

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

My name is Becky Wilkinson, 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 currently stand, 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.

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 and this would allow faith based organizations with energy and motivation to provide shelter in our community's ever growing housing crisis, without costing additional tax payer money.

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,

Becky Wilkinson,

Oregon City Resident