



**ROSEBURG HOMELESS COMMISSION AGENDA
MONDAY, JANUARY 25, 2021**

*ajf
01/21/2021*

**11:00 A.M. Regular Meeting
Electronic Meeting**

Public Access: Facebook Live at www.Facebook.com/CityofRoseburg

NOTE: IT IS UP TO EACH OF YOU AS COMMISSIONERS TO CALL 541-492-6866 AND LET STAFF KNOW BEFORE THE DAY OF THE MEETING IF YOU WILL NOT BE ATTENDING. THANK YOU.

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. ROLL CALL:

Chair: Larry Rich
Commissioners: Gregory Brigham (Adapt) Shaun Pritchard (UCAN)
 KC Bolton (Aviva Health) Brent Eichman (Umpqua Health Alliance)
 Shelley Briggs Loosley Mike Fieldman

III. INTRODUCTIONS – Name, Organization, Position

IV. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- A. Review Commission Purpose, Duties and Responsibilities
- B. Council Directive- Short Term/Long Term Items
- C. Meeting Time Management/Audience Participation
- D. Update on Current City Programs/Efforts
- E. Short Term – Warming Center
- F. Long Term – Low Barrier Shelter
 - 1. Rogue Retreat Model
 - 2. Non-profit/Location/Fundraising
- G. Election of Vice Chair

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION – *Comments on Agenda Items Only can be provided via email to the City Recorder at info@cityofroseburg.org prior to 8:00 a.m. on Monday, January 25, 2021. Email comments must include the person's name and address for the record. Comments received by the deadline will be provided to the Commission prior to the meeting. The Commission reserves the right to delay any action requested until they are fully informed on the matter.*

V. BUSINESS FROM THE COMMISSION

VI. NEXT MEETING DATE: Monday, February 22, 2021 via Zoom

VII. INFORMATIONAL

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Chapter 2.20 HOMELESS COMMISSION

2.20.010 – Creation of the Commission.

There is created and established a Commission of the City to be designated as the “Homeless Commission.”

2.20.020 – Purpose

Research, gather information and explore options in order to make recommendations to the City Council addressing the needs of the unhoused.

2.20.030 – Duties-Responsibilities.

The duties and responsibilities of the Commission shall include but not be limited to the following:

- A. Research current practices related to addressing the needs of the unhoused population.
- B. Make recommendations to the City Council on addressing the needs of the unhoused population.
- C. Review and recommend to the City Council the terms and conditions for contracts and working relationships with private and public agencies regarding services for the unhoused.
- D. Receive and consider comments and suggestions from the general public and local businesses regarding homelessness.

2.20.040 – Organization of commission.

The Commission shall consist of seven members, one of whom shall be the Chair. Four members shall be the director or designated representative from the following local agencies: Adapt, United Community Action Network (UCAN), Aviva Health, and Umpqua Health Alliance. Two members shall be at-large.

ROSEBURG HOMELESS COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY



UPDATE ON CURRENT CITY PROGRAMS/EFFORTS

Meeting Date: January 25, 2021
Department: Administration
www.cityofroseburg.org

Agenda Section: Discussion Items
Staff Contact: Amy Sowa
Contact Telephone Number: 541-492-6866

ISSUE STATEMENT AND SUMMARY

The Homeless Commission will review some of the current programs and efforts implemented over the past year by the City to address the unhoused.

BACKGROUND

On January 13, 2020, Council adopted Resolution 2020-01, prioritizing the need to explore strategies to address issues related to unhoused individuals within the community as one of six goals the City should focus on through 2022. Since that time, Council held multiple meetings concerning strategies to address issues related to unhoused individuals within the community.

Vehicle Camping Pilot Program and Policy

In August of 2020, Council directed staff to begin working on code updates related to vehicle camping. Staff researched what other cities had done to allow vehicle camping in limited situations under certain parameters to temporarily assist the City's homeless population. They then modeled a policy after the City of Salem's program.

The vehicle camping pilot program allows for three possible campsite locations within the City, each location serving no more than six vehicles.

In order to host vehicle camping, a property owner must register their location with the City and comply with the Vehicle Camping Program rules. Rules consist of

- requiring a staff member or volunteer to be present overnight on-site while vehicle camping is occurring on the property;
- limiting hours of operation to 9:00pm to 7:00am;
- providing a minimum of two restrooms per location;
- providing adequate trash receptacles;
- prohibiting open flame fires;
- ensuring all activities comply with regulations involving noise disturbances;
- limiting number of days one person may stay at a registered location; and
- requiring that all camping is limited to vehicles, with no tents or other improvised camps or personal property being used or stored outside vehicles.

Property owners interested in hosting vehicle camping must submit a Vehicle Camping Registration Form to the Community Development Department. Review and authorization

of a potential campsite location would be granted on a first-come, first-served basis. The organization, supervision, and maintenance of a vehicle camping location is solely the responsibility of the property owner, and not the City of Roseburg. Property owners hosting vehicle camping would do so at their own risk and expense.

The pilot program is scheduled to terminate on November 30, 2021, enabling Council to review the effectiveness of the program and if it should continue.

