

ROSEBURG HOMELESS COMMISSION AGENDA **MONDAY, APRIL 26, 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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES III.

A. March 22, 2021 - Regular Meeting

IV. SPECIAL PRESENTATION

A. Community Homelessness Needs Assessment Presentation by Roque Retreat

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION - Comments on Agenda Items Only can be provided via email to the City Recorder at info@cityofroseburg.org or hand delivered to City Hall, 900 SE Douglas Avenue in Roseburg, prior to 4:00 p.m. on Friday, April 23, 2021. 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.

BUSINESS FROM THE COMMISSION V.

A. HB2004 Update (Mike Fieldman)

VI. **NEXT MEETING DATE:** Monday, May 24, 2021 via Zoom

VII. **INFORMATIONAL**

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

MINUTES OF THE ROSEBURG HOMELESS COMMISSION MEETING March 22, 2021



A meeting of the Homeless Commission was called to order by Chair Larry Rich at 11:00 a.m. on Monday, March 22, 2021, electronically via zoom in Roseburg, Oregon.

ROLL CALL

Present:

Commissioners KC Bolton, Shelley Briggs-Loosley, Gregory Brigham,

Brent Eichman, Mike Fieldman and Shaun Pritchard.

Absent:

None

Others Present: City Manager Nikki Messenger, Assistant City Manager/City Recorder Amy Sowa, Police Captain Jeremy Sanders, Community Development Director Stuart Cowie and Management Assistant Koree Tate

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Briggs-Loosely moved to approve the February 22, 2021 meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Brigham and approved with the following vote: Commissioners Bolton, Briggs-Loosley, Brigham, Eichman, Fieldman and Pritchard voted yes. No one voted no.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

<u>WARMING FIRES, TIME/PLACE CAMPING RESTRICTIONS - ROSEBURG MUNICIPAL CODE</u>

Ms. Sowa stated that Commissioner Bolton provided information to the Commission regarding warming fires in other counties and requested information regarding the City of Roseburg Municipal Code and how it could be amended to allow certain types of outdoor warming fires for the homeless. The Mayor asked that this topic be scheduled for discussion by the full commission. A copy of the Roseburg code section regarding outdoor burning was provided for reference, as well as Commissioner Bolton's email with suggested amendments.

Commissioner Bolton said he looked for practical solutions that can be implemented while working on the bigger ticket items. It had been pretty cold at night, and he considered 45 degrees and below as cold. In Deschutes County, if they met certain criteria of being away from structures, other items and free of debris, a warming fire was permitted even during fire season. He thought Roseburg could look at their guidelines and consider having something drafted to help provide relief from the cold. When people were wet from rain, it was important for them to have a heat source. Commissioner Bolton did mention this would not be year round, but suggested an ordinance amendment for the colder seasons.

Ms. Messenger explained Staff was trying to keep an open mind and noted the difference between private property and public property was pretty substantial. The City was in a unique time of not being allowed to displace people on public property due to COVD-19 orders. There was not a one size fits all, but she knew things would change and was

reluctant to allow fires, especially during the summer. It came down to the fact that some people had good judgement and would take care of the fire while others were cause for concern.

Fire Marshal Bryan explained the burning permit process was amended a few years ago to differentiate public and private property. Since the beginning of the year, the Fire Department had responded to 41 fire complaints from callers concerned about fires started by the unhoused population. Many were down by the river and in areas that were too close to wooded areas. Mr. Bryan said his main concern was for safety. If a fire were to become out of control, he posed the question of who would be responsible for extinguishing it. The other safety factor was how fires were started. Gas could be problematic and get on a person's skin. Regardless, the Fire Department would continue to respond to all calls. If the City were to have something more organized, regulated and safe then he could take a closer look. Police Captain Sanders echoed the Fire Department's concerns and agreed it was a judgement issue. He had heavy concerns about allowing outdoor burning and said it would be hard to manage and enforce for the department.

Ms. Sowa provided information from Rogue Retreat regarding outdoor fires. They said it was a big challenge, not only for the unhoused to stay warm, but the risk associated with fires. What they have done was to provide certain areas the unhoused could use, such as their Urban Campground. They did not have open fires in those settings, but provided propane heaters and food, making fires unnecessary for cooking purposes. They had experienced issues with fires, especially in the summer, when it caused much damage and concern.

Chair Rich asked for open discussion from the Commission. Commissioner Fieldman noted the information provided by Staff was helpful. The issue was not going away and people still needed a way to stay warm and prepare food. It was important for both issues and Rogue Retreat handled it by providing the propane heaters. He did not have an answer to the situation, but knew there needed to be some type of solution. Commissioner Pritchard appreciated the information provided by Commissioner Bolton. If there was a way to handle this safely with propane and have them fixed to avoid tampering, he would be in support of that option. Chair Rich noted that everyone would not participate in a new campground or shelter option so they needed to find a way to meet their needs as well. He discussed the difference between campers and the homeless, and when it was cold, the homeless would utilize the Rescue Mission. Campers, in his opinion, were those with substance abuse issues; he did not think open fires would be safe to manage while someone was under the influence. When the ground becomes dry, it did not take much for a spark to spread and create a large fire. While visiting camps below Gaddis Park, he noticed a fire burning by a camper who was only a foot away sleeping. Due to his close proximity, he was concerned the fire would melt the soles of his shoes. When Roseburg was able to have a campground for use they would need established rules and figure out ways to help those who did not qualify to use the facility.

