

FOR COUNCIL MEETING OF:
AGENDA ITEM NO.:
PUBLIC WORKS FILE NO.:

June 11, 2007 _____

7 (c) _____

June 18, 2007 _____

5 (a)

TO: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
THROUGH: ROBERT G. WELLS, CITY MANAGER
FROM: TIM GERLING, P.E., PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR

SUBJECT: SALEM TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM PLAN AMENDMENTS -
SUPPLEMENTAL STAFF REPORT ON RAINIER DRIVE SE AND
23RD STREET SE

ISSUE:

Shall the City Council deliberate and advance Ordinance No. 85-07 to second reading for enactment, including the following additional amendment, previously recommended in the public hearing staff report dated April 23, 2007:

- Add a new medium priority project in Ordinance No. 85-07, Exhibit 2, Street System Element, on Boone Road SE, to lower the hill east of Kensington Street SE.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the City Council deliberate and advance Ordinance No. 85-07 to second reading for enactment, including the following additional amendment, previously recommended in the public hearing staff report dated April 23, 2007:

- Add a new medium priority project in Ordinance No. 85-07, Exhibit 2, Street System Element, on Boone Road SE, to lower the hill east of Kensington Street SE.

BACKGROUND:

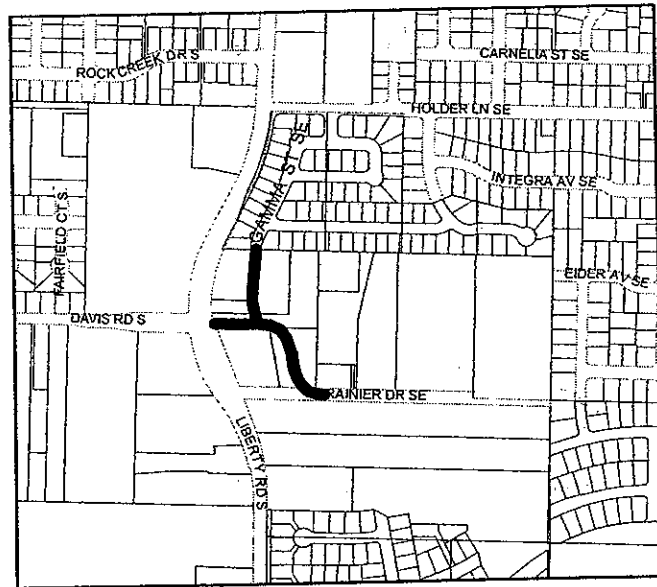
The *Salem Transportation System Plan* (Salem TSP) is the City's long-range master plan for transportation infrastructure and programs. The plan is amended on a regular basis to respond to changing circumstances. City Council held a public hearing on the current proposed amendments on April 23, 2007. The additional amendment on Boone Road SE that is referenced in the staff recommendation is addressed in the April 23 public hearing staff report (in case file). In response to requests from members of the public, Council re-opened the public hearing to allow additional testimony on two specific proposed amendments relating to Rainier Drive SE and 23rd Street SE.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

City Council conducted first reading of Ordinance No. 85-07 on April 2, 2007. Findings that support adoption of Ordinance No. 85-07 are included in the April 2, 2007, staff report (Exhibit 8 to Ordinance No. 85-07), and in the April 23, 2007, staff report (in case file).

Rainier Drive SE

Staff is recommending an amendment to the Salem TSP that would realign Rainier Drive SE so that it meets Liberty Road S at the Liberty Road S/David Road S intersection. The current intersections of Liberty Road S with Rainier Drive SE and David Road S are offset on a curve with limited visibility. The realignment of Rainier Drive SE east of Liberty Road S will create a safer intersection that could be signalized. This project is proposed as a high priority project, although funding has not yet been secured for its construction. A conceptual alignment is shown below. The exact configuration of Rainier Drive SE east of Liberty Road S would be determined by future development in this area.



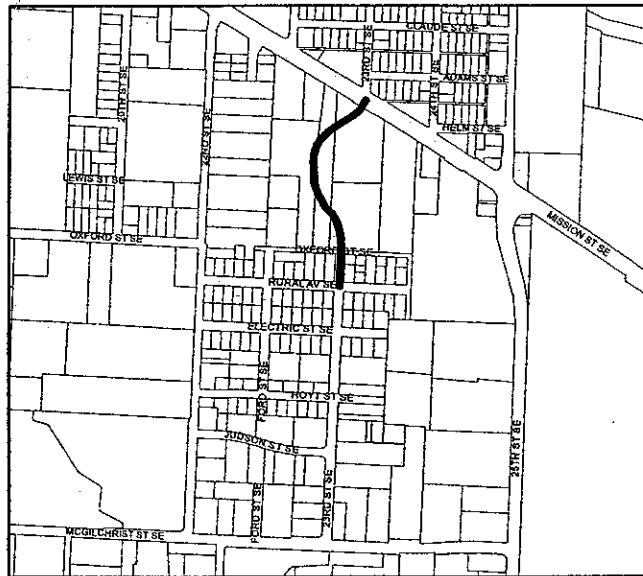
Staff attended the April 17 meeting of the Sunnyslope Neighborhood Association and the April 12 and May 10 meetings of the South Gateway Neighborhood Association to get input on this proposal. The Sunnyslope Neighborhood Association submitted a letter supporting this proposed amendment to the Salem TSP (letter dated April 18, 2007, case file). The South Gateway Neighborhood Association approved a motion requesting that Council not adopt this proposed amendment, but instead consider it as part of a future round of amendments to the Salem TSP.

23rd Street SE

Staff is recommending that Council approve a new project to extend 23rd Street SE northward from Rural Avenue SE to connect to Mission Street SE (see conceptual alignment below). The

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functional classification of 23rd Street SE would be changed from a local to a collector street between McGilchrist Street SE and Mission Street SE. The zoning designations in this area are Commercial (CR) and General Industrial (IG). This street extension will enhance connectivity and circulation in this area. This project is proposed as a medium priority project.



Staff met with concerned property owners on May 4, 2007, and attended the May 10, 2007, Southeast Salem Neighborhood Association (SESNA) meeting to present the proposal and respond to neighborhood questions. On May 22, 2007, the SESNA board held a special meeting to hear from neighbors and discuss this issue. The SESNA board voted to support the planned street extension with conditions. The SESNA board voted to support the planned street extension with conditions (see Communications). The details and conditions associated with extending 23rd Street SE north to Mission Street SE will be discussed in a separate staff report on the next Council agenda. This future agenda item will request Council approval to purchase right-of-way for this project.

Mark Becketl, AICP
Transportation Services Manager

JW:CCSR061107RED.WPD
Ward All
June 7, 2007 (8:24am)

Prepared by: Julie Warncke, Transportation Planning Manager