

RESOLUTION NO. 17-29

A RESOLUTION DECLARING AN EMERGENCY AND EXEMPTING THE FATHER'S HEART STREET MINISTRY AND THE OREGON CITY RETIREMENT CENTER FROM PLANNING CODE REQUIREMENTS ON A TEMPORARY BASIS

WHEREAS, Oregon City Municipal Code (OCMC) 2.52.020 defines "emergencies" to include "any man-made or natural event or circumstance causing or threatening loss of life, injury to person or property, human suffering...., and includes, but is not limited to, severe weather"; and

WHEREAS, OCMC 2.52.040(L) authorizes the City, in cases of emergency to "order such other measures as are necessary for the protection of life or property, or for the recovery from the emergency"; and

WHEREAS, the City has received information from Clackamas County health officials and existing homeless service providers that there is a need for additional shelter resources during cold weather events; and

WHEREAS, The Father's Heart Street Ministry (TFHSM) located at 603 12th Street and the Oregon City Retirement Center (OCRC) located at 515 10th Street, have available resources and space to provided needed shelter during the extremely cold weather (Exhibit A); and

WHEREAS, in conjunction with Clackamas County Housing and Social Services, TFHSM and OCRC are willing to provide shelter in the existing facilities, and is not requesting any monetary commitment or reimbursement from the City; and

WHEREAS, TFHSM facility would house up to 49 individuals from 6 p.m. to 7 a.m. each day that the outside temperature is 33 degrees or below, including wind chill factor, as measured by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration during the duration of the emergency, from December 6, 2017 to March 15, 2017; and

WHEREAS, OCRC facility would house up to 16 individuals from 6 p.m. to 7 a.m. each day that the outside temperature is 33 degrees or below, including wind chill factor, as measured by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration during the duration of the emergency, from December 6, 2017 to March 15, 2017; and

WHEREAS, the forecast identifies freezing weather; and

WHEREAS, the forecasted weather events are natural events that threaten the loss of life, injury to person or property or human suffering; and

WHEREAS, the City Commission is concerned that the expected conditions will require immediate shelter needs, response by city staff and other measures that are currently unanticipated.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY OF OREGON CITY RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The Oregon City Commission hereby declares an emergency, limited to the Father's Heart Street Ministry (TFHSM) located at 603 12th Street and the Oregon City Retirement Center (OCRC) located at 515 10th Street, due to forecasted severe cold weather. Consistent with OCMC 2.52.070 and, by this resolution, the Commission declares an emergency until 7 a.m. Thursday, March 15, 2018.

Section 2. Based on the emergency identified above, the City Commission grants to TFHSM an exemption from the Oregon City Zoning Code for the sheltering of up to 49 individuals from 6 p.m. to 7 a.m. each day the temperature 33 degrees or below, including wind chill factor, for the duration of the emergency.

Based on the emergency identified above, the City Commission grants to OCRC an exemption from the Oregon City Zoning Code for the sheltering of up to 16 individuals from 6 p.m. to 7 a.m. each day the temperature 33 degrees or below, including wind chill factor, for the duration of the emergency.

Section 3. TFHSM and OCRC are authorized to temporarily provide shelter provided the facilities comply with the City of Oregon City and Clackamas Fire District #1 Temporary Emergency Policy (Exhibit B).

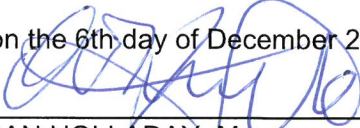
Section 4. City staff shall request, as necessary, any assistance required from other agencies, including the state of Oregon, Clackamas County, Clackamas County Fire District No. 1, the American Red Cross or other agencies.

Section 5. The City Commission adopts the following procedures to prevent, minimize, respond to or recover from the emergency consistent with OCMC 2.52.040:

- X L. Order such other measures as are necessary for the protection of life or property, or for the recovery from the emergency.

Section 6. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption by the City Commission.