Commissioner Brigham thanked Commissioner Bolton for bringing forward this topic because it surfaced another important issue. After hearing concerns from Staff, he was convinced they could not safely move forward on the issue at this time. The main thing

to realize is that there were going to be fires regardless until they were able to establish no and low barrier shelters for warmth and food. Right now they did not have a choice or access and propane was a concern with potential explosions or leaks. There needed to be a manageable way to work with the unhoused. Commissioner Eichman agreed with the consensus of the group and Commissioner Briggs-Loosley did not have further comments to add.

Chair Rich confirmed the Commission would not move forward with the idea of allowing warming fires or ask for a Municipal Code revision. He appreciated ideas brought forward and asked everyone to continue providing comments and ideas until they find something that could work. Commissioner Bolton said he acknowledged all the points from Staff and colleagues, but fires were still happening without the ordinance changes. He suggested better regulation, more structure, and to find a suitable location where a fire pit could be established. Commissioner Fieldman noted there may be citizens listening to the meetings and hoped some would provide suggestions. He understood the assumption that some campers may not choose to go to a shelter and follow the rules, but until they tried, they really did not know the true outcome. In Seattle, they looked at the worst groups and were told the same thing about not being able to fill the beds, but they did and had to add more. There are fewer unwilling to comply if they were to get the right types of services for them. Chair Rich agreed it would be nice to have a campground set up sooner to begin the process to help.

TIME/PLACE CAMPING RESTRICTIONS

Ms. Sowa explained the City was following a US Circuit Court ruling regarding prohibited camping, the Roseburg Municipal Code was amended; first to ensure prohibited camping could be prosecuted only as a violation; and second to make a distinction between sleeping and camping. Since then, cities such as Medford, Grants Pass and Eugene had or were considering, restrictions around time and place, and sanitary conditions for homeless camping. Some of those restrictions included sites near or interfering with sports fields, sidewalks, wetlands, riparian areas, etc. Documents provided to the Commission had more details on the proposed code amendments in Medford and the permitted camp criteria in Eugene. Staff was concerned about the growing potential for conflict between park users and homeless campers as youth sports seasons approached.

Ms. Messenger reported that during the COVID-19 pandemic, per Governor Executive Orders, the City had been hands off and letting people stay where they camped. That had created issues in wetlands, water areas and the construction of two caves on Reservoir Hill below the City water tower. As other cities had been putting time and place decisions out there, she had been navigating two different issues at Gaddis Park. There were recently nine RV's in the parking lot that would need to move with little league season beginning. The parking lot did not accommodate all the vehicles for the sporting events and would oftentimes overflow to the surrounding streets. The RV's were taking up to four spaces each with their awnings, bikes, chairs and other large items. The other concern was safety for the children with so many campers in the area around the ballfields. Ms. Messenger recently spoke with the Eugene City Manager who had started to move people out of sensitive areas. They had begun to see an environmental mess, and with the human waste creating such a bad health condition, they decided to begin a cleanup program. Gaddis Park was a purpose park and not the best place to be camping.

Chair Rich agreed it would be nice to have City Staff take a look at that area and others where campers should not be allowed and create a list and rules of where people would be allowed. Commissioner Bolton said he understood why campers had chosen Gaddis Park due to the ridgeline that kept them out of sight, being close to the I-5 Bridge and out of the way from being harassed by citizens. Commissioner Briggs-Loosley added it was appropriate for Staff to look at the situation before it became more of an issue. Commissioner Fieldman agreed there were places that camping just did not work. He asked that when places were determined to ensure there was a good list of alternatives.

Commissioner Eichman said they needed to work on potential sites for camping and/or a low barrier shelter because this was not an ideal situation. He looked forward to the Rogue Retreat assessment to see if they determined locations. In response to Mr. Cowie, Ms. Messenger explained this process was being addressed in other cities where places like Medford were setting up guidelines for allowing camping during certain dates. There would also be some language around sidewalks, not being near playgrounds, etc. This would be a parallel track to get a shelter and an urban campground with a list of where people could and could not camp. Chair Rich agreed and said they needed rules on where to avoid. Commissioner Brigham also agreed it would be good to develop common sense guidelines. All Commission members agreed to have City Staff develop guidelines and bring it back to the Commission for review.

<u>COMMUNITY HOMELESSNESS NEEDS ASSESSMENT AGREEMENT WITH ROGUE RETREAT</u>

Ms. Sowa explained she had worked with Rogue Retreat for an agreement and would provide their assessment at the next Commission Meeting. During the February 22, 2021 meeting, Commissioner Eichman agreed to contact Rogue Retreat and request a proposal to conduct a community homelessness assessment of Roseburg to determine where gaps may be in services in our community, and to provide a work plan to move forward towards establishing a shelter. Commissioners Brigham and Briggs-Loosely volunteered to assist and review the initial proposal. The Commission directed Staff to move forward with an agreement if the proposal was acceptable. City Manager Messenger offered to have the City draft and administer the agreement.

