

## TEMS June 4, 2020 Virtual T-Town Hall Attendee Questions

Jannie Diez-Martinez 06:10 PM

Why are they starting construction if we were told the decision is not final yet for this proposed site?

Bguerra 06:10 PM

Why did the council decide to put the camp in an already depressed area rather than in a more prosperous part of the city?

Rebecca Byrd 06:11 PM

What is the vetting process? What is the length of stay? What is the capacity?

Emanuel Dorsey 06:13 PM

why were both in the hilltop area not in north tacoma

Bguerra 06:14 PM

Historically housing efforts that spread low income residents across the city have been more successful than putting large concentrations of low income people in one area. (Hence the large public housing projects of the 60s were replaced by section 8 housing vouchers.) Wouldn't it be better to make multiple small camps?

Bguerra 06:15 PM

What services will be available to the camp residents?

Emanuel Dorsey 06:15 PM

why did you tell the public before eastside area

Anonymous Attendee 06:15 PM

You mention that an important component is community involvement/integration. Given this location, is this community involvement truly the goal? If so, how is it possible given this location?

Anonymous Attendee 06:15 PM

As a resident of the Eastside on McKinley Hill. I have experience with the remoteness and lack of access to services (grocery stores, hospitals, community centers) as well as the poor walk-ability of this neighborhood. How does this new location serve the individuals who will live there better than the current location? Will the city also invest in the McKinley Hill neighborhood to make it better for everyone?

Justin Robinson 06:19 PM

What steps will be taken to ensure the safety of the neighborhood locations including the large park nearby?

Justin Robinson 06:19 PM

What possibility will there be for volunteering opportunities for local residents?

Aaron Blanchard 06:20 PM

Will there be a fence other than the 4 foot fence encompassing the property? If so, will there be privacy slats?

Mike Reffalt 06:20 PM

I support city efforts to address homelessness.

Asha Bhaga 06:20 PM

1) can you share more information about the "report" that mentioned at the council meeting last week?

2) last week was the first council meeting I have attended. Why were public comments not read last week related to this issue?

Aaron Blanchard 06:20 PM

Is the entrance going to be off McKinley or 60th st?

Aaron Blanchard 06:21 PM

Will more lighting to added to the area?

Anonymous Attendee 06:22 PM

We personally feel like this won't be temporary shelter, why don't you try different location? Why is it that shelters like this is always near low income communities?

83268112678 06:22 PM

Will the people living in the encampment be held accountable for keeping the area clean? If they do not keep it clean what will the be done?

Amy Peggram 06:25 PM

I am homeless right now, and been on coordinated entry, MDC because I am disabled how does this new site help me get back on my feet.

linda 06:26 PM

Did Tacoma Rail and Metro Parks have input regarding neighbors

Jannie Diez-Martinez 06:27 PM

12/63 residents were placed into homes, 19% is still a very low number. In regards to compliance, what does that actually mean? Are they complying with the drug use policy, are they getting drug tested?

Mike Reffalt 06:27 PM

However I am not supportive of the process that eliminated the possibility of community input prior to the council signing the contract. After the fact transparency feels like smoke and mirrors. City is going to have to work hard to earn trust again in neighborhood. TEMS needs to focus on supporting Eastside

residents, neighbors and homeless. Eastside has longstanding issues with this and they need to be addressed, issues exist outside of the TEMS encampment and the TEMS can not just be assumed to solve all the issues. Also have concerns about the size of the TEMS and if sufficient support exists on the Eastside to service the density of customers the shelters are expecting

Anonymous Attendee 06:27 PM

CM Ushka, What were the option locations on the short list and why were they not chosen? Eastside got screwed again. You can kiss the Stewart Heights Park activity a bust.... very disappointed!!! Under the dark of Covid....

Jeff Mehlert 06:28 PM

Just a comment. I'm a life long Tacoma resident and business owner. I'm proud to be associated with Eric Davis, Ronny Brown and the team working to give respectful shelter to the homeless at the 8th & MLK location. I will continue to support TEMS and recruit others to do the same, regardless of the location. I want to thank and congratulate the city, the mayor and council members for their courage to provide this opportunity to those in need. You have my full support on this measure.

