



**CITY OF SALEM
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICES
COMMUNITY RESOURCES & RECREATION DIVISION**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE - NOVEMBER 3, 2006
WALLACE MARINE PARK & SOFTBALL PROGRAMS ANNOUNCEMENT**

On Monday, October 23, the Salem City Council approved the City of Salem, Department of Community Services operation of the Wallace Marine Park Softball Complex and associated softball programs for the 2007 season. In addition to this action, City Council also approved the formation of a Softball Task Force designed to study the current operational model and to advise City Council on a future strategy for softball.

In planning for the 2007 softball season and beyond, representatives from the City of Salem and the Salem Convention and Visitors Bureau will be attending both the Amateur Softball Association (ASA) and United States Speciality Sports Association (USSSA) national conferences this month. In the fall of 2006 the City secured two ASA national tournaments for summer, 2007, and has submitted bids for 2008 regional and/or national tournaments. For USSSA tournaments, the 2007 bid awards will be made later this month at the USSSA national conference.

City staff is currently in a softball planning mode and will be holding a number of meetings designed to obtain input and information regarding community softball programs. As input is collected and plans are formulated they will be shared with players, coaches, umpires, and community sponsors. Preliminary information on leagues and tournaments will be available in mid-December.

As more community softball information is developed, further announcements will be distributed. Please direct any input, questions, and/or concerns to Bruce Bolton, Recreation/Public Events Supervisor, at 503-588-6261, or via e-mail at bbolton@cityofsalem.net.