



October 12, 2016

**TO: Keizer City Council
Salem City Council
Marion County Board of Commissioners
Polk County Board of Commissioners
Keizer Planning Commission
Polk County Planning Commission**

**FR: Joni McClintock, President
Salem Association of REALTORS®**

Alex Rhoten, Government Affairs Chairman
Salem Association of REALTORS®

RE: Plan Amendment No. CA16-04/Salem River Crossing

On behalf of the over 750 members of the Salem Association of REALTORS®, thank you for the opportunity to comment regarding the proposed third bridge over the Willamette River. We appreciate the opportunity to be heard on this important matter which affects all those who live, work, and do business in the Salem area and surrounding communities.

The Salem Association of REALTORS® urges you to adopt the proposed amendments to the Salem-Keizer Urban Growth Boundary, Salem Area Comprehensive Plan, and the Salem Transportation System Plan, as well as take an exception to Statewide Planning Goal 15 in order to *keep this project moving forward*. A third bridge is vital for the future economic growth of the area. Without a new bridge, the quality of life, and the value of homes in this area, will deteriorate. Traffic in Salem, Keizer and the surrounding area is only get worse. It will not get better until we build a new bridge that improves both regional and local mobility and connectivity.

We recognize that this has been a slow and sometimes arduous process spanning over decades, and we commend you for your work on this important matter and urge you to *keep moving it forward*.

Thank you for your time and consideration.