Matthew Vorderstrasse, Development Director from Rogue Retreat, submitted a proposal on March 3, 2021 for those services for a total cost of \$15,000. After review by the Commissioners Eichman, Brigham and Briggs-Loosely, the agreement was forwarded to Staff to review. An agreement was drafted and had been signed by Rogue Retreat and City Manager Messenger, with an effective date of March 10, 2021. Per the proposal, Mr. Vorderstrasse would present findings to the commission during their April 26, 2021 meeting. The City would use funds set aside to address Council goals for this study. In addition, Ms. Sowa said she applied for a technical assistance grant in the amount of \$5,000 from The Ford Family Foundation. In response to Commissioner Briggs-Loosely, Ms. Sowa said she would confirm with Rogue Retreat regarding their proposed all-day session and provide the information to the Commission. Commissioner Prichard said it was a great opportunity to have a fresh set of eyes come to Roseburg to review the unhoused population, and thanked City Staff for making the arrangements quickly. In response to Commissioner Fieldman, Ms. Sowa confirmed Rogue Retreat would help identify sites as part of their proposal and they were confident to have the information finalized by the next Homeless Commission meeting.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

No emailed comments were received prior to the Commission Meeting.

BUSINESS FROM THE COMMISSION

HB2004 UPDATE - MIKE FIELDMAN

Commissioner Fieldman said he had good news which was recently shared in a newspaper article. Speaker Kotek had made the decision to rebalance and move funding for a navigation center. That was approved in a work session and the bill would go to the house and senate before having the Governor sign. The funds for Roseburg were going to be \$1.5 million to help put a navigation center in place by the winter for the unhoused. House Bill 2004 was about the funds with House Bill 2006 about the information. There was an amendment with HB2006 to provide camping spaces for urban camping. In the past, the State only allowed churches, but with the new language it did not have to be provided by a religious organization. With funds available, that meant they had a lot of work ahead of them to get a navigation center up and running. Commissioner Fieldman said this was a good start and they needed to figure out how to move forward. Chair Rich thanked Commissioner Fieldman and Representative Gary Leif for their work to have Roseburg added to the bill to receive funding.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:48 a.m.

Koree Tate

Management Assistant

Roseburg Homelessness Services Assessment Report and Community Action Plan

Completed by: Rogue Retreat's Hope University Community Training Program
Prepared by: Matthew Vorderstrasse, Development Director and Marchand Vorderstrasse, Volunteer
April 19th, 2021





SPECIAL PRESENTATION A 04/26/2021

Roseburg Homelessness Services Assessment Report and Community Action Plan

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Vision:

Roseburg envisions an inclusive community where all feel safe, supported, and have the opportunity to work towards becoming self-sufficient. This will be accomplished through building a sustainable, coordinated social service-based network to address the needs of the unhoused.

Lasting success will be founded on the principle of collective engagement with the entire community.

Summary:

The City of Roseburg and the Homeless Commission began the process of creating an action plan for improving homeless safety net services in the Roseburg community in March of 2021. After conducting the survey and interview research a strategic planning sub-committee was formed between the City and Homeless Commission. This group met on April 14th, 2021 and came up with:

Methodology:

The first step in advising this plan was through conducting a needs survey to unsheltered individuals, an online community survey for community members, and zoom and phone interviews with community leadership. In total over 80 members of the Roseburg community took part in helping draft this assessment and plan of action for the community to execute. The results were reviewed at a Strategic Visioning meeting that was conducted on April 14th, 2021. These results helped the committee establish the vision and goals of this plan.

Consumer Survey Results

Location: Roseburg, Oregon

Total number of locations surveyed: 6 (Area around the Library/Under 2 Bridges/Dog Park/2 Parks)

Total number of subjects surveyed: 53

Male: 38 Female: 15

Age range: 18 or younger: 0 19 - 32: 12 (7m/5f) 33 - 45: 24 (17m/7f) 46+: 17 (14m/3f)

Observations that stood out during this outreach:

- Access to more Domestic Violence (DV) shelter beds.
- Access to immediate shelter support when DV shelter is full.
- Trauma Informed Care training for medical personnel (DV specific) so that the victim does not feel ashamed, embarrassed, or otherwise while trying to seek medical treatment as a result of a domestic situation.
- Separate individuals from 4 locations mentioned that they felt unsafe at the Mission due to the number of sex offenders that are sheltered there.
- One unsheltered individual had taken it upon himself to make a large pot of soup, and set up a table to feed anyone who needed it. He served 13 people while we spoke to him that day. Of the subjects surveyed there were 5 sets of m/f couples that were living unhoused together.
- One individual stated that he had lived on the river for 8 years
- We noticed a total of 11 dogs and 2 cats living among the unhoused during this outreach.
- One of the camps visited in a local park was called Freedom Camp. It was very clean and appeared to be self-governed. One of the camp members stated that COVID has been a blessing for the homeless.
- One female that we spoke with admitted (verbally admitted / clear physical signs) to having been the
 victim of a domestic assault that had occurred 3 nights prior to our contact and that was the cause of her
 current status as unhoused. A volunteer from Onward Roseburg helped this individual connect with local
 DV services.
- Lack of family shelters break up families and causes more trauma.
- One person noted that they wished people understood how stressful it is to be homeless. Always fighting
 to meet the most basic of needs and never having time or the resources to plan ahead. He thinks that if
 more people understood that then the community would want to do more to address why so many
 people are becoming homeless.
- One person stated that community leadership needs to come and stay in a camp for a night to see how it is
- One person surveyed stated that they wanted everyone to understand that not everyone is homeless by choice
- One person stated "one paycheck lost, and you are now homeless".
- One person stated that theft is a big issue among the homeless. Everyone is trying to survive and your stuff is always getting stolen.
- Another person stated that the homeless are used to abuse and need to feel love.