Anonymous Attendee 06:31 PM

I live by the site and there are clearly workers on the site. The site is marked for utility inputs...why are they saying there is no work being done? Also, they cleared the field (which hadn't been mowed in years) in early March. Leading us to believe they knew long ago that this was going to happen and very little engagement was done to make the community aware. Also, why was this approved during the COVID emergency? What meetings were these decisions made at (dates)...why wasn't there better engagement?

Anonymous Attendee 06:36 PM

When they leave the site, they will stay on the East Side. We are already seeing increased traffic on 72nd and McKinley

Jannie Diez-Martinez 06:36 PM

Why does the city website say that these stability sites do not conduct background checks, but Eric Davis said that they do. Which is it? You also did not address how you are enforcing your drug/alcohol policy (eg. drug testing).

Bguerra 06:36 PM

Is LIHI a public, a non-profit or a private for profit organization?

CM Gunther 06:36 PM

As part of your communication outreach, have you considered a FAQ or info sheet on the different myths of discrimination that the public often has towards the homeless? It often helps. Everyone deserves dignity.

Rwylder 06:37 PM

This site was an old lumber mill. Has the soil been tested for contamination with oils and coriosol and other cancer causing agents?

Jessica - Friends of Stewart Heights 06:37 PM

Can you go back to the last slide? It was not up long enough to read.

63rd St 06:38 PM

Is it true that the residents to live on this site will not have a background check done?

Pierce County Young Democrat 06:39 PM

I'm sorry I came late, so I may have missed this. One question, one comment:

1. Are there any houses available to families? And if so, how are the children connected to the schools they will attend nearby?

Thank you all for your work, we look forward to having these new members of the Eastside community!

Anderson 06:40 PM

We're told to contact Tacoma311 with concerns, but the response time is noted as 5-7 business days, with extension dot covid. How can we expect that platform to be heard in a timely manner?

Liz Huizar 06:40 PM

How is parking handle?

Jessica - Friends of Stewart Heights 06:41 PM

To clarify, the screen after the image with the bed was up too quickly to read. Thanks - Jessica, Friends of Stewart Heights

Pierce County Young Democrat 06:42 PM

Thank you to the residents for sharing your story with us, you're brave and strong people. Best of luck in your journey!

Anonymous Attendee 06:43 PM

I live by the site and there are clearly workers on the site. The site is marked for utility inputs...why are they saying there is no work being done? They cleared the site in early March, the site had not been mowed for years. Leads me to believe they knew long ago that this was going to happen and very little engagement done to make the community aware of what was being placed in our community

Anonymous Attendee 06:43 PM

So if you have served over 1000 people a year for the last 3+ and have gotten 650 people into permanent housing. What has happened to the remaining people (would guess approx 2300+) go when their time is up in the program?

Mike Reffalt 06:43 PM

Where will parking be for residents?

Anonymous Attendee 06:43 PM

There was a slide shown briefly about the process/policies for tenants, can we see that again or go over the details?

Anonymous Attendee 06:43 PM

About 65% of those who completed an exit survey for the Hilltop TEMS site are potentially homeless (includes those with unknown status). How do the outcomes of this site compare to other emergency shelter (ex. Seattle) and stability sites, and does this suggest it as a good continued use of tax dollars after the initial pilot?

Justin Robinson 06:44 PM

If residents have an automobile how will that be handled?

Anonymous Attendee 06:44 PM

I have a question about property values for homes near the location. This area of town has a very different socio-economic make-up than places like the North End. If this can lower property values, do you think it is ultimately furthering the socio-economic gap by placing this shelter in this part of town?

63rd St 06:44 PM

Also, how was this location chosen as a "more adequate" location when it is directly behind Stewart Heights park, a public pool, and a couple blocks from an elementary school? Many children live here and many hard working citizens have invested in this neighborhood trying to move up, progress and give our children a better environment to live.

I am not against helping people, but given the location, how are the members going to be better off when grocery stores are not walking distance, doctors or clinics and so on with basic necessities that these residents NEED.

Anonymous Attendee 06:44 PM

Why was this decision made during the COVID emergency? What council meetings was this discussed at (dates). Also, the clerk's office advised that they were going to send neighbors postcards about it. None of my neighbors or family received this notification. When was it issued? How many residents did it go out to?

Anonymous Attendee 06:47 PM

THA have any other sites in the Northend?

