



O R E G O N

MARION COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

# Work Session Summary Minutes

## Salem-Keizer Community Meeting

November 13, 2025. 8:30 AM

Courthouse Square, 555 Court St. NE, Salem  
5th Floor, Suite 5232, Commissioners Board Room

### ATTENDANCE:

**Commissioners:** Kevin Cameron, Colm Willis, and Danielle Bethell.

**Board's Office:** Alvin Klausen, Chris Eppley, and Shawnnell Fuentes.

**Sheriff's Office:** Nick Hunter.

**City of Salem:** Linda Nishioka.

**Keizer:** Kyle Duran, Adam Brown, and Dan Kohler.

Commissioner Colm Willis called the meeting to order at 8:39 a.m.

### City Updates/Agenda Items

- Salem:
  - New skate park, ball field, and adaptive play equipment projects at Gear and Livingston Parks.
  - Bond fund use and system development charges for park improvements.
  - Road maintenance funding, schedule, and public works:
    - Need updates on sidewalk infill and road repairs (Silverton Road).
  - Robot security program at Pringle Parkade:
    - Addresses unauthorized vehicle activity.
  - Wallace Marine Park pathway project:
    - Moving into planning/design.
    - Consider flooding issues.
    - Future Parks Board/public input.
  - Concerns around homeless camp management and public safety in parks.
- Keizer:
  - Kaiser Little League vendor solicitation and fields:
    - Request for Proposal (RFP) out and negotiating for coming season.
  - Volcano Stadium lease terms overview:
    - Ground for stadium owned by the city, but the building itself is not.
    - Leased for 20 years, extended 20 more years in 2016 for refinancing.
    - Lease expires around 2037 and ownership of facility reverts to city.
  - Urban growth boundary and vertical lane project updates:
    - Clearing and realigning intersections for development.
  - Ongoing sports field use and positive community feedback on facilities:
    - Soccer fields and pickleball courts.
  - Kaiser Rapids Park:
    - Phase Two:

- Completed some trail connections/bike racks.
  - Delay in restroom construction.
- Phase Three Consideration:
  - Focus on parking lot paving and storm work.
  - \$200,000 shortfall.
- Marion County:
  - Collaboration and leader recognition for efforts in improving quality of life.
  - Discussion about homelessness trends and shelter usage:
    - Concerns about homeless populations migrating from other cities:
      - Particularly due to changing enforcement in Portland.
    - Issues with low-barrier entry requirements:
      - Conflicts in funding sources affecting shelter policies.
    - Shelters often serve as overnight solutions.
    - Day-use facilities, service access, and long-term help is limited and fragmented.
  - Juvenile justice concerns:
    - Supervised Treatment and Recovery (STAR) program.
    - Lack of parental guidance.
    - Hurdles in Oregon Department of Human Services (DHS) help.
    - Legal/accountability gaps for youth.
  - State funding and legislative initiatives affecting youth and justice systems:
    - House Bill 4002.

## **Discussion**

- Coordinate challenges and funding conflicts between federal/state/local policies for housing services and shelter operations.
- Community feedback surrounding spending on park projects versus needs in unincorporated or underserved areas.
- Effects of nearby city policies on local homelessness rates:
  - Portland's enforcement measures.
- Concerns linking substance abuse, crime, parent help, and capacity/resource issues.
- Challenges in criminal justice:
  - High caseloads, insufficient funding/staff, and lack of public defenders.

## **Other**

- Public response and controversies:
  - Wallace Marine Park pathway.
  - Perceptions of "homeless park" label versus broader community investment.
- Neighborhood and school facility access for youth sports:
  - Increasing demand for public field space.
- Community and leaders appreciate ongoing work and collaboration.

## **Next Steps**

- Convene work group on shelter/housing policy:
  - Listen to stakeholders.
  - Draft action plan about funding conflicts.
  - Invite U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) director.
- Invite Public Works representative to present road maintenance/bond updates.
- Notify bond meeting participants:

- Community requests updates on sidewalk infill/road project status.
- Advance Wallace Marine Park pathway project to planning/design phase:
  - Seek stakeholder and Parks Advisory Board input.
  - Evaluate technical concerns:
    - Flooding and pavement type.
- Schedule meetings:
  - Cost of living impacts on homelessness and community well-being.

**Adjourned** – time: 9:31 a.m.

**Minutes by:** Mary Vityukova

**Reviewed by:** Gary L. White