Tacoma Emergency
Micro-Shelter Site Update

Study Session
September 29, 2020
Agenda

• Background
• Location
• Budget
• Timeline
• Outreach and Communication
Background

**Point in Time Count**

Pierce County: 1,897 individuals  
Tacoma: 544 individuals

**Shelter Capacity**

City Manager’s goal: expand shelter capacity by 100 units by the end of 2020.  
Current expansion: 169 and with additional units 209
Background

Encampment Response:

Recently reported encampment activity in the vicinity of S. 12th to N. 21st; Pearl to Stevens

www.cityoftacoma.org/encampmentmap
Background

• What is a Micro-Shelter Site?
• Emergency Micro-shelter site at 8th and MLK opened in December 2019 – operated thru July 2020
  • 65 clients; 15 exits to housing
• E. 60th and McKinley opened July 2020
  • 68 clients; 5 exits to housing
Location

• First Christian Church property, 602 N. Orchard

• No more than 40 housing units

• On-site restrooms, laundry and showers included

• Fully fenced with secure gate access
Budget

• Start up $615k to $680k (dependent on site development requirements)
• Operations site management and services $1.9 Mil (thru July 2023)
  • Services include case management, on site security, meals, client assistance and transportation

• Funding
  • ESG COVID-19 funding
  • CARES Act funding distributed by the State for new shelter beds
Timeline

• October 7th Virtual Town Hall

• October-November
  • Council authorization of property lease agreement and site operator contract
  • Site development and construction

• Early December
  • Fully operational and residents moving in
  • Community Advisory Committee meetings begin
Outreach and Communication

- September 15: Council Study Session Project Introduction
- September 15: Councilmember Hines Press Release
- September 16: Councilmember Hines and staff at WENC
- September 28-October 1: Phone calls to area residents and businesses
- October 7: Virtual Town Hall
  - Postcards mailed September 25th (S. 12th-N. 21st; Pearl-Stevens)
- Volunteers invited and encouraged - Site set up, food and clothing donations
- Community Advisory Council (CAC) - Regularly scheduled meetings
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