

## RESOLUTION NO. 3376

**A RESOLUTION** of the City Council of the City of Bremerton, Washington, affirming the City's commitment to increasing shelter options in the City.

WHEREAS, the City is facing a rise in homelessness; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 9.32 of the Bremerton Municipal Code entitled "Unauthorized Camping" makes it unlawful for people to camp in any park or other public place; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit ruling in *Martin v. Boise* prohibits cities from enforcing ordinances that criminalize camping on all public property when there is no available shelter; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 9.32 of the Bremerton Municipal Code entitled "Unauthorized Camping" includes language that suspends enforcement of unauthorized camping in public places when there is no overnight shelter available; and

WHEREAS, without available shelter space, homeless encampments are likely to be established, resulting in unsanitary and unsafe conditions, both for the encampment residents and the surrounding community; and

WHEREAS, the City desires to ensure there will be available shelter space in the future to be able to enforce the ordinance banning unauthorized camping in public places; and

WHEREAS, the City needs the ability to rapidly meet current needs as well as respond to future changes in conditions regarding homelessness; and

WHEREAS, shelter options have been identified by the City's Administration and by community organizations; and

WHEREAS, it is in the City's best interests to continue to assess the feasibility of all shelter options being presented; NOW THEREFORE,

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BREMERTON, WASHINGTON,  
DOES HEREBY RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:

**SECTION 1.** The City Council of the City of Bremerton affirms that it is prudent and appropriate to have multiple organizations concurrently explore options to shelter our unhoused community members. We therefore authorize the City's Administration to continue developing its low barrier walk-up congregate shelter option at the Public Works Complex

located at 100 Oyster Bay Avenue North and encourage any organizations to present feasible options for shelters as an alternative to the City Administration's proposal.

**SECTION 2.** The City Council of the City of Bremerton establishes a goal to have a new shelter constructed and operating by Fall 2024.

**SECTION 3.** City Council approval is required for the following planning and development activities at the Oyster Bay Avenue North site. These activities are broken into the following minimum number of phases, with each phase requiring separate approval by the City Council:

1. Execute a contract with a consultant to complete all design and permitting for grading, utility construction, and related site improvements for the City-owned parcels immediately north of the Public Works Complex at 100 Oyster Bay Avenue North which are parcel nos. 3748-001-007-0200 and 3748-001-005-0202. All work completed under this contract will be forward-compatible with the use of this property for Public Works purposes; however, the permitting and State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) process activities will include development of the low barrier walk-up congregate shelter to evaluate feasibility of this site for that purpose, should the City Council approve the shelter development at this site in the future.
2. Award a contract to construct all grading, utilities and related site improvements outlined in Item 1 above, which are forward-compatible with the use of the property for Public Works purposes.
3. Execute a contract with a consultant to complete all design and permitting for a low barrier walk-up congregate shelter, and related site improvements.
4. Award a contract to construct the low barrier walk-up congregate shelter outlined in Item 3 above.

The City Council expects updates on the status of each phase prior to proceeding to further phases. It is the intent of the City Council to review other available options as the City progresses through the development feasibility process, including but not limited to the Hybrid Shelter Alternative as proposed at the City Council Study Session on January 10, 2024.

**SECTION 4.** The City Council of the City of Bremerton encourages other organizations to explore and plan other shelter options for City Council consideration.

**SECTION 5.** The City Council encourages the City's Administration to pursue grants to fund the construction and operation of a low-barrier walk-up congregate shelter at 100 Oyster Bay Avenue North. The City Council acknowledges that the plan developed by the Administration currently considers a contribution of \$1,100,000 in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) grant funding as the only non-utility City funds for the shelter development, with all remaining construction costs to be provided by grants or other sources.

**SECTION 6.** The City Council encourages the City's Administration and any organization proposing a shelter to develop operations plans for their respective shelter options.



**SECTION 7. Severability.** If any one or more sections, subsections, or sentences of this Resolution are held to be unconstitutional or invalid, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portion of this Resolution and the same shall remain in full force and effect.

**SECTION 8. Effective Date.** This Resolution shall take effect and be in force immediately upon its passage.

PASSED by the City Council of the City of Bremerton, Washington this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2024.

\_\_\_\_\_  
JENNIFER CHAMBERLIN, Council President

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
KYLIE J. FINNELL, City Attorney

\_\_\_\_\_  
ANGELA HOOVER, City Clerk

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**Published for  
December 13  
Study Session**

**PRESENTATION**



# APPROVE HOMELESS SHELTER DEVELOPMENT

City Council Study Session  
12/13/2023

# Agenda

- Project Status
- Site Evaluation and Selection
- Review Timeline and Critical Dates
- RPM Shelter Analysis
- Neighborhood Objections
- Cost Estimates
- Alternative Summary

# Project Status

- City reviewed potential sites and selected the Oyster Bay Property
- The City currently has two contracts for this project
  - Parametrix Contract for 30% design of site development
    - Includes conceptual layout for a site that could be used for any of the three shelter types
    - Includes understanding scope of site grading, cost of grading, stormwater needs, access to site, and draft site development permitting documents
    - Staff is currently working with PMX to finalize a layout concept for further development
  - RPM Contract for Shelter Type Analysis
- SEPA and other permitting will begin once a shelter type has been selected
  - Existing reports and investigations are being used to inform feasibility and cost of the 30% design, but more detailed reports will be required for permitting

# Site Evaluation Criteria

Criteria used to evaluate site feasibility:

- Ownership - owned by City
- Size - Useable area of 1 acre, minimum
- Existing use
- Zoning – must allow construction of a hotel
- Critical Area Review
- Readiness - What improvements are needed to prep the site?
- Access - Is the site accessible from an existing right of way?
- Transit/Transportation and Resource Accessibility
- Timing - How quickly can the site be ready?