Anonymous Attendee 06:47 PM

Nice no answer?

Anonymous Attendee 06:47 PM

Comment - we do not want our neighborhood to turn into the hill top. People on the Hill asked for services for their neighborhood and their people, and what ended up happening is their neighborhood got dumped into. With north end and west end residents needing services ending up living in their parks.

Kelly Lynch 06:48 PM

If everything is provided on-site how will this allow residents to build relationships with their neighbors? If this is temporary, I would think that building community outside of the TEMS site is vital for success. How will you address this?

Tracy Jones 06:49 PM

Good evening, my name is Tracy Jones, founder and ceo of Shepherd's Transformation Mansions Communities for People of Color. Are programs are wrap around trauma inform care, with education, employment, and life skills. How can our program partnership with the new low income housing?

Anonymous Attendee 06:49 PM

Great, how does stop them from walking to our already shady Chevron location and using drugs/alcohol...do you monitor for signs of use? And what does the program do to ensure that people being removed from the site do not end back up on the streets. Because most likely, they will end up staying in our neighborhood

Jay 06:49 PM

Now that this has been forced upon us, does this mean our street will be filled with these poeple pan handling local residents all hours of the day?..

Kelly Lynch 06:50 PM

Does the city have any plans around walk-ability and pedestrian safety for this site?

Devin Rydel Kelly 06:51 PM

I love expanding the Temporary Emergency Shelters, in both the East Side and in the North Side. Also, I'm wondering if we can lower costs on order to expand services in this time of crisis. For instance, since the number of incidents at the MLK site (and I believe at other LIHI sites), are so low, couldn't we end some of the policies driving up costs (such as 24- hour security and gating)? expanding services should be the primary goal, right?

Aaron Blanchard 06:51 PM

How are these people going to spend their time? I worry that they might be tempted to leave the location and the nearest store is Earthwise Salvage, my place of employment. While we encourage people to browse our store, the covid crisis makes it problematic. I assume these people will be able to come and go as they please. How can we be sure these folks aren't tempted to spend time in local businesses without intent to buy things, increasing the risk of covid? Also, we are excited to meet our new neighbors.

tony palagruti 06:51 PM

why were we not notified about this movement before it started. there was no notification at the proposed site on the fence. Did the city council already vote on this without resident notice

Anonymous Attendee 06:51 PM

Question for Josh and Eric. How can we as neighbors support or volunteer with the village set up and once it is up and running?

jeffery elmore 06:52 PM

What is the application process to live in the TEMS?

Anonymous Attendee 06:52 PM

The response to questions about "why this part of town" seem insufficient. The real question is, why not put it in a wealthy part of town? I feel like we know the answer... no one would allow it. It feels like taking advantage of lower income areas.

Anonymous Attendee 06:53 PM

Are my questions regarding engagement not constructive?

Emanuel Dorsey 06:53 PM

who owns the lihi. We would like to know is it private or public own.

Anonymous Attendee 06:53 PM

I came in pretty skeptical. However, after this I feel more confident. How can I get involved?

Anonymous Attendee 06:53 PM

What's an acceptable background check and one that doesn't qualify?

Tracy Jones 06:54 PM

Comment: Homeless family near local school aid in stabilizing the childrens lives. So it is very important to intergate homeless individual into the community no inclusion.

Anonymous Attendee 06:59 PM

How do y'all think about over-policing and too much surveillance? Have any residents provided feedback about that?

Anonymous Attendee 07:03 PM

do you know how many current TEMS residents were formerly camped in People's Park?

Laura 07:03 PM

A background check is given, will sex offenders be ruled out of this housing program?

Larry Carter 07:07 PM

This proposal will place another tiny home development in what are two historically impoverished neighborhoods. Based upon these factors, it appears as though it is yet another tactical approach to keep "poverty" far away from historically "well to do" white neighborhoods. Resources in the North End area are more plentiful than that of this particular portion of the East Side. So is this another instance of "the squeaky wheel gets the oil?"

Also, if residents are asked to leave the tiny home development, where will they go, and what will be your response to insure the neighborhoods do not become overrun with homelessness?

