



Comprehensive Plan Update Visioning Workshop Series Fall 2019

Meetings

Workshop 1: October 16, 2019, 6 – 8 p.m. Pringle Hall, 606 Church St SE

Workshop 2: October 17, 2019, 6 – 8 p.m. Crossler Middle School, 1155 Davis Rd S

Workshop 3: October 25, 2019, 6 – 8 p.m. Chemeketa Community College, Building #8, 4000 Lancaster Drive NE (in Spanish only, in collaboration with Enlace)

Meeting Overview

The City of Salem and consultant team held three interactive visioning workshops in October as part of the multi-year Our Salem project. The third workshop was co-hosted by the Enlace Community Development Project.

The purpose of the workshops was to provide the community with an opportunity to give input on how and where Salem should grow. The City and consultant team provided an overview of the project, including a brief recap of Phase 1, a summary of early public feedback from summer outreach, and a description of the roughly year-long visioning process. The presentation also included an explanation of the parameters of the interactive mapping exercise. Video recordings of the presentation on October 16 (English) and October 25 (Spanish) are on the [Our Salem project page](#).

After the presentation, participants broke into small groups to do an interactive mapping exercise. The purpose of the exercise was to identify community priorities for future growth, including how growth in jobs and population should be accommodated. Participants wrote down their “big ideas” for how Salem should grow, and they placed stickers on a large map to show what they wanted to change and what they wanted to preserve. The stickers represented different development types from mixed use to open space to residential subdivisions. They also drew in trails, roads, and other infrastructure they wanted to see in Salem. At the end of the exercise, groups were encouraged to report back what they discovered during the mapping exercise and the overarching goals that drove their decisions. Initial themes from the workshops are provided below. At the October 25 workshops, children performed live music at the end of the event.

The City expects to conduct community-wide visioning through 2019 and into 2020, including community workshops, outreach at community events and meetings, stakeholder interviews, surveys,

and more. This work will result in a community vision for future growth and ultimately, an update to the [Salem Area Comprehensive Plan](#).

Initial Themes from Visioning Workshops

Several ideas or comments have emerged so far as initial themes from the visioning workshops. They include the following:

- Allow or encourage more density and mixed-use development along major commercial corridors in Salem
- Create neighborhood hubs (small-scale, neighborhood-serving stores and services), and locate services in already existing neighborhoods
- Provide more bicycle paths and pedestrian trails connecting neighborhoods
- Preserve existing parks, and increase access to those parks
- Provide more transportation options offering better connectivity, specifically to and from downtown Salem
- Provide more community services equitably distributed throughout the city, specifically libraries
- Create additional access and preparedness for technology jobs

Workshop Attendance

The workshop on October 16, 2019 was attended by roughly 60-70 people. The second workshop on October 17, 2019 was attended by roughly 20 people. The last workshop, which was held in Spanish, was attended by roughly 30-40 people. Amador Aguilar with Enlace co-hosted the last workshop.

Staff

Different City staff members attended each workshop. Staff included:

Community Development Department

Norman Wright, Community Development Director
Lisa Anderson-Ogilvie, Community Development Deputy Director
Bryce Bishop, Planner II
Irma Dowd, Neighborhood Services Coordinator
Olivia Glantz, Planner III
Eunice Kim, Planner III, Project Manager
Aaron Panko, Planner III
Brandon Pike, Planner I
Austin Ross, Planner I
Christi Wolfe, Code Enforcement Officer II

Public Works Department

Julie Warncke, Transportation Planning Manager
Anthony Gamallo, Senior Transportation Planner
Rob Romanek, Senior Parks Planner

Urban Development Department

Jessica Blakely, Asset Manager, Salem Housing Authority
Shelly Ehenger, Federal Programs Manager

Annie Gorski, Economic Development Manager
Rebecca Ziegler, Downtown Revitalization Project Manager

Consultant Team

Different members of the consultant team attended each workshop. They included:

Consultant Team:

Scott Fregonese, Fregonese Associates
Violet Brown, Fregonese Associates
Ellen Palmquist, Fregonese Associates
Kristen Kibler, JLA Public Involvement
Jaye Cromwell, JLA Public Involvement
Allison Brown, JLA Public Involvement

Next Steps

Each map from the visioning workshops will be digitally recorded and layered on each other to identify areas of agreement and disagreement regarding the location of different types of future development in Salem. Copies of the maps and their digitized versions will be available on the project website when this work is complete. This spatial analysis will be combined with online mapping input, responses to survey questions, input from ongoing community events, and an ongoing dialogue with the public to inform the creation of different scenarios for how Salem could grow. They will also inform initial goals and priorities for future growth. All of this will be presented to the public in the Spring of 2020 for comment and evaluation.