One site met this criteria

# Sites Evaluated

City staff reviewed the comprehensive property list prepared by the City Auditor and eliminated properties that did not meet the most basic criteria.

- Size – under 1 acre
- Existing use – parks, wells, pump stations
- Zoning – utility land, etc.

4 properties were identified for further evaluation (*summaries of evaluations shown here*)





## Site Selected – Property north of PW&U Facility

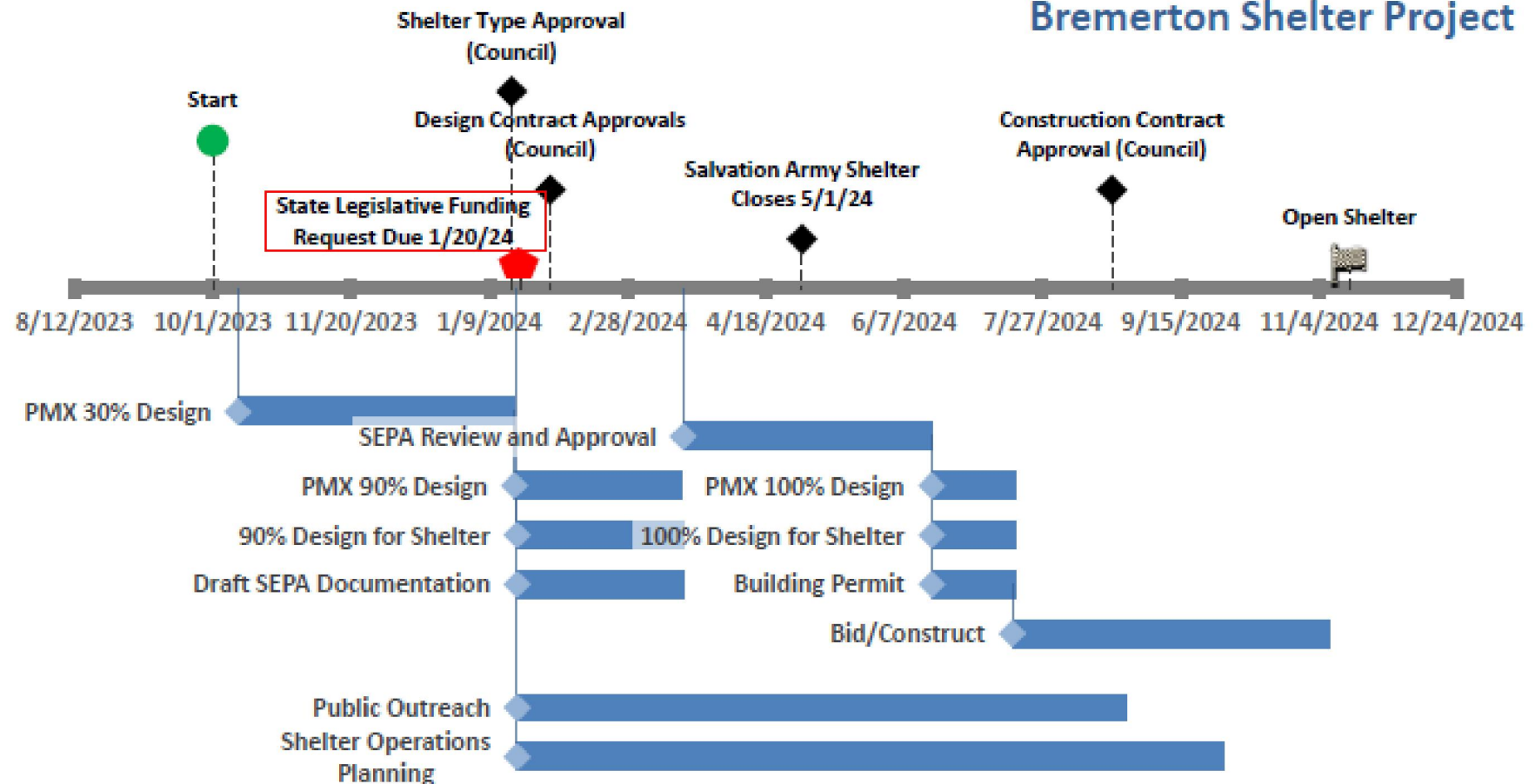


Site: Property North of PW&U Oyster Bay Facility

- Large enough (at least 1 acre)
- Appropriate zoning (General Commercial)
- Adjacent to KT route and within walking distance of several routes on Kitsap Way
- Near other resources such as health care and food
- Grading and site preparation needed for shelter development and access
- Grading is forward compatible with future use of site by Public Works & Utilities
- Full site not needed for PW&U expansion in the immediate future

