

TO: Oregon City Planning Commission

FROM: Homeless Solutions Coalition of Clackamas County
Co-Founders, Dan Fowler and Nancy Ide

DATE: September 17, 2018

SUBJECT: Proposed Code Amendment related to Shelters

During the winters of 2016-17 and 2017-18, the City Commission approved emergency resolutions to temporarily waive code requirements to allow emergency warming shelters for homeless people in Oregon City. The warming shelters provided life-saving measures during very cold nights, providing relief, safety, and security for Clackamas County citizens who found themselves homeless.

Homelessness remains a concern in our community, and there has been increased activity to help find solutions to the crisis. The Homeless Solutions Coalition of Clackamas County (HSCCC) is working diligently to address the impacts and the service needs to help folks get off the street and into sustainable, independent living.

However, just as the crisis did not happen overnight, neither do solutions come easily. To ease the burden of the emergency resolution process and to aid the planning for the warming shelter service providers in Oregon City, HSCCC is asking the Planning Commission to allow shelters as a permitted use in the MUC and MUD zone districts. This would allow the warming shelters to operate again this coming winter as in the past two years.

If the Planning Commission votes to recommend that the shelters be a conditional use in the code, then the HSCCC proposes the amendment below so the warming shelters can continue to operate this winter, providing safety and security to our vulnerable residents.

Thank you for your consideration.

AMENDMENT:

Overnight warming shelters are permitted for tax lots 2-2E-31AA-02200, 2-2E-31AA-02300, and 2-2E-29CC-03800 from November 1 – April 30 of each year. Shelter providers are required to hold a public meeting or open house prior to the opening of the warming shelter to hear the neighborhood concerns, and to provide 24-hour contact information for the duration of the event.