\$7.6B**
- for state or local government mental health and substance abuse training for health care workers and public safety officers - **\$80M**
- for state or local government or community-based non-profits for local substance use disorder services, and for behavioral health needs - **\$80M**

**American Jobs Plan (pending): \$2 trillion for infrastructure**

As drafted, the Plan includes approximately \$621 billion for transportation, \$111 billion for drinking water, \$100 billion for expanding broadband, and \$100 billion for power infrastructure. The Plan also has \$213 billion for affordable and sustainable housing, \$400 billion for the “care economy” (care for the elderly and disabled) and \$100 billion for workforce development.