Approved and adopted at the City Commission held on the 6th day of December 2017.

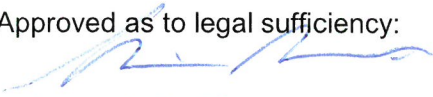


DAN HOLLADAY, Mayor

Attested to this 6th day of December 2017:



Kattie Riggs, City Recorder

Approved as to legal sufficiency:


City Attorney

From: [Brown, Vahid](#)
To: [Laura Terway](#)
Cc: [Swift, Richard](#); [Smith, Jill](#)
Subject: Father's Heart and warming shelter
Date: Tuesday, November 14, 2017 6:15:47 PM
Attachments: [image002.png](#)

Dear Laura,

Thank you for the short notice meeting this afternoon at the Father's Heart. I was not aware that coordination with Oregon City around our warming shelter planning had been inadequate and I apologize for our oversight. Looking forward, we will be seeking your guidance on the planning process to identify how we can work together to best meet the needs of unsheltered Oregon City residents seeking refuge from inclement winter weather.

With respect to the need, the Clackamas County Board of Commissioners voted unanimously on November 8th to declare an emergency with respect to houselessness in order to move expeditiously to address the needs for winter shelter (<http://www.clackamas.us/pressreleases/pr20171108a.html>). That decision was based on the following factors:

Last year, the County contracted with three warming shelter providers for a total capacity, in the event of severe winter weather, of 99 shelter beds, half of which was at the Father's Heart. Over the course of that winter, 547 people accessed our contracted shelters. The Oregon City Residential Care center offered an additional 16 beds. In coordination with Multnomah County, people seeking shelter in Clackamas County beyond our contracted capacity were transported to Portland and Gresham shelter sites; on some nights this exceeded 100 individuals. Unsheltered families seeking shelter were directed to the Human Solutions no turn-away family shelter in Portland; in a given year, that included more than 50 families. All told, we experienced an overall shelter need for nearly 1000 people.

Earlier this year, our second largest warming shelter provider, the Clackamas Service Center, experienced a fire and will not be operational this winter. Our third warming shelter, the Molalla Warming Center, has not yet secured a facility out of which to operate this year. The Human Solutions family shelter has found that it is beyond capacity and can no longer accept families from outside Multnomah County. Many of the sites we transported people to in Multnomah County last year will also not be running this year. We are thus at a serious deficit of resources for the provision of warming shelter, are expecting another bad winter, and have a County declaration of emergency to expedite our efforts to site new shelter for the coming cold nights.

When the OCRC was operating as an overflow shelter for the Father's Heart last winter, it received guests every night it was open. On other nights when it was not open, people seeking shelter at the Father's Heart beyond their capacity were transported to the Molalla Warming Center. In other words, the need in Oregon City consistently exceeded the available shelter beds at the Father's Heart on severe weather nights last winter.

On the same day that the County declared its emergency last week, a houseless woman residing in Oregon City within a few blocks of the Father's Heart died in a fire. Clackamas Fire has confirmed to me that this fire was due to warming activity – she and her partner, sleeping in a small tent, had left a candle burning to provide warmth. Clearly the cold weather, while not freezing, is already posing a life and health safety risk to Oregon City residents who lack housing.

As you and I discussed today, the County will seek to pursue a permanent solution via the planning process with your department. I have asked that a staff lead be identified for this work and will be briefing the staff tasked to this as early as tomorrow. I will seek with that staff lead to work closely with you on getting the conditional use process initiated as soon as possible. If we are able to identify other means by which we can move forward together with respect to the Father's Heart, we will of course welcome creative collaboration. Again, I am sorry that our coordination on this effort has been so late in coming, and I appreciate your help.

I look forward to discussing this further with you tomorrow.