 One person noted that many of the homeless are beginning to fear the threat of violence from the community.

Needs Specifically brought up by those that were surveyed:

- A place or a space to be (organized campground)
- Low barrier year round shelter
- Hand washing stations along the greenway and within the city parks
- More trash cans along the greenway
- Access to sharps containers
- Bathrooms in existing COVID homeless camps with regular oversite and outreach into the camps
- Create homeless clean-up crews to help the camps
- Warming Centers during the Winter/Cooling Centers during the Summer
- Access to clean water year round
- Dental or Medical Bus visits
- Access to a safe shelter
- Soup kitchen

- Access to laundry facilities
- Access to shower facilities
- Medical transportation assistance
- Second chance housing programs for people with criminal history
- Youth shelter
- Pet friendly shelters and housing
- Family shelter
- Better coordination of outreach services
- Friendlier Police patrols and better relationships with law enforcement
- A homeless village
- More housing first programs
- Senior housing and senior shelters
- Better response from the Crisis Intervention Team

Community Survey Results

Agencies that responded:

- Dream Center
- Onward Roseburg
- The City of Roseburg
- Douglas County
- HIV Alliance
- Anvil NW
- Mercy Foundation
- UCAN

- The Salvation Army
- Umpqua Community College
- Oregon Employment Department
- Douglas ESD
- Aviva Health
- Umpqua Valley Public Defender
- i.e. Engineering (land development firm)

What do you see as the biggest needs within the homeless community?

- 1. Housing, mental health and drug abuse support
- 2. Our homeless neighbors, and their allies, need opportunity for authentic engagement with organizational/institutional knowledge, resources and expertise.
- 3. We have so many -- mental health, addiction, and lack of services including affordable housing.
- 4. Mental Health services
- 5. A stable home environment or a place to call home
- 6. Housing first, no/low barriers to entry, supportive services for life-skill building and supporting the transition

- 7. I think the two biggest needs are (1) drug treatment and prevention programs and (2) mental health facilities as we have a lot of crazy homeless people just wandering around who need mental health counseling and psychologic help.
- 8. Access to housing and treatment of the problems that are leading to them being unhoused
- 9. Housing
- 10. Shelter, food resources, medical, transportation, access to resources such as Naloxone and Harm Reduction supplies, HIV and HCV testing
- 11. Mental health resources
- 12. A place for them to reside, besides city parks, the river banks and other public spaces.
- 13. Hygiene products, weather-appropriate clothing (including jackets and socks), and tents/tarps.
- 14. Access to services for ailments such as mental health and housing accommodations.
- 15. Shelter, especially emergency housing for families
- 16. Shelter is the biggest need. Right now there is nowhere legal for homeless to be. The Mission is not enough and many people are banned from there.
- 17. We need places for people to be. We need more recovery houses, youth shelter beds, senior housing and shelters, recuperative shelter, etc.
- 18. Hope is the biggest need. You can take all sorts of steps and never get anywhere when you are homeless. Losing hope is their biggest threat.
- 19. A centralized coordination of services.
- 20. Street level services

What is your vision for homeless services in the Roseburg Community?

- Help them achieve basic support/needs met to stabilize them and then work on being job ready for employment
- 2. I envision a day when diverse community based services meet unique needs of our homeless population. Services including: rapid housing, permanent supported housing, housing for justice involved folks as well as low barrier shelter(s). A community that embraces evidence based practices in lieu of personal opinion on unhoused topics. Looking forward to the day when there is a continuum of professional paid, peer and volunteers responding to the needs of our neighbors living under bridges.
- 3. Improved services close to the homeless population and away from the downtown area. A double bottom-line that will help everyone.
- 4. Comprehensive and collaborative services that are easy to access throughout our county, not just Roseburg.
- 5. Collaboration in providing wrapping around services that include lodging, access to food, dental and otherwise hygiene, mental health services, as well as job resources
- 6. No/low barrier housing units for targeted populations, on-site support or referral to case management and peer support services to support the individual in their housing
- 7. You drive around town now and you just see homeless tents and camps up everywhere and it's pretty disheartening to see. I don't feel comfortable visiting most of our City parks with my family or enjoying the wonderful bike paths we have along the river as these facilities are overrun with our homeless population and they are also absolutely trashed. I also fully recognize that these are human beings who need a place to live and basic services. I also believe that many of the homeless people living in camps view those camps as a safe place where they are surrounded by other homeless people that check on them, protect them, and really function as their family unit so they don't want to leave and I get that. My vision would be to have kind of a designated homeless campus somewhere in town where there are ample open areas that are available to camp, tiny homes available on a nightly basis (they have this in Walla Walla) for shelter, bathing and restroom facilities that are clean, and then mental health counseling services, drug treatment services, etc. all in one general location.