Anonymous Attendee 07:08 PM

What is the predicted impact on increase/decrease property value with this new development? My guess is the nearby properties will decrease in value. Most new owner will probably decline to purchase a property nearby unless it's a firesale. I understand that no area is perfect and we need homeless programs. I don't mean to sound selfish, but this is a concern of my neighbors and me

linda 07:08 PM

Give us a cost for next year? Will THA repay the taxpayers for the installation and site infrastructure costs for this site?

Anonymous Attendee 07:10 PM

what will the people be doing during the day.

Ramona 07:10 PM

Our question to the panel do you have any homeless shelters in your communities around your children and grandchildren? It appears that you have already began the construction of the micro shelters. We see the construction has already began. Therefore, what is the purpose of this meeting it seems that the city has made a decision.. How will this project effect our property value and taxes? We are disappointed homeowners and the project is ongoing and the decision has been made with our our consideration and voices.

Lenall Battle 07:11 PM

Is there a curfew time for occupants to come and go and will there be a manager on site at all times?

Annette Bryan 07:11 PM

I did visit the site Monday and was impressed with how it was ran

Tracy Jones 07:12 PM

Tracy j from STMC POC this is the problem all over the nation, separation of races. if others do not want people of color in their neighborhoods, will the govern release public property to people of color communities, iaw §1303. Disposition of surplus real property

(a) .-In this section, the term "federal agency" means an executive department, independent



establishment, commission, board, bureau, division, or office in the executive branch, or other agency of the Federal

Government, including wholly owned Government corporations.

(b) A-

(1) A.-When the President, on the recommendation of the Administrator of General

Services, or the federal agency having control of any real property the agency acquires that is located outside of the

District of Columbia, other than military or naval reservations, declares the property to be surplus to the needs of the

agency, the Administrator-

(A) may

pat walsh 07:12 PM

what was wrong with the area of so. 16th - so. 19th & so. fawcett

Lenall Battle 07:15 PM

Will the city be liable for any negative impact or injury as a result of the placement of this shelter?

Anonymous Attendee 07:17 PM

What is the education level of the residents at the MLK TEMS site?

Kristin Ely 07:18 PM

From Shelters inbox:

While I appreciate the need to help others less fortunate, I own a house less than a mile away at 70th and McKinley and I don't feel safe having a shelter so close.

Also, I feel that the burden of helping the homeless should be shared across Tacoma neighborhoods and echo the commenter who also raised that concern. Find a way to put these Micro shelters in the North and West end where they have more resources. Do not just dump these in the East end because it's convenient and they don't think there will be a blowback. Equity.

Again, I do not feel safe with this project so close. In the two years I've lived in my home, I have questioned people who appear to be loitering near my property.

Two actually tried to set up an encampment tent in the empty lot next to me on Monday (the property owner demolished, but has not rebuilt). I asked what they were doing and they didn't respond. Another adult came up to help them with the tent, then he saw me doing yard work and asked if I could pay him to.

Kristin Ely 07:19 PM

help. I didn't feel safe with people camping in an empty lot next to me, so I told him to tell them to leave immediately or I would have to call the police because they were loitering. I showed him I was on the phone and they packed up the tent, shopping carts and left.

I worry about crime rates going up and property value going down. I worry about kids in the neighborhood and their safety. Not everyone who has fallen on hard times has a drug, alcohol or abuse problem, but many do.

I just happen to be teleworking during the pandemic, so I see more people who appear to be homeless in the area.

I feel bad for them and know the community has a moral obligation to help others, but not at property owners expense. I've worked hard to have a home. I should matter too.

Sincerely,

Nailah Shami

Lenall Battle 07:20 PM

How close to the site location does those making the decision on the placement live? Why wasn't the community informed before now!

Annette Bryan 07:21 PM

Wonderful! Thank you!

Ina Battle 07:21 PM

In the end, this meeting was very pointless, in that it has shown what we already knew and that is the decision for this site has already been made. You all have not shown good faith and have been very deceptive.

Anderson 07:23 PM

What about overflow? Are we to expect overflow to seep into Stewart Heights Park?

Anonymous Attendee 07:26 PM

How much profit does LIHI make because it not state own

Laura 07:28 PM

Please address these topics- are pets allowed? Are visitors allowed on the site?

Anonymous Attendee 07:29 PM

Comment - It feels like you all waited to do this engagement during the emergency because you knew we would want to discuss this further

Anonymous Attendee 07:29 PM

What was the homeless rate before covid and now? you didn't address the emergency?

