

# EUGENE CITY COUNCIL

## AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY



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Action: An Ordinance Adopting the “Dusk to Dawn” Permitted Overnight Sleeping Pilot Program

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Meeting Date: November 23, 2015  
Department: Central Services  
[www.eugene-or.gov](http://www.eugene-or.gov)

Agenda Item Number: 5  
Staff Contact: Mia Cariaga  
Contact Telephone Number: 541-682-5408

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### ISSUE STATEMENT

This is an opportunity for the council to deliberate and take action on an ordinance that permits a “dusk to dawn” overnight sleeping pilot program.

### BACKGROUND

Over a number of years, the City of Eugene has been collaborating with governmental partners and other agencies to address homelessness in the region. While the City works to move towards a Housing First model and establish more affordable housing units as permanent solutions, the City also regularly evaluates and develops temporary programs that can be implemented more immediately. Opportunity Village, pilot rest stops, car camping, and use of Conestoga huts are all examples of transitional housing programs implemented in recent years. More information on the City’s efforts are outlined in the attached memo. In addition to the efforts named, in 2015 the City and Lane County partnered to add two more rest stops on County-owned property.

In order to provide an additional resource to the community, the council is considering another pilot program called “Dusk to Dawn.” Modeled after the original rest stop concept, the Dusk to Dawn ordinance would allow for council-approved sites to be used between the hours of 8:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. as sanctioned places to sleep. Sites could not be in residential areas or close to schools and must be on property owned or leased by the City of Eugene. The City will be responsible for site operation either directly or by contract.

This concept has been discussed at the Poverty and Homelessness Board Winter Strategies Subcommittee and is one of a few ideas developed by that group. Mayor Kitty Piercy introduced the concept at a press conference in which she announced a resolution calling for State attention to the issue of homelessness. She also called on land owners willing to offer an eligible Dusk to Dawn site to come forward. The City is working to establish a site before the end of the calendar year, if the council chooses to move forward with the program.

A public hearing on this ordinance was held on November 16, 2015. Eight people testified, all in support of the proposed ordinance. Several requested that the council consider alternate time parameters for dusk to dawn camping, to allow users to set up camp before it gets dark and to remain in the camp until daytime facilities that provide services, shelter and warmth are open to

the public.

In its post-hearing comments, the council expressed support for considering alternate options for camp hours. Both staff and the community are engaged in efforts to identify an appropriate site.

### **COUNCIL OPTIONS**

The council may adopt, modify or decline to adopt the proposed ordinance.

### **CITY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION**

The City Manager recommends council adoption of the ordinance.

### **SUGGESTED MOTION**

Move to adopt Council Bill 5149, adopting the "Dusk to Dawn" Permitted Overnight Sleeping Pilot Program.

### **ATTACHMENTS**

- A. Draft Ordinance
- B. 2014 Memo to Council on Efforts Related to Homelessness

### **FOR MORE INFORMATION**

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