# Timeline

## Bremerton Shelter Project



Concern	Response
Site selection process done without regard to neighborhood	All sites have surrounding neighborhoods
Crime will increase	RPM has included response, shelter design will include safety features
Lack of public outreach	A public outreach plan will be included with consultant contracts for shelter/site design
City bypassing SEPA and permitting	SEPA and permitting will be completed; design will address aesthetics and other City zoning design requirements
Construction during rainy season	Construction not planned until late summer
Lack of plan to mitigate neighborhood impacts	City will address neighborhood impacts through the design of the shelter and with operations planning – Council will provide oversight as milestones such as contracts, grants, and budget adjustments come forward for approval
Taking on Kitsap County's plan	The City has taken full advantage of Kitsap County's plans to expedite the project, however, the shelter will be sized and designed for Bremerton's use
Lack of transparency	City brought project to public's attention at earliest stage of development with full transparency and will continue to do so
Another site was preferred by consultant	The site at the Wastewater Treatment Plant was eliminated due to several issues – the cost and timeline for street improvements to provide access is prohibitive. Would include the purchase of a property
Current conditions at Salvation Army would come to neighborhood (milling, personal items, trash)	The recommended shelter is a self-contained campus, it would have an internal waiting room, a secure exterior courtyard, and would provide services to clients only

# RPM Presentation

The RPM Team is a consultant for homelessness programs and a design firm involved in developing and constructing Navigation Shelters.

RPM has reviewed the scope of the homelessness issue in Bremerton and has evaluated 3 shelter types that could be implemented at the Oyster Bay site. They will now present their findings and recommendation.

## RPM Team Introductions

David Renard, *President*

Cruz Avila, *Homeless Operations and Programs Principal*



# Potential Costs

*Order of magnitude costs, not budgetary*

*Based on 100 beds*

	Pallet Community	Sprung Shelter	Tent Encampment
Site Grading Design & Construction	\$3,000,000	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000
Shelter Capital Costs	\$3,600,000	\$3,400,000	\$1,150,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$6,600,000</b>	<b>\$5,400,000</b>	<b>\$3,150,000</b>

Operations and maintenance costs for each shelter type not fully understood, however some considerations include:

- Sprung shelter likely has the lowest operations costs due to the efficiency of the space for both staffing and energy costs
- Pallet will have a higher maintenance cost due to construction from less durable materials, and the number of individual units that must be maintained (heat/ac, locks, windows, doors etc.)

# Alternative Summary

Issue / Feature	Shelter Type		
	Congregate Sprung Shelter	Pallet Community	Regulated Encampment
Likelihood to immediately fill resulting in inability to enforce No Camping Ordinance	Low	High	Unknown
Potential for on-site drug or alcohol use	Low	High	High
Dignified housing that communicates compassion for residents/value of residents	Yes	Yes	No
Climate controlled environment/year-round protection from weather	Yes	Yes	No
Construction cost for 100 beds at Oyster Bay Site (Note 1)	\$5.4M	\$6.6M	\$3.2M
Operations and maintenance cost (Note 2)	Low	High	N/A
Shelter expected life (years, Note 3)	50	15	N/A
Can incorporate architectural features (glazed entryway, vestibules, canopys, etc.)	Yes	No	N/A
Facilities centralized in one space - can use restroom without going outside	Yes	No	No
Shelter can be re-purposed	Yes	No	N/A

## Notes:

- 1) Additional beds can be added at essentially no cost with a Sprung Shelter; site expansion required with a Pallet Community.
- 2) O&M cost not currently quantified, but expected to be much higher for Pallet since each Pallet unit has it's own 2,700W heater and 8,000 BTU AC unit, has non-code compliant insulating R value, and is fabricated of less durable materials. Code compliance is also a consideration.
- 3) Shelter life per discussions with RPM and Pallet. Note that Sprung Structures warrants the skin at 25-years, and the structure at 50-years. Pallet Shelters warrants their structures against manufacturing defects for 2 years.

# Questions?





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# Sustainable Low-Barrier Emergency Shelter Proposal



# Consideration for proposal

## The city has no current sustainable emergency shelter plan.

We are in the unfortunate situation where our region does not have a sustainable low-barrier emergency shelter plan in place. Until now, we have utilized stop-gap transient solutions that have proven unsustainable over the long term. Benevolent, generous organizations have stepped up to meet seasonal challenges during times of inclement weather or through the pandemic. However, we are still very much in a reactionary posture in terms of providing a sustainable and humane low barrier/rapid entry emergency shelter plan for our community. Ultimately, the goal would be to have emergency shelter options that

prepare people to move through the housing continuum leading to permanent housing.



(Recent Encampment)

## Proposal

A hybrid shelter option that includes an open air pallet type low-barrier emergency shelter for longer term transitional living combined with a small congregate shelter for quick and very short-term entry into the housing continuum is a viable solution to face this current challenge while preparing us for future situations ultimately leading to permanent homes for people exiting unhoused situations.

### **TWO LOCATIONS**

Any type of shelter over 60 beds in one location is difficult to manage and exacerbates risk to both those experiencing homelessness, staff, and surrounding communities. We are proposing two locations to decrease the overall impact to surrounding communities and increase reach to those we will serve (i.e. one on either side of our county). To further minimize impact and increase feasibility for this model, each location can be set up on as little as ½ an acre. Community outreach and community impact must be a part of the location selection process as well as the logistical necessities. Several locations have been identified for consideration.

### **HYBRID PALLET/QUONSET SHELTER MODEL**

Pallet shelters have proven success in providing safe and secure solutions, while simultaneously upholding the highest level of dignity for those being sheltered. Each Pallet shelter is 70sqft, providing plenty of space for up to two people (if necessary).



Combined with a small (20 bed) congregate shelter Quonset hut on one of the proposed locations allows for low-barrier rapid entry for those situations that we frequently encounter. The site includes access to bathrooms, water, heat/AC, and secure amnesty boxes all within a secure perimeter fence. 24/7 security with a single entry/exit point is recommended.