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- 8. A one-stop shop would be great, with services designed for people struggling with mental health, addiction, and chronic homelessness (i.e. people who don't know how to live housed anymore). We need caseworkers and peer support to hold these people's hands until they are stable.
- 9. System navigation and services to get homeless housing, food, treatment, other necessities
- 10. Immediate shelter, long term shelter, housing
- 11. Consistent, trustworthy, effective, accountable, compassionate.
- 12. My sister used to live here and she used the mental health services and has her former guardian I saw services leave, new ones come, and there wasn't much consistency as far as resource/practitioner office staying in same area for consistency to patient/client.
- 13. I don't have an immediate answer. But some way of putting folks to work in exchange for a bed and meals might be a start.
- 14. An integrated approach from all community-based organizations so there is a unified effort and a collaboration around addressing homeless issues and providing homeless services in a trauma-informed, efficient, and effective manner.
- 15. Programs that offer benefit to not only the individual but the community, giving the homeless the help they need while also providing a sense of accomplishment and acceptance in the community. Something like working within the parks programs or local cleanups to beautify the city they live. Welcome them into our community instead of treating them like outcasts.
- 16. I would love for there to be a shelter for men, women, and families. The property would have a kitchen, laundry facilities, and case workers to help them find out their next steps.
- 17. A place where people stop judging, shaming, assaulting and antagonizing the homeless.
- 18. To provide individually based support services to homeless individuals interested in being housed. Providing ongoing stabilization support services.

What does your typical interaction with the homeless community look like?

- 1. We are typically at the stage of getting them job ready, then working to get them employed with education, resumes, workshops, support services and training
- 2. My lived experience includes serving five years as a faithful volunteer with the low barrier warming center sponsored by Douglas County Housing and Homeless Coalition (plus 3 years engaged in warming center operations leadership and board service). Typical interactions included community relations and resource development alongside direct service of shared meals, creating a trauma informed environment, responding to homeless individuals in a safe warm place on cold winter nights.
- 3. Minimal, mostly with Umpqua Community College students.
- 4. Exchange of brief conversations of their needs
- 5. We have tent villages all over the county. Unfortunately, human waste is creating health concerns, garbage is spread out everywhere, and because there may be some mental health issues, some houseless are very aggressive leaning towards violence. There is also, drug concerns that are lending a hand towards human trafficking.
- 6. Meeting the client where they're at, offering supplies for their immediate needs, addressing their personal barriers to housing to work on a client-centered housing placement and housing care plan
- 7. My business is located across the street from The Mission in downtown Roseburg so unfortunately my typical interaction is asking homeless people to not sleep on my property, to not urine and defecate on my property, to not use my outdoor water facet and leave it on, and to basically not damage or cause harm to my building. My typical encounters with the homeless population are usually pretty upsetting and occasionally require me to seek assistance from the Police.
- 8. Unfortunately, as defendants in the criminal justice system.
- 9. Folks camping around the duck pond or in the parking lot. Don't have many interactions
- 10. We engage mainly at our office and doing outreach at the dream center

- 11. Never positive. The problem has gotten so out of control that spaces which once seemed safe and clean are now destroyed by tents, garbage, and unstable characters. As a city civilian, the vibe you get is that you are trespassing in their space. As the tourism marketers of the city, we're finding it harder and harder to shoot video or take photos without a homeless camp in the frame. In the span of even three years its gotten noticeably much worse.
- 12. Personally, I don't interact with them much outside of work. At work, we have a Social Determinants of Health (SDOH) coordinator who helps connect our homeless patients with those resources. We just hired a Vice President of Community Health who will help lead our efforts in interacting with the homeless community.
- 13. I don't have much direct interaction with the homeless. However, I do see them every day. Whether it's walking down the street, coming and going from a local supermarket, or simply driving down the road and seeing the rows of tents along our rivers and in our public parks.
- 14. I help them with clothing, blankets, hygiene products, and food. Sometimes I can give them bus tickets for the city bus.
- 15. Daily, I am a representative payee, provide access to health insurance and application assistance for Social Security Income (SSI)/Social Security Disability Income (SSDI).

Do you/or your agency provide any services to the homeless community? If yes, please list.