All best,

Vahid Brown
Housing Policy Coordinator
Clackamas County
Health, Housing & Human Services
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Oregon City OR 97045
Office: 503-742-5345
Cell: 971-334-9870
Fax 503-655-8677
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The Father's Heart Emergency Warming Shelter is open 6pm -7am the following morning on any night that is 32 degrees including wind chill factor. It would also be open as an Emergency Warming Shelter any day that our Day Center would not normally be opened. Those days would be Saturday, Sunday and Monday.

We are located at 603 12th St., Oregon City in a Mixed-Use Corridor of Residential/Business. Our overnight maximum occupancy is 49. We are open for the warming and safety of single women, single men, women with children, families and elderly.

The Emergency Warming Shelter provides a heated shelter, a light dinner, hot beverages, a mat and blanket to sleep on. We also provide restroom facilities, television, computer access and free wifi service.

For the services we provide for our clients, Clackamas county pays a fee per person staying overnight in the Emergency Warming Shelter.

On November 8th, when Clackamas County declared an emergency to provide shelter for homeless individuals due to a lack of safe and warm shelter in Clackamas County. The county of Clackamas and the Federal government contracted with The Father's Heart Street Ministry to be open 6 nights a week with no temperature required due to the lack of safe, warm shelters for the homeless in Clackamas County. Recently, a life was lost in Oregon City due to trying to keep warm outdoors and the temperature was warmer than freezing, but still considerably cold, combined with rain and wind.

In effort to save lives, Clackamas County contracted with The Father's Heart to be a Warming Shelter from November 15, 2017 through March 15, 2018. The services provided by TFH would be the same as an Emergency Warming Shelter with the only difference being the temperature as a requirement to be open. This 4 month period of warming shelter would be subsidized by county and federal funding.

All employees and volunteers must provide background check information to work or volunteer at the warming shelter. There are two shifts. One the first being 5pm to midnight and the second being midnight to 7am. The first shift will be 2 employees with 4 additional volunteers from 6pm-10pm. Lights out at 10pm. The second shift will have either 2 employees or 1 employee and one volunteer to stay awake through the night for fire watch and supervision. Through both shifts, workers will be supervising and walking through the facility every 15-20 minutes.

The Father's Heart is experienced in quality services for those experiencing homelessness and at its core wants to provide life -saving services by providing warmth, safety, shelter, restroom facilities, mats, blankets and meal all with the compassion and dignity deserved by every race, gender identification and religion.



TEMPORARY EMERGENCY SHELTER POLICY

City of Oregon City and Clackamas Fire District #1 Joint Policy

The following policy is a collaboration between the City of Oregon City Building Official and the Clackamas Fire District #1 Fire Marshal for Temporary Warming Shelter's within the jurisdictional boundary of the Oregon City city limits.

This policy contains the minimal guidelines to allow a building not normally designated as an "R" (Residential) Occupancy (use of a building or structure, or a portion thereof, for sleeping purposes) to be used as a temporary shelter.

Registration:

Each year prior to opening as an emergency shelter the building manager shall contact the City of Oregon City Building Division to request approval. The approval will be subject to an on-site inspection to verify the building meets the minimum requirements of this policy. Written approval will be provided for building(s) being requested to be used as a Temporary Shelter. All buildings are subject to applicable Land Use Regulations and require written approval from the City of Oregon City Planning Division approving the use of the structure as a Temporary Shelter.

Time Limits:

If approved, a building may be used as a temporary shelter for a maximum of ninety (90) days within any twelve (12) month period of time beginning on the first (1st) day of occupancy or as approved by the local authority having jurisdiction. A thirty (30) day extension may be requested and will be reviewed by the authority having jurisdiction and a determination made depending on the weather requiring a need for additional temporary shelters availability.

Maximum Number of Occupants Allowed:

The maximum number of allowable temporary shelter occupants shall be calculated using an occupant load factor of one (1) individual for every thirty-five (35) square feet of room area.

Life Safety Requirements: The following minimum life safety requirements apply to all buildings being used as a temporary shelter.

1. Fire Sprinklers:

It is not necessary for a building to have fire sprinklers installed to allow it to be used as a temporary shelter. However, buildings with an approved fire sprinkler system installed may have sleeping located on any building or floor area.