Severe Event Shelter Policy

In August of 2020, Council directed staff to begin working on code updates related to Severe Event Shelters.

The Roseburg Municipal Code currently allows for homeless shelters within the Professional Office and General Commercial zones. These facilities are typically designed to be operated by well-established non-profits as a full-time dedicated shelter. However, homeless shelters require a conditional use permit, and given the time frames and cost involved in the conditional use permit process, homeless shelters cannot be established on short notice in response to a severe event, such as extreme weather or fire.

In addition, buildings in which a shelter may be used to provide overnight accommodations, are required to be sprinkled in order to meet fire, life, and safety requirements. Retrofitting structures to meet this requirement can be cost prohibitive for organizations simply looking to provide temporary shelter, such as a warming center during extremely cold winter periods or temporary shelter for those displaced by local fires. Recent code amendments enable an exemption to sprinklers if appropriate "fire watch" measures are implemented. This exemption will help local community organizations to establish the use of a Severe Event Shelter in structures such as a church, gymnasium, or other commercial type structure for limited time.

The Severe Event Shelter Policy explains the process for obtaining approval for Severe Event Shelters, and how to prepare spaces for this use. The Mayor or City Manager have the authority to declare a severe event.

Diversion Program

The Police Department created the Roseburg Transitional Court which provides alternative sentencing options to unhoused offenders. If an offender opts to go through the Roseburg Transitional Court, they will be required to respond to Adapt/Compass for an initial assessment. The assessment will set the goals for the offender, who will have 60 days to achieve those goals. Goals may include attending mental health counseling or substance abuse treatment, connecting to services such as WIC, the VA, the Tribe, and/or UCAN, and obtaining an Oregon ID card or Social Security card.

When the offender achieves their goals, the Judge will commute their sentence. If the offender fails to be successful, the Judge will impose the suspended sentence.

Prohibited Camping Code Amendment

In July 2020, a Federal Court ruling in Blake vs. Grants Pass made specific distinctions between sleeping and camping; Federal Court referred to sleeping as an "unavoidable human act." The Federal Court went further to advise that homeless people can take

necessary minimal measures to keep themselves warm and dry while sleeping when there are no alternative forms of shelter available.

Following research into how best to comply with the precedent set by this ruling, an ordinance was drafted and presented to Council on January 11 to change the definition of camping in the municipal code.

Coronavirus Relief Funds (CRF) Assistance

In August 2020, the City accepted a CRF grant from the State of Oregon with reimbursement up to \$771,520.24. Funds were provided to local agencies to distribute throughout the community to support local businesses, citizens, and non-profits, and for economic recovery planning and tourism recovery. A portion of these funds provided assistance to the unhoused as well as other members of our community. Below are some examples of how these funds helped address the needs of the unhoused:

United Community Action Network – The City provided \$75,000 to UCAN to provide the following to Roseburg residents or unhoused living the Roseburg area: Emergency assistance to prevent eviction or foreclosure, emergency assistance to prevent loss of utilities, emergency nutrition assistance and personal protective equipment, and related administrative costs.

Salvation Army – The City provided \$15,000 to the Salvation Army to provide the following types of assistance to COVID-impacted individuals and families within the city: mortgage or rental payment assistance, utility payment assistance, food assistance, temporary shelter.

Peace at Home – The City provided \$15,000 to Peace at Home to provide or support emergency shelter and/or housing (rental assistance) for clients within the City of Roseburg.

St. Vincent de Paul – The City provided \$40,000 to St. Vincent de Paul to provide sanitation services to homeless individuals through the purchase of a two-stall shower trailer with a washer/dryer system.

Chadwick Clubhouse – The City provided \$5,000 to the Chadwick Clubhouse to provide one or more of the following to their members: assistance to unhoused individuals, mortgage and/or rental assistance, utility payment assistance, and food assistance.

Roseburg Rescue Mission – The City provided \$20,000 to the Roseburg Rescue Mission to provide services to the homeless, including: providing meals to go, increased COVID-related janitorial expenses and the installation of sneeze guards, and lost income due to required closure of the thrift stores to meet the Governor's Executive Orders.

Connecting Point – The City provided \$2,619 to Connecting Point for the purchase of two laptop computers that can be used to connect their clients virtually to service providers.

ATTACHMENTS

None



ROSEBURG HOMELESS COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIR

Meeting Date: January 25, 2021
Department: Administration
www.cityofroseburg.org

Agenda Section: Discussion Items
Staff Contact: Amy Sowa
Contact Telephone Number: 541-492-6866

ISSUE STATEMENT AND SUMMARY

In accordance with Section 2.32.020(D) of the Roseburg Municipal Code, "Annually during the month of January of each year, Commissions shall organize, and in addition to the Chair, who shall serve as is provided in this Section, elect a Vice-Chair, who shall act in the absence of the Chair. The Chair, and Vice-Chair while serving as Chair, shall have full voting privileges."

The Commission shall choose a member to serve as Vice Chair for the 2020 calendar year.

SUGGESTED MOTION

"I MOVE TO APPOINT COMMISSIONER _____ TO ACT AS VICE CHAIR FOR THE HOMELESS COMMISSION."