- 1. Yes, we can provide all employment services to include support services for basic ID, birth certs, driver's license, etc. then move into job search, trainings, labor market, career exploration, and more.
- 2. I currently serve as a thoughtful member of our local Homeless Transition Action Group (HTAG).
- 3. UCC student services help students navigate SNAP benefits and services including mental health and addiction counseling.
- 4. We do not do direct service but can refer them to services. We also train staff that work with this population to screen for and recognize the signs of exploitation
- 5. We partner with Mercy Medical Center, FISH Food Pantry, Domestic Violence Coalition, DART, and Human Trafficking Task Force.
- 6. Yes supportive housing program, needle exchange, outreach, case management, peer support, behavioral health services
- 7. Criminal defense
- 8. We may provide services to children, but that would be through schools
- We provide full Harm Reduction resources, Case management for individuals living with HIV, Testing for HIV, HCV and other STI, Naloxone resources for overdose reversals. Behavioral health and education programs.
- 10. Healthcare services. Also, for our patients, we do connect them with community resources if it is identified that they have an SDOH need such as homelessness.
- 11. We provide clothes, food, blankets, hygiene products, and laundry vouchers.
- 12. Clothing Ministry and meal outreach every 2 weeks.
- 13. Yes: housing, barrier removal -ie Identification, coordination of health care services, access to support Services.

Are there any specialized services that you/or your agency would be willing to provide to the homeless?

- 1. We have a justice involved program were we can help them overcome their history of criminal activity.

 This can be helping them understand what their convictions are, educate them on what type of jobs they can get and even assist them with expungement
- 2. Academic preparation and professional experience in business and health services affords me the skill sets to assist with grants writing, resource development and communications.
- 3. We are already providing quite a few resources and are always willing to assist as needed.

- 4. We would be more than happy to help Engineer and Design facilities that help or aid in our homeless issues.
- 5. Criminal defense
- 6. Harm Reduction resources, food resources, testing services
- 7. Healthcare services.
- 8. We would love to have a homeless shelter that we could run. We would also like to be able to give out tents and sleeping bags to those who are needing them that cannot stay at the shelters we have in town.
- 9. We used to operate an inclement weather shelter until COVID.

Are you aware of any funding that could be leveraged to help establish programs and services?

- 1. Whipple Foundation. Oregon Community Foundation. State of Oregon funds tied to HB 5042.
- 2. There may be some additional funding for more community benefit efforts.
- 3. My program has funding for ongoing rent support and supportive services (case management, peer support, medical case management, behavioral health services) for people living with HIV that have housing instability/homelessness in combination with behavioral health and/or substance use issues. This can be used to establish master lease or "set-aside" unit opportunities for our program clients (guaranteed rent whether or not unit is occupied) and possibly to collaborate with other community partners on purchasing property for this purpose.
- 4. Possibly the CJC/JRI grants
- 5. OCF Whipple Fund and other OCF funds and Ford Family Foundation
- 6. My thought is that city funds should be utilized to establish these programs and services.

Is there any additional information or concerns that you want to provide?

- I notice local community based agencies, politicians and individuals holding tight to the notion of housing readiness and not yet ready to embrace housing first models for unhoused populations. While I believe in and hold deep respect for volunteer contributions, the time has come for professional paid staff to provide, coordinate and develop comprehensive services for our unhoused neighbors. I hold hope for community development for the good of all citizens, not just for some, but for everyone.
- 2. We have many students who are homeless, which is a different population than you see in downtown Roseburg. Some live in their cars and others couch surf between friends and family. Even though the focus is on campus and downtown, I hope we can broaden the conversation to include students who are working hard to improve their lives. Thanks for listening.
- 3. My concern is services that are localized only to Roseburg. Our county is 5000 square miles with many rural areas where there are unsheltered people. Unsheltered youth have no business being with unsheltered adults either.
- 4. Collaboration is the key. There are many factors as to why there are houseless-those reasons need to be addressed instead of continuing to think we know what our houseless populations needs. Thank you
- 5. I applaud the effort. The homeless issues in Roseburg have really been escalating for the last couple of years and something drastic needs to be done before we get to a situation where members of the general public and property owners decide to take matters into their own hands.
- 6. I think if we can get accessible services that treat the underlying causes of homelessness, it will reduce the unhoused population, and reduce their involvement in the criminal justice system.
- 7. Would love to see the results of the survey completed among the houseless as to what their needs are.
- 8. Making sure all shelters are low barrier with access and provisions for Harm Reduction resources, naloxone, syringe drop off.
- 9. I realize that there are no easy answers to this problem. But it is a real problem that the city needs to address. Turning a blind eye is basically enabling the situation. And as this situation goes on, the city feels less and less safe.

- 10. It seems like there isn't a solid plan between the various agencies and organizations in the community to address homeless concerns. However, there seems to be a strong group of folks that want to tackle these issues. I think it just will take someone coming up with a vision to get everyone on the same page working together.
- 11. Honestly, I work for the tourism organization for the city of Roseburg. The growing homeless population is slowly taking over our public parks and river front areas. By this I mean there are large camps literally within the parks. On the grass, trails, sidewalks. Along the river, there is trash and waste build-up, which then enters the rivers as they rise. In my opinion, something needs to be done to start cleaning that up. And I don't mean simply kicking out the homeless. I mean shepherding them into the community and giving them a reason to want to keep our town clean. We all share this space, and the better the town does economically (through people moving here, visiting/vacationing, new business, etc.) the more funds we have to put toward the homeless community.
- 12. The biggest problem for this town is housing. We have two shelters in town, one for women and one for men, but none for families. Families wind up getting separated. We really need housing for families.