## **COST**

We have obtained cost estimates from Pallet and one 40-unit shelter area is \$1.4M including infrastructure. Quonset huts are very inexpensive and provide durability and low maintenance and are easily included in the estimate listed above. Two locations would cost approximately \$2.8M to \$3.5M based on estimates provided by PalletShelter.com (see attachment). Land acquisition, contracted security, and operational costs are not included in this estimate.

## **INTAKE AND CASE MANAGEMENT**

The process for access to an emergency shelter is equally as important as the physical structure itself. A holistic approach is considered here as we look to secure a housing first concept while simultaneously preparing each individual for their journey through the housing continuum with permanent and sustainable housing being the end goal. Keeping the goal in mind, each person will be assigned a case manager upon entry to determine how best to meet their unique needs. Depending on availability and time of entry, someone may enter into a Pallet shelter within the first 24hrs. If access is needed outside of typical working hours, they can be provided a safe warm bed within the Quonset hut immediately and then be assigned a Case Manager and entry into a Pallet shelter within 72hrs (for weekend entry).

Providing Case Management to each person is key to success and progress through the housing continuum. Emergency shelters are step one in a much longer journey for each individual. It is important that the expectation is set from the very beginning that this is a temporary stay where we encourage and support each person in finding more permanent solutions that we are working to create throughout our county. Through KCR and other supportive agencies such as Salvation Army and St. Vincent de Paul, collaborative efforts will be combined to find the most favorable outcomes

for each individual as they prepare their transition into permanent housing. When they are ready, opportunities for permanent housing will be provided through agencies that have subsidized housing and/or voucher rental assistance primarily our region's housing authorities.

## Conclusion

This model is a sustainable solution that can be utilized well into the future through collaboration with all partners along the housing continuum. Several organizations along the housing continuum should come together to We want to ensure we are poised to meet the challenges of tomorrow while simultaneously solving this immediate need. This solution will equip our community to move away from high-risk reactionary responses and to adopt more of a proactive posture when it comes to housing the most vulnerable in our community.



(Modular, durable construction allows for ease of construction and flexible deployment.)



(Addendum 1)



info@palletshelter.com

425-322-5122

Created Date 11/8/2023

Quote Number 00001839

Company Address 1930 Merrill Creek Pkwy, Suite A  
Everett, WA 98203  
USA

Bill To Name Bremerton Housing Authority

Ship To Bremerton, WA 98310

Contact Name Jill Stanton

Email jstanton@bremertonhousing.org

Ship To Name Bremerton Housing Authority

Product	Sales Price	Quantity	Total Price
S2 70 SQFT Sleeper	\$15,900.00	40.00	\$636,000.00
S2 120 SQFT Sleeper	\$20,600.00	4.00	\$82,400.00
120V 1500-2750 Watt Heater	\$635.00	44.00	\$27,940.00
A/C 6,000 BTU 120V with Install Kit	\$499.00	44.00	\$21,956.00
Twin XL Bed Frame	\$150.00	40.00	\$6,000.00
Twin XL Mattress	\$350.00	40.00	\$14,000.00
Assembly Services	\$1,100.00	44.00	\$48,400.00
2 Stall Bathroom Unit (Toilet, Shower, Sink in Each)	\$44,995.00	2.00	\$89,990.00
2 Stall Accessible Bathroom Unit (1 Full Bath, 1 Admin Half Bath)	\$44,995.00	1.00	\$44,995.00

Subtotal \$971,681.00

Tax \$91,786.66

Shipping and  
Handling \$26,000.00

Grand Total \$1,089,467.66

#### Notes

An 8,000 lbs. forklift with 8 foot forks will be needed onsite for delivery at the responsibility and cost of the customer. Pallet is not responsible for site grading, leveling of shelters, staking to the ground, or electrical connections to the shelters.

Prices are in USD. All taxes are estimates and are subject to change. Shipping includes import fees and is an estimate that is subject to change.

#### Terms and Conditions

*NOTICE: This Quote contains the preliminary non-binding terms of purchase and sale by and between Pallet PBC and the Customer listed above. This Quote does not constitute an offer to sell, and shall automatically expire sixty (60) calendar days from the date of issuance, unless terminated sooner by: (i) written notice from Pallet PBC to Customer; or (ii) upon the delivery of an SOW by Pallet PBC to Customer. All Pallet PBC materials, publications and websites are maintained as sources of general information and are not quotations or offers to sell. All clerical errors are subject to unilateral correction by Pallet PBC, in its sole discretion. Any order, written or verbal, based in any way on this Quote, shall not be binding on Pallet PBC. All orders shall be based on, and governed by, the terms and conditions of the applicable Master Product and Services Agreement Statement of Work ("SOW"), issued by Pallet PBC after a request for a purchase order from Customer. No agreement to purchase or sell products or services shall be binding upon Pallet PBC absent a written and executed SOW.*