Anonymous Attendee 07:29 PM

Engagment should have begun when you signed the contract with Michael Mirra

Pierce County Young Democrat 07:30 PM

What will happen to the tiny homes that are at MLK? Will they be used elsewhere?

Tracy Jones 07:31 PM

Tracy jones STMC POC, can other organization get the same quick access to property to aid in the fight of POC inequality?

Anonymous Attendee 07:31 PM

Have the Parks Dept been involved in this planning? Stewart Heights Parks (normally) has sports practices, skaters as well as walkers who use this park and bathroom facilities.

Ina Battle 07:31 PM

This is not an emergancy, the govonor said "shelter in place". Why do you have to leave that locationif its been so great?

linda 07:31 PM

Can there be a good neighbor agreement with the neighborhood?

Anonymous Attendee 07:32 PM

Did you get the sense of neighbors being pissed! This is Justice?

Daniel Heath 06:10 PM

I am concerned about the lack of resources in the area. We want the residents to be successful in moving from emergency housing to permanent housing, but the area has no clinic, no AA, and is a food desert. How will the city address these issues for the residents?

This question has been answered live

Ramona 06:17 PM

James and Ramona Womack we live at 410 East 60th Street Tacoma, WA 98404 since 1961. We do not support the city decision to build low income housing or lomelessness in our community. The location is across the street from a day care sandwiched between three elementary schools. Concordian, Sherdian, and Fawcett school. We would like to protest the location and fill it should bne relocated to the North end. We support all homelessness and have empathy for their conditions.

This question has been answered live

Mr Battle 06:22 PM

What power do the security of the facility have and how can they enforce that authority?

This question has been answered live

Bguerra 06:28 PM

Will the McKinley site be dry housing or wet housing? What does the code of conduct that you mentioned consist of?

This question has been answered live

Anonymous Attendee 06:31 PM

How do you measure crime rates before and during the TEMS?

This question has been answered live

Anonymous Attendee 06:32 PM

How many of the Hilltop TEMS residents have moved into permanent housing and how many are back on the streets?

This question has been answered live

Anonymous Attendee 06:33 PM

What were the crime rates before and after the establishment of the MLK site?

This question has been answered live

Anonymous Attendee 06:35 PM

Comment - why is it that all services are constantly being placed in communities of color? It's great THA allowed the city to rent the site for free but, why is it that all services are always placed in communities of color? What we don't want on the East Side is what happened on the Hill...people in the community ask for resources for OUR community and then we bombard the neighborhood with services and suddenly we're overan with every communities homeless population etc

This question has been answered live

Asha Bhaga 06:37 PM

What efforts has council made to seek opportunities for shelters/low-income housing options in areas that have historically benefitted from Tacoma's redlining practices? What role has the Office of Equity and Human Rights played in the decision to move this shelter to the Eastside?

This question has been answered live

Megan Capes (she/her) 06:37 PM

As Linda Stewart mentioned, the current shelter capacity woefully does not meet the current need. This site is incredibly expensively— due to the wraparound services model, which is great but not every houseless folks need that nor does it fill that gap in a big way with that amount of money.

Why will the City not look into alternative inexpensive models like tent cities or sanctioned encampments?

For the people left unhoused due to lack of shelter capacity what will the City do to protect their safety and basic needs? Right now unsheltered people are struggling with access to 24- hour accessible bathrooms.

This question has been answered live

Jennifer Davidson 06:48 PM

Do residents have internet access?

This question has been answered live

Anonymous Attendee 06:54 PM

To be clear -- is the site temporary? Or is the program meant to be temporary for the residents?

This question has been answered live

Aaron Kuehlwein 06:55 PM

Is this a step toward permanent low income housing? How long do you plan on keeping the tiny houses before you break ground for permanent low income housing.

This question has been answered live

Veronica Bean 06:56 PM

I live on Hilltop, approximately one block from the current site. I have noticed absolutely no problems from the tiny house village being in the neighborhood, and feel very safe living close by. And, this is coming from someone who uses public transit and walks for my transportation, so I walk by the current site frequently, even late at night (before Covid, I would sometime arrive home from school as late as 1am) and always felt safe.

