

GRANT NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

SALEM OREGON

October 11, 2016

Salem City Council
555 Liberty St SE, Room 240
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Mayor and Members of Salem City Council,


Re: **Urban Growth Boundary
PROPOSED EXPANSION**

Dear Mayor and Members of Salem City Council,

The Grant Neighborhood Association has discussed the Urban Growth Boundary expansion proposal and unanimously voted against the proposal. Our primary reason for not supporting the proposed expansions are that we still have large amounts of undeveloped land within the urban growth boundary and we do not support the 3rd bridge. We urge that Salem City Council to not approve the urban growth boundary expansion.

Oregon is one of the few states that require cities to have an urban growth boundary and to maintain enough undeveloped land that will sustain development for the next 20 years. However, the City of Salem has plenty of land available for development and is only looking to expand a significant portion in West Salem to support the 3rd bridge and all necessary infrastructure.

Grant Neighborhood Association opposes the 3rd bridge due to the negative impacts to our neighborhoods and vibrant downtown. The path of the 3rd bridge will directly impact Highland Neighborhood by removing housing and business, add a high speed highway connecting the Salem Parkway to the new bridge, and will create a large elevated concrete structure within a vibrant neighborhood. Footings and infrastructure within West Salem will be placed within wetlands, reduce the beauty and square footage of Wallace Marine Park, and displace many Salem residences to construct the new bridgeheads and connecting streets. Lastly, directing through traffic out of our



downtown is a terrible idea. This removes potential customers from a vibrant and growing downtown, many of which stop for coffee, a bite to eat, or general shopping on their way to the coast.

Please accept this letter on behalf of the Grant Neighborhood Association in opposition to the Urban Growth Boundary Expansion.

Sincerely,

/s/

Eric Bradfield, co-chair

/s/

Sam Skillern, co-chair