In buildings without fire sprinklers installed, the temporary sleeping areas may only be located on the first (ground) or second floor. Sleeping areas are not permitted in basement areas of a non-fire-sprinklered building.

2. Smoke Alarms and Detection:

- All temporary shelter sleeping areas shall be provided with approved smoke alarms or a complete approved smoke detection system.
- All other areas of the building used for temporary shelter operations shall be equipped with smoke alarms or a smoke detection system as approved by the authority having jurisdiction.
- Smoke alarms or Smoke Detection may be battery operated.

3. Carbon Monoxide (CO) Alarms and Detection:

- All temporary shelter sleeping areas shall be provided with approved carbon monoxide alarms or a complete approved detection system in buildings that have a carbon monoxide source such as heater, fireplace, furnace, appliance or cooking source that uses, coal, wood, petroleum products and other fuels that emit carbon monoxide as a by-product of combustion. This would include buildings with an attached garage with a door, ductwork or ventilation shaft that communicates with the rooms intended for sleeping.
- Carbon monoxide maybe battery operated.

4. Means of Egress (Exits):

All floor levels with temporary shelter areas shall have a minimum of two means of egress (exits) from each floor level. All means of egress (exits) paths shall be maintained free of obstructions at all times. Exits from sleeping areas shall be as follows:

- Sleeping areas located on the ground floor of a temporary shelter with an occupant load of 49 or less shall have at least one (1) exit and at least one(1) window qualifying as an escape or rescue window as defined by the current Oregon Residential Specialty Code.
- All other floor levels used as temporary shelter sleeping areas that have an occupant load of ten (10) or more shall have at least two (2) exits from the area. The exits

serving the areas shall be separated by a distance equal to at least one-third (1/3) of the longest diagonal distance of the area.

5. Emergency Evacuation Plan:

All temporary shelters shall create and maintain an approved emergency evacuation plan which provides evacuation of all occupants in an emergency event. At a minimum, the emergency evacuation plan shall contain the following:

- Building floor plans. Building floor plans for each floor of the temporary shelter with sleeping areas clearly identified.
- Room size. The square footage of all rooms of the temporary shelter.
- Egress (exit) path. Building floor plans shall clearly show the egress (exit) paths from all areas of the temporary shelter. Egress (exit) path floor plans shall be posted throughout the temporary shelter.
- Life-safety systems. The emergency evacuation plan shall also include information about the fire sprinkler system, fire alarm system of the smoke detection systems.
- Location of the required fire extinguishers placed within the building.

6. Fire Extinguishers:

- Appropriately sized fire extinguishers shall be placed adjacent to the means of egress with clearly marked indicators as to the location.

7. Fire Watch:

- During sleeping hours a fire watch shall be maintained continuously. This means at least one responsible person at least 18 years of age shall be awake and assigned this responsibility. The fire watch person shall be equipped with a working flash light and have access to a phone or carry a cell phone on their person.

8. Smoking or Open Flames:

- Smoking shall not be allowed at any time inside the temporary shelter.
- Open flames shall not be allowed within the temporary shelter except for approved cooking appliance which require a flame for combustion fuel to operate.

9. Documentation:

- Documentation of all fire safety requirements including copies of the temporary shelter evacuation plan shall be maintained on site and shall be available for review at the request of the authority having jurisdiction.

10. Responsible Person In Charge:

- The authority having jurisdiction shall be notified of the Responsible Person In Charge of the temporary shelter and be provided with a means of contact. An alternate Responsible Person In Charge may be listed.

- The responsible Person In Charge is responsible to maintain the list of the aforementioned requirements are complied with.

11. Revocation:

- Failure to maintain the minimum requirements of the policy can result in the temporary shelter approval being revoked by the authority having jurisdiction.

City of Oregon City Building Official

Date

City of Oregon City Community Development Director

Date

Clackamas Fire District #1 Fire Marshal

Date