## (Addendum 2)

Pallet Infrastructure Budget Estimate							
Site Specific Costs	Service	Service	# of Units	Labor Cost	Material Cost	Cost Per Unit	Total Cost
Unit Cost		See descriptions below and wiring diagrams in folder					
	Conduit run to subpanel in each unit and hardwire connection. This is either trenched, run along the ground, overhead, or occasionally is laid within a PTL walkway between structures	120v 30 amp service for each 70/120 SQFT Unit	32	\$ 700	\$ 200	\$ 900	\$ 28,800
		240v 150amp service for each standard bathroom (200amp breaker)	1	\$ 1,000	\$ 800	\$ 1,800	\$ 1,800
		240v 90amp service for each accessible bathroom	1	\$ 1,000	\$ 800	\$ 1,800	\$ 1,800
		240v 400amp split service for each Laundry (2 200amp breakers)	1	\$ 2,000	\$ 1,600	\$ 3,600	\$ 3,600
		(3) 120v 30amp connections for each 400 SQFT Unit, 2 120v and 1 240v for 800)	1	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,000	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500
	Water to bathrooms and laundry	See fixture value document, drawings, and installation guide.	3	\$ 6,000	\$ 2,000	\$ 8,000	\$ 24,000
	Sewer from bathrooms/laundry	See drawings, and installation guide.	3	\$ 4,000	\$ 2,000	\$ 6,000	\$ 18,000
	Installation of toilets and sinks for bathrooms	2 toilets/sinks for each bathroom (these are provided but not installed by Pallet)	2	\$ 2,000		\$ 2,000	\$ 4,000
	Purchase and installation of Washer/Dryers (4 each per laundry)	Average cost is \$8k for washer/dryers. Installation varies	1	\$ 3,200	\$ 8,000	\$ 11,200	\$ 11,200
	Anchoring	4 per structure. 200 lbs for standard, 1200 lbs for HD on each corner (Florida, Coastal SE) of downward force on each corner of each unit (see infrastructure doc for specifics). Recommend duckbill anchors	144	\$ 30	\$ 20	\$ 50	\$ 7,200
	Concrete Pad for 400 SQFT Unit	4" concrete pad (see drawing for dimensions)	1	\$ 1,500	\$ 3,000	\$ 4,500	\$ 4,500
	Concrete Pad for 800 SQFT Unit	4" concrete pad (see drawing for dimensions)	0	\$ 3,000	\$ 6,000	\$ 9,000	\$ -
	Ramps leading into bathrooms, laundry	9.5" rise, 1 per accessible bathrooms, laundry structure. Recommend widely available aluminum ramp	2	\$ 300	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,300	\$ 4,600
	Stairs leading into bathrooms	9.5" rise, 2 per standard, 1 per accessible restroom	3	\$ 100	\$ 400	\$ 500	\$ 1,500
	ADA Ramps (1 per 20 64/100SQFT Units)	Common options are adjustable aluminum ramp, concrete/asphalt pad	2	\$ 25	\$ 100	\$ 125	\$ 250
	ADA Ramps for 400s/800s	Common options are adjustable aluminum ramp, concrete/asphalt pad. 2 per structure.	2	\$ 25	\$ 100	\$ 125	\$ 250
General Site Costs	Electrical service to site	Includes but not limited to electrical infrastructure upgrades, temp power poles, breaker boxes for site. Refer to electrical service calculator for electrical requirement estimate		\$ 46,200	\$ 50,050		\$ 96,250
	Site grading (if necessary)	Site should be relatively flat, either gravel, concrete, or asphalt		\$ 30,000			\$ 30,000
	Site clearing	If necessary, removing existing structures, debris, etc		\$ 5,000			\$ 5,000
	Privacy fencing around site perimeter	Cost for fencing varies by location		\$ 3,753	\$ 8,757		\$ 12,510
	Gating for ingress/egress	2 'people' gates with panic bars, one emergency vehicle access gate		\$ 1,000	\$ 5,000		\$ 6,000
	Lighting for site	Lights along walkways and overhead if not present		\$ 6,400	\$ 6,400		\$ 12,800
	ADA Walking Paths	If site is not concrete/asphalt		\$ 1,600	\$ 960		\$ 2,560
	Basic hardscape/gravel and striping for staff and resident parking			\$ 1,500	\$ 500		\$ 2,000
	Seating, shade structures				\$ 4,800		\$ 4,800
	Pet Enclosure			\$ 500	\$ 2,000		\$ 2,500
	Forklift for delivery and assembly	Typical cost is ~\$500 per day. One day for every 10 64s, 100s, 2 days for each 400, for each 800. Labor is included in Pallet assembly services			\$ 2,240		\$ 2,240
	Trash Enclosure				\$ 7,000		\$ 7,000
	Permit fees	If required by city		\$ -	\$ -		\$ -
	Total						\$ 297,660.00

The items above represent a compilation of products and services commonly purchased and/or required in Pallet shelter villages. Every village site is unique and may involve different products and services. This list is neither comprehensive nor exhaustive; it is merely a tool to help plan for the different circumstances our customers may encounter in planning their Pallet village site.

**Published for  
December 13  
Study Session**

**ITEM A8 – Public Comments**



**From:** Anthony Ives <[aives@kcr.org](mailto:aives@kcr.org)>

**Sent:** Thursday, November 30, 2023 7:48 PM

**Cc:** Jill Stanton <[JStanton@bremertonhousing.org](mailto:JStanton@bremertonhousing.org)>; Joe Crain <[joe@svdpaul.org](mailto:joe@svdpaul.org)>

**Subject:** Other options

Dear Team,

Together, we have decided to share ideas with the Council. Over the last two months, this idea has been presented by a group of us that all have a vested interest in seeing this project succeed and assisting residents, all residents, of Kitsap County. There are always details to work out, and even there are alternatives to how this could get done. But we are confident that this is a viable approach.

We thank you for your attention and trust.

Go Seahawks!