Community Interview Results

- Commissioner Boice, Douglas County
- Stuart I. Cowie, Roseburg Community Development Director
- Shelley Briggs, Homeless Commission
- Kelley Wessels, UCAN
- Shaun Pritchard, UCAN
- Mayor Larry Rich, City of Roseburg
- Dr. Greg Brigham, Adapt
- Council Member Bob Cottrell, City of Roseburg
- Mike Fieldman, Legislative Staffer, Retired CAP Agency Director
- Dr. Eric Soder

What do you see as the biggest need facing the homeless community?

- 1. People need a space to be and they need to have access to adequate hygienic facilities to help eliminate environmental risks. We need to start with identifying a space for people to be.
- 2. Campsite/Shelter/Tiny House Village. We need space outside of the City parks and downtown for people to be.
- 3. We need a better system for addressing homeless needs. The community will not donate to the current system.
- 4. A permanent place to be.
- 5. Move away from a one size fits all approach to shelter and housing.
- 6. A year round low barrier shelter.
- 7. More programs that meet people where they are at.
- 8. A housing and shelter continuum.
- 9. Homeless youth shelter.
- 10. More transitional programs.
- 11. Community village and non-congregate shelters.
- 12. Virtual navigation center services.

Who do you see in the community that can help lead this work?

- 1. The City Council would like to see Rogue Retreat help lead this work.
- 2. UCAN can help with Admin, Case Management, and Funding.
- 3. Adapt could help with parts of this work.

What threats do you see in the community?

- 1. We need to continue moving away from the "move along strategy".
- 2. Continuing to stay in our community silos while blaming each other. It maintains the status quo.
- 3. Not having enough voices around the table. The County feels like it has been left out of the discussion.
- 4. General hate towards the homeless.
- 5. Advocates that antagonize relationships.
- 6. Everyone blaming each other for the problem while doing nothing.
- 7. Site services that cause people to congregate.
- 8. No agency that has the bandwidth to operate the programs and follow funding and reporting requirements.
- 9. NIMBYism (Not in my back yard) and politicking.
- 10. Turf wars and infighting between agencies and homeless groups.

What opportunities do you see in the community?

- 1. The County would be willing to join the Homeless Commission.
- 2. Roseburg's \$1.5 million award for a Navigation Center.
- 3. Possibly partner the Navigation Center with Adapt creating a Sobering Center.
- 4. Political and community will is growing to accomplish this work.
- HB 2006 is a housing bill that will support 3 pilot projects like Emerald Village (permanent tiny house village in Cottage Grove, ran by Square One Villages). Roseburg is one of 4 Pilot Sites in the State of Oregon.
- 6. Leveraging the Youth Shelter building that closed.
- 7. Adapt could partner to help create more recovery and transitional housing.
- 8. Funding could be easily leveraged into this work.
- 9. YMCA could partner with a program for childcare. Family Development as well.
- 10. There may be other Southern Oregon agencies that could expand to do this work in Roseburg as well.

What funding do you know that can be leveraged into this work?

- 1. The County might be willing to invest up to \$1,000,000.00 into a viable solution. The County also has one C3 zoned property that is in close proximity to services.
- 2. UCAN could help with leveraging funding from OHCS, HUD, and possibly other funders.
- 3. CCO funding
- 4. United Way of Douglas County.
- 5. The Roseburg community can be very giving.

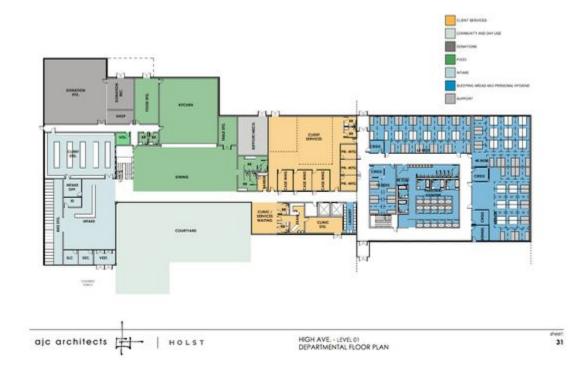
What is your vision for homeless services in the Roseburg community?

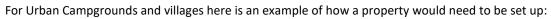
- 1. "Umpqua Retreat", the Rogue Retreat Model working in Douglas County.
- 2. Clean Rivers, parks, Downtown and a space for those that are homeless to be.
- 3. A community that is giving hand ups rather than handouts.
- 4. For Roseburg to match the work that Medford is doing.
- 5. A community that provides a mix of services along the whole continuum of need.
- 6. Campsite/Shelter/Tiny Homes/Clean Sweep.
- 7. A humane and safe place for people to be with wrap around supports.

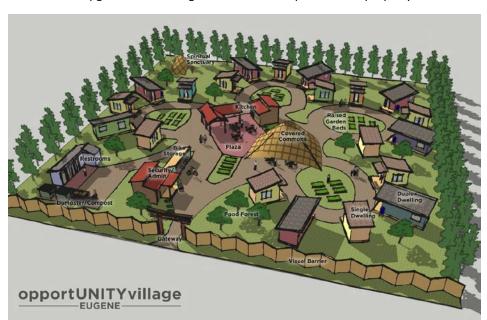
What is needed for potential sites for programs?

