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From the Mayor's Desk



Now that our spring street sweeping operations are nearing completion at the end of this month, we are looking ahead to line striping and road repaving!

In a city that dates back to 1626, keeping up with our infrastructure demands is always a challenge! With around 130 miles of public roads we would need to spend approximately \$20 million to bring all of our roads to a state of good repair. While we don't have \$20 million available to spend on paving projects, we do recognize that road repaving is one of our biggest needs. We are working closely with the City Council to increase the amount of local funds going to road repaving and sidewalk repairs as part of the upcoming city budget.

We also are looking to leverage road repairs with state programs and often coordinate water, sewer and utility upgrades with our repaving efforts. For instance, Canal Street, a major corridor in South Salem, is set to receive curb to curb enhancements, including repaving, new sidewalks, trees and lighting, as part of a state transportation project.

In addition, curb to curb road repaving associated with the National Grid cable replacement project begins in June. We want to be thoughtful in undertaking road and sidewalk repairs. Over the last 8 years we have invested over \$9.3 million dollars, paving close to 190 City streets, but we know we have more to do! Please help us identify places where there is a particular road, sidewalk, or striping need by submitting a request at www.seeclickfix.com/salem. We use this information to help update our roadway work list as we move forward.

Lastly, we are equally excited about work on our

green infrastructure – namely the newly formed LORAX Task Force established by the City Council to improve citywide tree maintenance and tree planting. We have planted close to 90 new trees between the Fall and Spring tree planting seasons. You may have noticed the new Liberty Elm trees going in on Lafayette St. or the Flowering Pear trees being planted on the North St. overpass this week. Trees are an essential part of making a city more livable. Beyond being an attractive shade canopy, trees also mitigate the impacts of climate change, help reduce noise and pollution, and generally make corridors and outside spaces more attractive.

As Spring begins, we start another season of infrastructure upgrades – from roads to utilities to trees – we appreciate your help and collaboration as we strive to improve our historic streetscapes and public spaces.

Happy Spring!

Kim Driscoll
Mayor

MAYOR KIM DRISCOLL'S NEWSLETTER

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Conserving Charter Street

Charter Street Cemetery, the City's oldest burial ground, is a 1.47-acre green space located within the boundaries of Charter Street, Central Street, Derby Street and Liberty Street. Established in 1637, Charter Street Cemetery is a highly visible location, a historical asset that is well documented and visited by thousands of people every year.

The purpose of this restoration project is to retain the burying grounds' historic integrity while maintaining visitor access to this National Historic Site. Freeze/thaw damage, deterioration of marble and limestones due to acid rain, compaction of pathways and new cut-through pathways created by visitors have all contributed to the deterioration of the burial ground and headstones. In addition, vandalism is a significant threat as visitors have been known to take headstones or pieces of headstones that are already fractured or in disrepair. As described in the "Salem Burying Grounds Planning Project Report" of 2002, one of the most effective ways to deter vandalism is to maintain and enhance conditions of the burial ground.

The City has retained a team of stone conservators, Irving Slavid and Martin Johnson, of Monument Conservation Collaborative. This team has completed the evaluation of the headstones and tombs at Charter Street Cemetery and has compiled information in a Condition Assessment and Treatment Report with recommenda-

tions for headstone and tomb conservation.

The conservators will be on site beginning in May working to restore headstones and tombs. The conservators found a total of 90 markers (including tombs) in need of conservation treatment. At this time, the City has funding that will address stones in critical need of conservation first and will include the conservation of eight (8) tombs and fifteen (15) markers throughout the cemetery.

Between May and September 2016, you will see conservator teams working in the cemetery on these markers. Please do not disturb the conservators or the work sites. In order to be able to keep public access to the cemetery during the conservation work, it is critical that visitors not enter into the work sites.

Tombs to be conserved in this phase include: Turner, Fisk, Derby, Wainwright, Simon Bradstreet, Gedney, Bartlett, and Lynde. Conservation of the tombs may include repointing, restoration of deteriorating stucco,

a restoration treatment of tops called consolidation, and securing loose tops of the table tombs so that people cannot continue to lift them and cause further damage. As for the conservation of headstones, the conservators may carefully excavate markers, attach fragments if found, fill delaminated stone with historically appropriate materials, recast concrete bases, reset stones and treat surfaces with a D/2 biological solution to clean the stones.

All work will be done during the day, during normal City business hours. If you see work being undertaken in the cemetery and are not sure if it is related to this project, please call the Department of Planning and Community Development at 978-619-5685. If it is outside of regular business hours or appears to be suspicious activity, please contact the Salem Police Department at 978-744-1212.

This project is made possible by CPA funds. In the near future, the City will return to the CPC with a request for additional funding to carry out plans to improve pathway circulation, signage, lighting, landscaping, and security.