Tony Ives  
Executive Director  
Kitsap Community Resources  
845 8<sup>th</sup> Street  
Bremerton, WA 98337  
[www.kcr.org](http://www.kcr.org)

360.473.2013 (office)

**From:** Keith Stuessi <keith.stuessi@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 7, 2023 7:58 PM  
**To:** City Council <City.Council@ci.bremerton.wa.us>  
**Subject:** Health Concerns with Congregate Shelter

City Council,

Please see attached letter that was published in the Kitsap Sun today.

I just want to make sure you are aware of the medical/health concerns with the proposed congregate shelters in Bremerton.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Very Respectfully,

Dr. Keith Stuessi, CAPT (Ret), USN

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### **Building a Congregate Shelter Endangers Bremerton's Public Health**

I appreciate the coverage the Sun has provided about the proposed homeless shelter plan but I am concerned that the City of Bremerton doesn't understand the significant health issues surrounding congregate shelters.

A congregate shelter has large open spaces with bunks for sleeping. It requires people to share showers and laundry and residents must exit each morning.

People experiencing homelessness disproportionately suffer from untreated chronic medical conditions and have barriers to accessing medical care. This means they are more vulnerable to outbreaks of highly communicable diseases such as COVID-19 and Hepatitis A, especially in open spaces like congregate shelters.

Disease outbreaks don't stay within a shelter. In another Navy town, San Diego, they experienced a major outbreak of Hepatitis A in 2017 that started with the unhoused. It resulted in 592 cases and 20 deaths. San Diego is a bigger city, but Bremerton should keep these numbers in mind – an outbreak that began with the unhoused took \$12 million dollars and two years to get under control. It affected all City sidewalks, parks, libraries, and any business or service where people touched a shared resource.

Congregate shelters have become an undesirable solution due to health and safety concerns and often come with insurmountable barriers for those experiencing homelessness. A better option is multiple small pallet shelter facilities that provide a place to return each night, offer flexibility in treating health outbreaks and put the unhoused on the pathway to permanent housing.

Dr. Keith Stuessi, CAPT (Ret), USN  
1434 Madrona Point Drive  
Bremerton, WA 98312  
(760) 331 - 7203

**From:** Bree Medley <bree@brandtdesigninc.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, December 8, 2023 8:31 AM  
**To:** City Council <City.Council@ci.bremerton.wa.us>; Anna Mockler  
<Anna.Mockler@ci.bremerton.wa.us>  
**Subject:** Bremerton's Homeless Shelter

Council members,

Thank you for the time you gave to your constituents at Wednesday night's council meeting. The issue of housing our unhoused citizens is a hugely important issue and I do hope that you will demand clear, well planned and meaningful solution of the Mayor. This is too important to be decided in a vacuum, after only one study session.

Respectfully,

Bree Medley  
The Brandt Design Group  
66 Bell Street, Unit #1  
Seattle, WA 98121

[www.brandtdesigninc.com](http://www.brandtdesigninc.com)

206.239.0850 (o)  
206.595.9357 (c)

**From:** Joanna Hayes <joanna.s.hayes@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, December 11, 2023 2:08 PM  
**To:** City Council <City.Council@ci.bremerton.wa.us>  
**Subject:** Congregate shelter

Hello,

I read the proposal for a congregate shelter. At this point, I am frustrated. You and the mayor have received so much input and many excellent ideas. The council spent months over the summer debating the anti-camping legislation. The community has been telling you since July that a large congregate shelter will not meet the needs of this community. The Salvation Army shelter is rarely full, and many of our neighbors are still camping because that shelter does not meet their needs.

A large congregate shelter will not be effective. People do not feel safe and secure despite the best efforts in this type of shelter. Humans need privacy and a place to call their own if they are to begin accessing resources. Safety is paramount in the recovery process, and congregate shelters rarely meet this need.

I hope that, if this is the way that you go, you at least make it a 24-hour shelter with storage for residents' belongings and the ability to house pets safely and humanely. A walk-up congregate shelter is needed, but not one so large. The goal for a shelter such as this should be a brief stay until there is a slot into either permanent housing or long-term transitional housing such as a pallet shelter, a hotel room, or other similar options. It should be a short stop along the way to stable housing. It is not an adequate long-term option.

On that note, why aren't we putting an effort into saving the Quality Inn shelter? KRM has over a 100-person waitlist, while the Salvation Army often has open beds. Removing all those beds and moving them to Port Orchard with an increase of approximately ten spaces is a horrible idea. Port Orchard generally does not feel local to people who do not have cars. That is far away. It also will only help a few additional people. It has been treated as though all of those beds are new beds, but that is not true.

In making this decision, please consider listening to your neighbors, including unhoused people and those doing their best to help them despite limited resources. There are so many excellent options. Please consider this decision carefully.

Joie Hayes  
Kitsap ERACE coalition housing systems team co-chair

From: morashbob@netscape.net <morashbob@netscape.net>  
Sent: Saturday, December 9, 2023 5:48 PM  
To: City Council <City.Council@ci.bremerton.wa.us>  
Subject: Shelter for Homeless

6016 Peregrine Ct  
Bremerton, WA 98312  
December 9, 2023

Please see attached letter.

**City Council Office**

345 6th St., Suite 100  
Bremerton, WA 98337

Subj: A proposal for housing the homeless

Dear City Council,

Every day I see homeless men, and occasionally homeless women wandering the streets. I see sidewalk tents and broken down RVs. I here talk of building "tiny house" communities and purchasing hotels to temporarily house these homeless individuals.