Each type of program will have its own unique specifications of what will be needed to make a site viable for services. One of the most crucial pieces regardless of program type is transportation. Is the property near a transportation line and how close is the site to other service providers that often the homeless will need to have access to? Below are some examples of what a shelter site, camp, or village might look like.

For a 24/7 shelter program, commercial industrial properties and lots are what you would be looking for. Here is an example of how that property could be set up in an existing warehouse or a lower cost Sprung Structure.









SWOT Analysis Roseburg Homeless Action Plan

Strengths Weaknesses

- \$1.5 million for Navigation Center
- Existing Community Collaborations (HTAG, Impacts Program, Homeless Commission, LPSCC, Mobile Crisis Intervention, Grass Roots groups etc.)
- Community awareness and engagement around homelessness
- Political and community will to make the changes
- Openness to other entities coming in to help provide services
- Homeless Commission and the organizations represented on it.

- Controversy and general lack of understanding- Community perception
- No organization with the bandwidth to start up ad operate programming. No organization has the needed experience.
- NIMBY
- Land use restrictions
- Some percentage of homeless make it harder on others due to behavioral issues.
- Legal landscape is in constant flux
- Lack of engagement with the homeless in services
- No centralized information sharing which leads to lack of shared understanding of available services
- Lack of consequences for not engaging in services once referred to them.
- \$1.5 Million for Navigation Center.
- Establish centralized information system
- Strengthening partnerships and building relationships with community based organizations.
- Strengthen existing service providers in the community
- Bringing healthcare into addressing social determinants of health.
- Engage with Rogue Retreat and learn how they have structured their programs in Medford
- Raised awareness in the community about homelessness
- Provide both consequence and incentives to follow through with service referrals
- Achieve the culture and desires of our community

- June 2022 Opening Date for Navigation Center
- Finding an organization with the bandwidth to stand up programs, operate programs, and report to funders.
- Migrating homeless groups that cycle in and out
- CBO (Community Based Organization) inability to find the right incentives or consequences to enter services.
- COVID- Shelter in Place order
- Political controversy over the right path forward

Opportunities Threats

Action Plan Goals

Short term goals for the Commission (3 months)-

Establish tactical sub-committees to help lead out the creation of these programs. Sub-committees will be made up of community based organizations, community members, etc. Tasks the committees will first accomplish:

- Navigation Center and low barrier shelter- clarify the parameters for the funding (resource coordination center, and low barrier shelter)- What is required for the site? Could the shelter requirement be met by doing an Urban Campground/Pallet Shelters?
- Identify the lead organization or organizations to help stand up and operate the programs. The lead organization or organizations will have the bottom line responsibility of managing the day-to-day operations of the programs.
- Create a comprehensive property inventory for potential program development.
- Facilitate a forum to develop a perspective and strategy related to information sharing and referrals.
- Create an outreach and livability sub-committee of the homeless commission to focus just on short-term needs of the homeless. This committee could become the hub for helping centralize and coordinate outreach services.
- Establish a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Rogue Retreat to help provide coaching, consulting and training services.

Mid-Range (6 months) -

- Investigate potential ordinance updates to help create a pathway for program creation.
 - -Connect with Grants Pass and Medford for Code examples

Long Term (1 Year and longer)-

- Create an information sharing system between Community Based Organizations (CBO's) and the community.
 - -Check with UCAN on existing systems that could be tied into
- Create a job readiness program like Clean Sweep in Medford
 - -Talk to Rescue Mission and Samaritan Inn
- Create an Urban Campground
- Create a funding committee to help address long-term sustainability of homeless programs.
- Establish a Navigation Center and a Year Round Low barrier shelter.
- Conduct an annual Homeless Commission Retreat to Review/Readjust/Refocus community efforts- Quality Assurance

Other Goals the Community can help with:

- Find additional providers for seasonal and event weather shelter sites (both warming centers and cooling centers.
- Establish more medical and dental outreach into the community.

- Help establish more group housing programs (recovery houses, mental health houses, medical respite, senior housing, medically assisted treatment housing, etc.)
- Storage lockers for the homeless to store vital records.
- Lead with empathy.

Other recommendations:

- Establish a community livability team to provide outreach and work directly with the homeless and the community.
- Investigate Sprung Structures as a possibility for the Navigation Center. To learn more follow this link: https://www.sprung.com/
- More trauma informed training for CBO's/Community Leadership/Law Enforcement/and the general community.
- Create a collaborative grant fund with the Rural Continuum of Care (CoC) to help target grant funding into Roseburg for CBO's to stand up services.
- Create an ongoing Technical Assistance program through the Homeless Commission and the Rural CoC for the smaller grass roots groups in Roseburg. The assistance will help them grow and also increase their bandwidth for reporting and providing services as this work progresses.
- Create a community awareness campaign to show how big the homeless issue really is.
- Conduct relationship building activities between the City, County, CBO's. Grass Roots groups, and the homeless. There is a lot of hurt that is in the community and building positive relationships with each other will start the healing process.
- Engage with Umpqua Community College to help create student housing for homeless students.