

Transitional shelter communities

A transitional shelter pilot project for up to 30 homeless veterans on county-owned land.





Planning continues for a <u>temporary</u>, <u>transitional shelter community pilot project</u> on a 1.5-acre site near the corner of 115th Avenue and Jennifer Street.

Here's a brief update on where we are and where we're going. If you have questions, suggestions or comments, please feel free to <u>email Board of Clackamas County Policy Advisor Emily</u> Klepper or call her at 503-742-5933.

County Code Amendments – After review and recommendations from the Planning Commission, County Commissioners on Aug. 24 approved code amendments allowing for transitional shelter communities as a conditional use on general or light industrial land outside city limits.

These amendments will expire after two years or the approval of three projects, whichever comes first.

Key provisions require that a transitional shelter community:

- Be operated by a county-approved entity.
- Be located on county-owned land.
- Have county-approved plans for parking, security, lighting and pets, and comply with a variety of other specified standards.

The amendments can be found on our **Planning and Zoning Division page**.

Land Use Approval – The Department of Health, Housing and Human Services along with Catholic Charities, the organization selected to build the community, will submit an application for a conditional use permit.

That application is subject to the usual process – application review, public notice and land use hearing in front of the hearings officer.

Site Preparation – The Development Agency will bring waterlines to the site this fall. These waterlines will make it more usable in the future for industrial development as well as provide a needed utility for residents who live in this community.

Community Operations – The site will include 15-30 sleeping pods and community restrooms,

showers, cooking and eating facilities, and a communal room.

Community Members – Residents of this transitional community will be adult military veterans from Clackamas County who are homeless. They will be selected through referrals and screenings by county staff, veterans' agencies and social service agencies and support organizations.

The residents will be provided with health, counseling and other supportive services through the county, non-profits and other organizations to help them transition from this community to more permanent housing.

Health, Safety and Mobility – County staff conducted a <u>health and safety impact</u> <u>review</u> of the site. Security and safety are top priorities for the county and Catholic Charities, not just for the residents, but also associated staff and the general community.

While there is no direct access to public transportation from the site, plans are underway to provide a shuttle or other form of transportation to bus stops so these veterans can access training, counseling, shopping, medical facilities, shopping and other routine needs.

The County Commissioners will be holding a series of panel discussions to better understand the issue of housing affordability. You are welcome to come and listen. No public testimony will be received. These discussions will offer information about current housing issues in our region, coalition building and partnerships, impacts and other strategic considerations.

The first meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, Sept. 20 from 9:30 to 11:30 in the Board of Commissioners hearing room 4th floor of the Public Services Building, 2051 Kaen Rd. Oregon City.

Contact us – Please feel free to contact me if you would like to help with this project, have questions or concerns, or would like additional information. Unless you ask us not to contact you again (see note below), we will send you periodic updates on the progress of this unique project to help homeless veterans in Clackamas County.

You are receiving this email because you are a property owner in the vicinity of the transitional shelter community pilot project proposed near the corner of 115th and Jennifer, or have expressed an interest in the project. If you would like to be removed from this email list, please let us know.