History of Salem Paving

As the City of Salem works to add even more open source data into its online geographic information system (GIS) and mapping tools, at www.mapsonline.net/salemma, today Mayor Driscoll announced that the City has posted information on 201 street paving projects that took place from 2008 through 2015.

Through the state's Chapter 90 funding and local funds, the City has worked hard to keep up the condition of Salem's streets, but there is still a lot of work to be done. As the City puts together the budget for the fiscal year that starts in July, the hope is to be able to include some additional investment and focus on streets and sidewalks. In the meantime, this new data tool can help illustrate the substantial level of investment and work that has gone into the street paving program over the last several years.

The list of projects covers 190 streets and reflects \$9,345,705 in road repav-

ing work conducted over the past eight years. This investment does not include pothole repairs or road repaving required by the City to be done by private utility companies after they open a street. The Salem Department of Public Services repairs around 1,350 potholes, sink holes, damaged catch basins, and trenches each year.

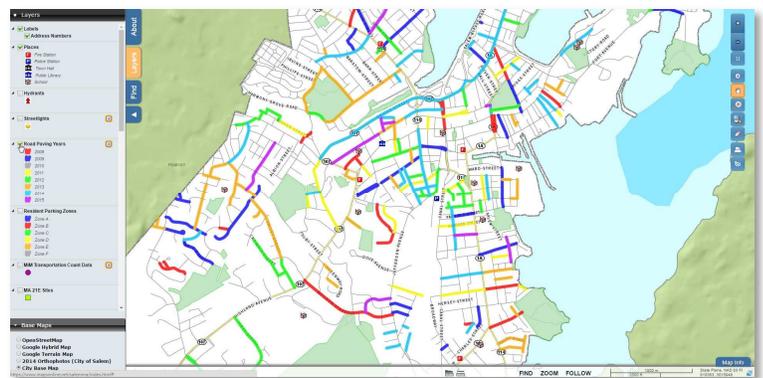
The 201 projects cover nearly 933 million square feet of roadways throughout every Ward of the City. The average project cost \$46,496, but they range from a few hundred dollars to over \$280,000 depending on the road's length, width, and condition.

The City maintains a Pavement Management Plan that rates the condition of every street segment of the nearly 130 miles of

public roads in the City and then, based on that condition, the plan recommends a type of repair.

The City's annual allocation of paving funding from the state, called Chapter 90, is about \$800,000 to \$900,000 per year, which allows for only about a dozen street segments to repaved each year. The City adds its own funding to the paving program, in an effort to add to that list and accomplish more.

To view the map of previous paving projects, visit www.mapsonline.net/salemma, click on the Layers menu, and check the box for "Road Paving Years." To read specific details about a street



Free Trolley Rides

Salem Mayor Kimberley Driscoll, in partnership with the Salem Trolley, is pleased to once again offer free rides on the Salem Trolley for Salem residents starting June 1st and lasting until September 30th.

Residents can receive a Resident Ticket by providing proof of residency at the Salem Trolley office (8 Central St). Seating on the Trolley for those holding a Resident Ticket is on a space available basis.

"I want to thank the Salem Trolley for their generosity in once again making this terrific program possible for the people of Salem," said Mayor Driscoll. "They are a true asset to Salem and our business community. I hope residents will make use of this great opportunity to take an enjoyable ride out to the Willows or to Salem Wharf, where they can catch the Salem Ferry to Boston, this summer."

The Trolley runs seven days a week from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The Trolley's route includes much of downtown Salem and also the Salem Willows.

Regular stops are located at the

Salem Visitors Center, Witch History Museum, Trolley Depot, Old Burial Point/Witch Trial Memorial, Pickering Wharf/Sea Level restaurant, the House of the Seven Gables, Salem Witch Museum, Peabody Essex Museum, Witch Dungeon Museum, and Salem Witch House/Salem Inn.

Passenger requested stops are also made at the Salem Maritime Site, Salem Ferry, Winter Island, Salem Willows, and Hamilton Hall/Phillips House/Chestnut Street. The complete route map is available at <http://salemrolley.com/map-of-tour-3.html>.





CALL FOR ARTISTS!

STORMDRAIN MURAL PROJECT!

“Drain SmART Salem”

CALLING ALL ARTISTS!! Salem Sound Coastwatch, a local non-profit seeking talented artists to design and implement **artistic, tasteful and educational** murals on city stormdrains! Murals will illustrate the connection between stormdrains and the ocean. **Stormdrains lead directly into the ocean** and can transport harmful chemicals and trash into the marine environment.

*Applications and more information available at
salemssound.org, creativesalem.com*



**Submission
DEADLINE MAY
26TH!!**

Promote YOUR art!

**Paint will be
provided!**

**Reduce stormwater
pollution!**

*Submissions and
Information contact to:*

Jack Nessen:

jacknessen@salemssound.org

**SALEM SOUND
COASTWATCH**

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Salemssound.org

**“Leading the Way to a
Healthier Sea and
Shore!”**