

Sept. 3, 2019

Hello Oregon City Council Members. Thank you for your time and your service to our city.

My name is Mark Sexton and I currently live in Oregon City. I am testifying today to request that the City Council and City Planners include Faith Organizations that exist in low-density residential zones under a conditional use permit as permissible locations to host shelters with less than 10 beds with a conditional use permit under the current code amendments.

As the code amendments are currently drafted, shelters with less than 10 beds may be permitted with a conditional use permit in medium density residential zones, R-5 – R-3.5. As you know, the current amendments do not permit shelters to apply for conditional use in low-density residential zones such as R-6, R-8 or R,10.

There are churches in Oregon City that exist in these zones low-density zones. As a resident of Oregon City, I am asking you to include faith organizations that exist in these zones to also apply for a conditional use permit for shelter.

I believe allowing this would be good for our community because

Faith organizations are often leaders in providing community based social services for the less fortunate

A shelter with less than 10 beds can save lives without having a large impact on the neighborhood

This would allow faith based organizations with energy and motivation to provide life saving shelter to do so, without costing additional tax payer money

Because I believe it is the right thing to do.

Please use this code amendment opportunity to include churches in low-density residential, R-6 – R-10 zones as potential locations that can apply for shelters with less than 10 beds under conditional use.

Thank you again for your time,

Mark Sexton

Oregon City 97045