When I have spoken with them their main concern is just having a place to sleep that provides shelter from the elements.

As a career military veteran with 31 years service in both the Army and the Navy I ask, **"Has anyone on the City Council considered the establishment of military style open bay barracks to provide shelter for these homeless people?"** An average World War 2 barracks would easily hold 40 individuals, providing them with a bunk, wall locker, footlocker, toilets, sinks, and showers. These facilities would be cheaper to build and maintain than the proposed tiny homes or temporary hotels.

Having a warm place to sleep and access to basic hygiene facilities would help provide a sense of dignity which is lost when living in the squaller of tent cities. What business would hire a person who hasn't bathed in over a week?

A paid janitorial staff could be recruited from the residents of these barracks communities. A Day Laborer pick-up site could be provided. City bus pick-up points could be established.

There would still be the problems of drug abuse and mental illness to deal with. A number of other issues would need to be addressed. However, they may be easier to deal with in the barracks environment than the tent cities.

There would still be a role for some tiny homes, such as for homeless married couples, especially those with children. Yet, the barracks approach would help deal with the large volume homeless men and women.

Respectfully,

Robert C. Morash

December 5, 2023

***ER 408 Communication***

***By Email Only***

Kylie J. Finnell, City Attorney  
345 6th Street, Suite 100  
Bremerton, WA 98337

Re: *City's Decision on Shelter Location Without SEPA Review*

Ms. Finnell:

Our firm represents JSP Ambrose LLC (“JSP”), who owns and operates the 216-unit Ambrose apartment complex located at 4520 through 4562 Bay Vista Boulevard (the “Ambrose Apartments”). The beneficial owners of the Ambrose Apartments also own and manage hundreds of units of market, workforce, and affordable housing in Kitsap County, and tens of thousands of units across the western United States.<sup>1</sup> We are writing to you on behalf of our client because of deep concerns with the process the City has used to site its new homeless shelter adjacent to Ambrose Apartments. To our understanding, the City has “decided” on a location that is known by parcel nos. 3748-001-005-0202 and/or 3748-001-007-0200 (the “Site”).<sup>2</sup> We would like to meet with you as soon as possible to discuss these concerns, which are expressed more fully below, along with potential solutions.

JSP is supportive of increasing housing options for low-income and vulnerable populations and has invested in many projects that do just this. However, the City’s process so far has been opaque, hurried, and seemingly without thorough consideration of the safety implications of siting a shelter in this location that is proximate to housing for many families and children. JSP’s offices are in downtown San Francisco, and so it has firsthand knowledge of the consequences if public safety issues are left unaddressed.

We are also troubled that the City appears to have ignored the requirements of Washington’s State Environmental Policy Act, Ch. 43.21C RCW (“SEPA”), in selecting the Site

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<sup>1</sup> These units include the [Wellington](#) and [Cascade Ridge](#) apartment complexes in Silverdale, and is undertaking construction of [570 additional apartment units](#) in Kitsap County.

<sup>2</sup> The “Phase 1” illustration on Slide 5 of the City’s October 11, 2023 presentation appears to contemplate all or part of the City’s project being sited on APN 3748-001-007-0200. However, Slide 4 of the same presentation appears to suggest that the selected area will include both that parcel and 3748-001-005-0202. It is disappointing that the City’s public documents do not even make clear on which parcels the City’s proposed project will be located. However, this letter assumes that the City is planning to use both parcels as the Site.

without first completing environmental review. The City appears to be proceeding in a manner that not only violates SEPA, but will result in significant adverse environmental impacts. SEPA requires the City to adequately consider all such impacts as well as alternative locations for the shelter prior to proceeding any further with the proposal.

***A. The City has Violated and Continues to Violate SEPA***

As you know, SEPA requires all local governments to analyze potential environmental impacts of their decisions, except where a specific decision is expressly exempted by statute or rule. RCW 43.21C.030; WAC 197-11-305. Actions subject to SEPA review are defined to include any “decision on a specific project, such as a construction or management activity located in a defined geographic area,” including those projects sponsored by local governments, not just those sponsored by private applicants. WAC 197-11-704(2)(a). Further, and perhaps most importantly, such review “shall be integrated with agency activities at the earliest possible time to ensure that planning and decisions reflect environmental values, to avoid delays later in the process, and to seek potential problems.” WAC 197-11-055(1). The law requires preparation of any “threshold determination and [EIS] at the earliest possible point in the decision-making progress, when the principal features of a proposal and its environmental impacts can be reasonably identified.” *Id.* at (2).

The City not only neglected to procedurally comply with SEPA when it “selected a site for development,” it is apparently now planning to also ignore SEPA on a continuing basis in December or January when “shelter type is selected.” *See* Site Development for Emergency Shelter presentation, City Council Study Session, Oct 11, 2023. The decision about where the proposed shelter should be located is one at which the proposal’s principal features and environmental impacts can certainly be identified, and that decision therefore required SEPA review. The City has publicly identified no applicable exemption from its obligations to undertake review prior to a siting decision, and therefore must return to the siting decision to review environmental impacts as required by law. Instead, the City appears to be proceeding on a path to determine all of the details of the proposal before it considers SEPA, which is at odds with the dictate that environmental review be completed as early as possible so that it can inform the decision-making process.

