



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Wed., Mar. 17, 2010

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**Vision 2020 Community Forum: Celebrating Salem's Vibrancy**  
*Community members are invited to a fun-filled evening April 1.*

**Thurs., April 1, 2010 – Salem, Ore.** – Imagine Salem's historic City Center enhanced into a revitalized, welcoming and vibrant community gathering place, a magnet for visitors and residents. Imagine a City Center that bustles from morning to night, where a diverse and unique array of places to shop, live, work and enjoy entertainment are waiting to be discovered. Now, that vision is coming to life!

Celebrate Salem's vibrancy and don't miss the chance to offer suggestions for this summer's *Movies in the Park* series, discuss wayfinding and directional signage from West Salem and Downtown, experience the Willamette Heritage Center and Project Space, weigh in on local projects and streetscape, learn about new downtown restaurants and retail shops and be a part of the plan of action for Edgewater/Second Street redevelopment. In addition to interactive fun for all ages, the April 1 event will also include the presentation of the second annual Salem Visionary Award and a special community video presentation. The event is at the Salem Conference Center and is open to the public from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

"Salem's Vision for 2020 has made significant strides in the last year. The Vision 2020 Action Team has been working very hard and is excited about sharing Salem's successes with our residents. The event will include an overview of the projects, as well as many interactive activities. We look forward to celebrating the great progress Salem has made in creating a vibrant City Center," said Salem Mayor, Janet Taylor.

Just two years after the initiation of Salem's Vision 2020 Action Plan, Mayor Janet Taylor and the Vision 2020 Action Team have created this event as an opportunity for the community to get an overview of the successes of the priority projects for the City Center and provide input on new projects. Salem residents won't want to miss this Vision 2020 event. For more information, please refer to [www.cityofsalem.net/vision2020](http://www.cityofsalem.net/vision2020) or call Courtney Knox at 503.588.6178.

***Salem's Vision 2020:***

*Vision 2020 is a community-wide process that is helping shape the future of Salem's City Center. Beginning in the summer of 2007, a group of Salem's large City Center employers began discussing the future of the heart of the City-downtown, north downtown, and the Edgewater/Wallace area of West Salem. Together, the Team considered the diversity of uses in the core area, employment centers, housing, recreation opportunities, transit, vehicular and pedestrian circulation, and parking. The Team also heard from more than 3,500 Salem residents, employees, and visitors, who offered ideas to help create a new vision for Salem's City Center.*

*Referred to as the “Vision 2020 Action Team,” many organizations are playing a lead or supporting role in implementing the projects the community has asked for. The Team includes representatives from Chemeketa Community College, City of Salem, Downtown Businesses, Go Downtown Salem!, Marion County, Mid-Willamette Valley Community Action Agency, Mary Lou Zeek Gallery, Salem Area Chamber of Commerce, Salem Art Association, Salem Center Mall, Salem Historical Quarterly, Salem Health, Salem-Keizer School Board, Salem-Keizer Transit, State of Oregon, SEDCOR, Travel Salem, YMCA and Willamette University.*

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