This question has been answered live

Alyssa Torrez 06:57 PM

What is the City doing to address the root causes of homelessness while these temps are operating? So that we won't continue to need them

This question has been answered live

Anonymous Attendee 06:57 PM

What happens to the individuals that do not abide by the rules to get into the site? Are all of them referred to other services and what is your rate of success in this?

This question has been answered live

Anonymous Attendee 06:57 PM

Do you anticipate home values to decrease in the area when this is implemented? And if so what is the plan to address that?

This question has been answered live

Anonymous Attendee 06:58 PM

Does the MLK site offer 3 meals a day?

This question has been answered live

Annette Bryan 07:07 PM

Sorry I'm late, there's a lot going on. The Tribe would like to have a meeting about this. We are neighbors and must work together and communicate about these placements on the fringes of the Reservation.

This question has been answered live

Anonymous Attendee 06:14 PM

There is a substantial difference between Hilltop and East Tacoma neighborhoods. Hilltop is much closer to healthcare resources, whereas the Eastside is a service desert. How would you ensure that those that use the 60th and McKinley TEMS site would have the necessary resources provided to them?

Emanuel Dorsey 06:17 PM

this is next to a school and daycare

Mike Reffalt 06:19 PM

CM Ushka

CM Gunther 06:22 PM

Question for the two Councilors. Have either of you spent any meaningful time at the Hilltop village, or at the Nativity House shelter, in order to understand the homeless from their own point of view or hurts?

Jannie Diez-Martinez 06:23 PM

Why 60th and McKinley when you had a list of sites that you were considering? If the reason is because it is free, then that answer is irresponsible for the residents in this community.

Tracy Jones 06:25 PM

How can a new nonprofit faith base program partnership for new site?

Anderson 06:28 PM

Can we discuss a clean up and continued maintenance along the railroad tracks and surrounding area?

Anonymous Attendee 06:29 PM

Any concerns about being 2 blocks from an elementary school? doesn't sound like you care about our kids?

Ramona 06:33 PM

When do we get to speak?

Jennifer Davidson 06:34 PM

Thank you for the work you do, Eric. I appreciate your humanity.

Anonymous Attendee 06:43 PM

What's the average stay at a tiny home? by testimony, doesn't sound temporary?

Anonymous Attendee 06:43 PM

I'm concerned about this location from the perspective of possible residents. There is little business besides corner stores here, how is this type of food desert realistic or helpful for houseless folks?

Emanuel Dorsey 06:49 PM

How will you enforce that

Iris Figueroa 06:49 PM

Will sex offenders be allowed to live in those tiny houses?

Ramona 06:49 PM

James and Ramona want to want to be on video

Aaron Kuehlwein 06:50 PM

my name is Aaron Kuehlwein and I live directly across the street from the site @ 820 E. 60th. This neighborhood has been opposed to low income housing since long before 2007 when i moved here. Isnt it true that

Anonymous Attendee 06:54 PM

Are these local residents? or transplants?

Anonymous Attendee 06:59 PM

If the camp was located near services you wouldn't

Anonymous Attendee 06:59 PM

If the camp was located near services

Anonymous Attendee 06:59 PM

If the camp was located near grocery you wouldn't have the added cost of meals?

Aaron Kuehlwein 07:01 PM

why do we not have a voice in what happens to our neighborhood? This is an outrage, seems like a perfect opportunity to do whatever you want in our neighborhood. We have opposed this for decades and you are taking steps quickly to do this while we are muted in the "corona virus" lockdown with no venue to have a community meeting. Aaron Kuehlwein

Anonymous Attendee 07:01 PM

What's the daily total cost per TEMS resident?

Tracy Jones 07:04 PM

so what do people of color who lives on all sides of wa state?

Anonymous Attendee 07:04 PM

Beale / Ushka, If you drink, tonight I might suggest a bottle!

Aaron Kuehlwein 07:05 PM

Council members please state if you live across the street from a homeless camp? Aaron Kuehlwein

Aaron Kuehlwein 07:06 PM

Why cant this meeting be tabled until the neighborhood has a voice at a neighborhood meeting? Aaron Kuehlwein

Lenall Battle 07:06 PM

Have the city mete all the boundry requirments with respect to daycares, schools, etc. how is drug or alcohol abuse of occupants handled when its done outside of the shelter?

Ramona 07:25 PM

This meeting was not informative - we are go to walk our dog.