WEST SALEM
URBAN RENEWAL AREA

STATISTICS
Established: August 2001
Size: 453 Acres
Maximum Indebtedness: $53M

HISTORY
The purpose of the West Salem Urban Renewal Area is to eliminate blight and depreciating property values within the project area and attract aesthetically pleasing, job producing, private investments that will improve and stabilize property values. Objectives include upgrading the existing building stock; improving the transportation circulation system; enhancing streetscape and open spaces, and promoting new housing opportunities.

MAJOR PROJECTS
• Wallace Marine Park River Access Trail Permanent surface pedestrian trail from the Union Street Railroad Bridge to the river.
• 2nd Street Improvements Full street improvements, from Rosemont to Gerth, with sidewalk, customer parking, trees, and travel lanes.
• Way-finding Signage Pedestrian way-finding signage between downtown, Wallace Marine Park, and the Edgewater District.
• West Salem Business District Action Plan Study to identify and prioritize future URA projects, designed to encourage private investment in the commercial and industrial areas. Includes a focus on transportation improvements, zoning code clean-up, and future possible acquisition opportunities.

Major Projects Planned for Fiscal Year 2017-18:
• Redevelopment Grant Program In May 2014, the Agency Board approved of the new grant program which offers funding for construction of new buildings, building additions, and/or new manufacturing equipment in the URA. The grant has helped multiple businesses expand and improve their buildings in West Salem. Funding is available to cover 20% of an eligible project up to $300,000.
• West Salem Business District Zoning Code Clean Up Project Review existing zoning codes and propose changes to the code that increase the flexibility of uses and encourage development akin to the area; as identified and recommended by the West Salem Business District Action Plan.

For more about the West Salem Urban Renewal Area, please call Tory Banford at 503-540-2445, email tbanford@cityofsalem.net, or visit www.cityofsalem.net/WestSalemURA.