

EUGENE CITY COUNCIL

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY



Public Hearing and Possible Action: An Ordinance Amending the Permitted Overnight Sleeping ("Rest Stop") Pilot Program Provisions Adopted by Ordinance No. 20517

Meeting Date: December 8, 2014
Department: City Manager's Office
www.eugene-or.gov

Agenda Item Number: 6
Contact: Michael Kinnison
Phone: 541-682-5009

ISSUE STATEMENT

This public hearing is being held on a proposed amendment to Ordinance No. 20517, an Ordinance Concerning Permitted Overnight Sleeping, to allow the City Manager discretion to grant an expansion in capacity from 15 to 20 persons at an approved rest stop that has operated in good standing for at least six months.

BACKGROUND

On September 23, 2013, the City Council approved Ordinance No. 20517, an Ordinance Concerning Permitted Overnight Sleeping, permitting up to 15 persons to sleep overnight in a car, tent, camper, trailer or Conestoga hut on a site leased by the City of Eugene, a religious institution, a non-profit organization, or a business located on property zoned commercial or industrial. Before a site may be occupied, the site must be approved by the City Council and an agreement executed between the City and the entity providing supervision, garbage and toilets at no cost to the City.

On October 28, 2013, the City Council approved a site on City-owned property on the northwest corner of Roosevelt Boulevard and North Garfield Street and two sites on City-owned property near the corner of Northwest Expressway and Chambers Street. The City has an agreement with the non-profit organization Community Supported Shelters (CSS) to manage these sites. Two of the sites have been opened since December 2013, and a third site is scheduled to open in December 2014, with a focus on homeless veterans. CSS has proven to be an effective site manager with no considerable increase in reported criminal activity in the vicinity of the sites and no complaints from nearby neighbors. The sites have proven to be a safe, well-managed temporary sheltering option for the unhoused and CSS maintains a waitlist for those wishing to use the sites.

Community Supported Shelters has an interest in piloting an expansion in capacity at the Roosevelt and Garfield site. The proposed amendment would give the City Manager discretion to grant approval of a site manager's request to increase capacity at a rest stop up to 20 persons. Qualifying sites must have been operating in good standing for at least six months.

RELATED CITY POLICIES

Eugene Code 4.815 Prohibited Camping and Eugene Code 4.816 Permitted Camping.

COUNCIL OPTIONS

The council may choose to take action at the public hearing or schedule action for the December 10 work session.

CITY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION

The City Manager recommends amending the ordinance as proposed.

SUGGESTED MOTION

Move to amend Ordinance No. 20517, An Ordinance Concerning Permitted Overnight Sleeping, to allow the City Manager discretion to increase the allowable capacity from 15 to 20 persons at a rest stop that has operated in good standing for at least six months.

ATTACHMENT

A. Proposed Ordinance

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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