Alignment #3: Civic Center to Capitol Mall via Downtown

This alignment focuses on a strong north-south connection between the City Hall/Library Civic Center and the Downtown Business District and a second connection between Downtown and the Capitol Mall. This alignment would travel north-south on the Liberty/Commercial couplet with a southern terminus at Leslie Street, south of the City Library. Traveling north on Liberty the route would turn east on Center then south on Capitol, west on Court, returning south past the front door to City Hall and the Library.

This alignment provides the best coverage to the Capitol Mall, penetrating the heart of Capitol Mall employment on Center and serving the southern Capitol area westbound on Court. Alignment #3 is the only alignment that does not serve the North Downtown area; consequently, the redevelopment potential along this line is significantly more limited. While there is potential for some infill development in the Downtown Business District, large lot redevelopment, such as that proposed for North Downtown, is not possible along this alignment.

Alignment #3: Key Markets Served and Unserved

This alignment provides service within two blocks of the following key destinations:

- City Hall
- Public Library
- Capitol Mall

- Downtown Business District
- Downtown Transit Center

The following downtown destinations would not be served by the proposed alignment:

- Amtrak Station (served by proposed extension)
- Tokyo University (served by proposed extension)
- Willamette University (served by proposed extension)
- Salem Hospital
- North Downtown Neighborhood (redevelopment potential only)

Alignment #3: Maintenance Facility

Alignment #3 does not present good opportunity for the siting and development of a streetcar storage and maintenance garage. The relatively low-value land needed to make this type of facility cost effective does not exist within the Civic Center, the Capitol Mall or the Downtown Business District, and there are no vacant parcels near either end of the proposed routing. Without a connection to the proposed site south of the Amtrak Station or to a site in the North Riverfront/Downtown area, this line may not be feasible. Figure 7 illustrates an alternative for extending the line east to 12th and south via 12th to the Amtrak Station. This could be designed as a service extension, which would provide a connection to Willamette University. There is limited space available for stop facilities on the east side of 12th due to the railroad mainline. This extension could also be constructed as maintenance line, which could be single tracked and would be less expensive to construct.

Figure 7:
Salem Streetcar Alignment #3

Legend

- Shopping Areas
- Universities
- Key Sites
- Alignment # 3
- Existing Bus Routes

Base Map Data Source: City of Salem