SEPA also requires that the City consider alternative locations. RCW 43.21C.030(c)(iii). This requirement obligates the City to consider other sites where the shelter’s services could be provided more effectively and with fewer environmental impacts. There is no legitimate reason why the City must limit itself to properties already in City ownership, especially when such sites are few and potentially environmentally problematic. Here, the City has selected a site with substantial trees, slopes, and sensitive neighbors. But with adequate review of alternatives, the City might identify alternative sites for lease or for sale where the shelter could be developed faster, more efficiently, less controversially and more sustainably.

***B. Locating the Shelter on the Site is Likely to Result in Significant Adverse Environmental Impacts***

Had the City undertaken legally required SEPA review as part of its siting decision, it would have observed a number of environmental issues with the site that indicate a high likelihood of significant adverse environmental impacts. The City has cited to a 2019 report that purports to



contain a “critical areas reconnaissance and preliminary hazardous materials review,” but the report is insufficient because it is outdated, not sufficiently detailed, and does not include any analysis of one of the two parcels (Parcel 005-02) that the City has selected as part of the site. *See* [Critical Areas Reconnaissance and Preliminary Hazardous Materials Review](#) prepared by Struck Environmental, Inc., and dated Aug. 21, 2019 (the “2019 Report”) (analyzing only parcel no. 3748-001-007-0200 and ignoring parcel no. 3748-001-005-0202.) Without an updated critical areas analysis in particular, the City is proceeding blind as to whether critical areas exist on the heavily wooded Site.

The following environmental issues have similarly not been appropriately reviewed and must be considered before the shelter project is advanced any further:

➤ **Stormwater and Impacts on Estuarine and Marine Wetland Habitats.** At present, the Site is apparently fully permeable. However, it is not clear whether the Site will be at all permeable in the finished condition with the shelter. By analyzing alternative sites, the City could have reviewed options where the shelter would not result in net loss of permeable surface coverage. Because the City did not perform such review, nonpoint source pollution of Oyster Bay (and harm to endangered Orcas and salmon) could increase unnecessarily. *See* 2019 Report at 3. (“Surface water runoff from the Property generally flows downgradient . . . to an outfall in Oyster Bay.”). *See* Appendix A, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Rendering of Estuarine and Marine Wetland Habitat Downhill from the Site.

➤ **Wetlands.** The public record indicates that the “subject property includes a closed depression that could retain surface water during the wet season.” *Id.* at 4. However, City’s studies of this depression are more than four years out of date, so it is unclear how the City can still be confident that the selection of this Site will not result in harm to delicate wetland habitats or their protected buffers. The City is required to complete this analysis.

➤ **Native and Protected Trees and Vegetation.** The Site is apparently densely vegetated, and contains municipal trees that may be protected by the City’s code. However, without SEPA review, it is not clear that the unvetted selection of this Site will cause the City to violate its obligations to select “a more appropriate site for replacement . . . when possible, in as close a proximity as spacing permits,” as required by BMC 13.10.080(c)(8); to comply with all applicable tree removal regulations set forth at BMC 20.14.190; and to preserve significant trees “to the greatest extent possible,” under BMC 20.50.050.d. *See* Appendix B, City Graphics of Vegetated Condition.

➤ **Critical Aquifer Recharge Areas.** The City has observed that all or part of the Site falls within a Category II Critical Aquifer Recharge Area, but has not analyzed whether the selection of a different location for the City’s project may have fewer adverse impacts on the aquifer than would creating additional impervious surface on the Site.

➤ **Slopes and Geotechnical Hazards.** The record indicates that all or part of the Site contains steep slope areas designated under the City’s critical areas ordinance as “geologic areas of concern/potential erosion hazard.” The City has not addressed whether erosion hazards will be exacerbated by the shelter. Further, such conditions will almost certainly raise the costs of the City developing the project on this Site. With adequate SEPA review, the City could find a location on flatter ground, thereby focusing the City’s limited resources on providing the shelter instead of on the geotechnical study and engineering that this Site will require.

**C. Conclusion**

Had the City opened the site selection process to the public as contemplated by SEPA, members of the public could have reminded City officials that the City need not restrict its search to sites currently owned by the City, where more grading and environmental impacts may be required. The City could lease, buy, or partner in providing a shelter site on a location that is already graded and impervious, would not require elimination of trees and vegetation, and better serves occupants and neighbors alike. Instead, if the City does not return to siting decision in order to make this decision in a manner compliant with SEPA, it is risking both significant adverse impacts to the environment and lawsuits from aggrieved families in the neighborhood.

Beyond just the Ambrose Apartments, JSP develops and provides housing across multiple states, and is adept at project design, development and management. To assist the City in finding a solution to this issue, JSP may even be able to offer to purchase the Site from the City so that the City could fund acquisition or leasing of another, more suitable site for the shelter.

***At your earliest convenience, we request a meeting (via videoconference or in person) with you, Mayor Wheeler, and any other City staff that you may feel appropriate. We support the City's goal of providing shelter to some of its most vulnerable citizens, but the City must also comply with its environmental obligations and consider public safety. We believe that a purchase of the property by JSP may provide a win-win solution that allows the City to adequately fund and efficiently construct a shelter in a location that has fewer environmental impacts and would be better for the City as a whole.***

Please process this letter as a written comment submitted during administrative review of the City's Project and add JSP Ambrose LLC (care of this law firm) to your list of Parties of Record for this Project. Please also accept this correspondence as JSP Ambrose LLC's formal request for an emailed (or USPS) copy of all public notices, decisions or environmental documents that may be prepared or issued in connection with the City's Project.<sup>3</sup>

Very truly yours,

*Josh Friedmann*

Josh Friedmann  
Attorney for JSP Ambrose, LLC

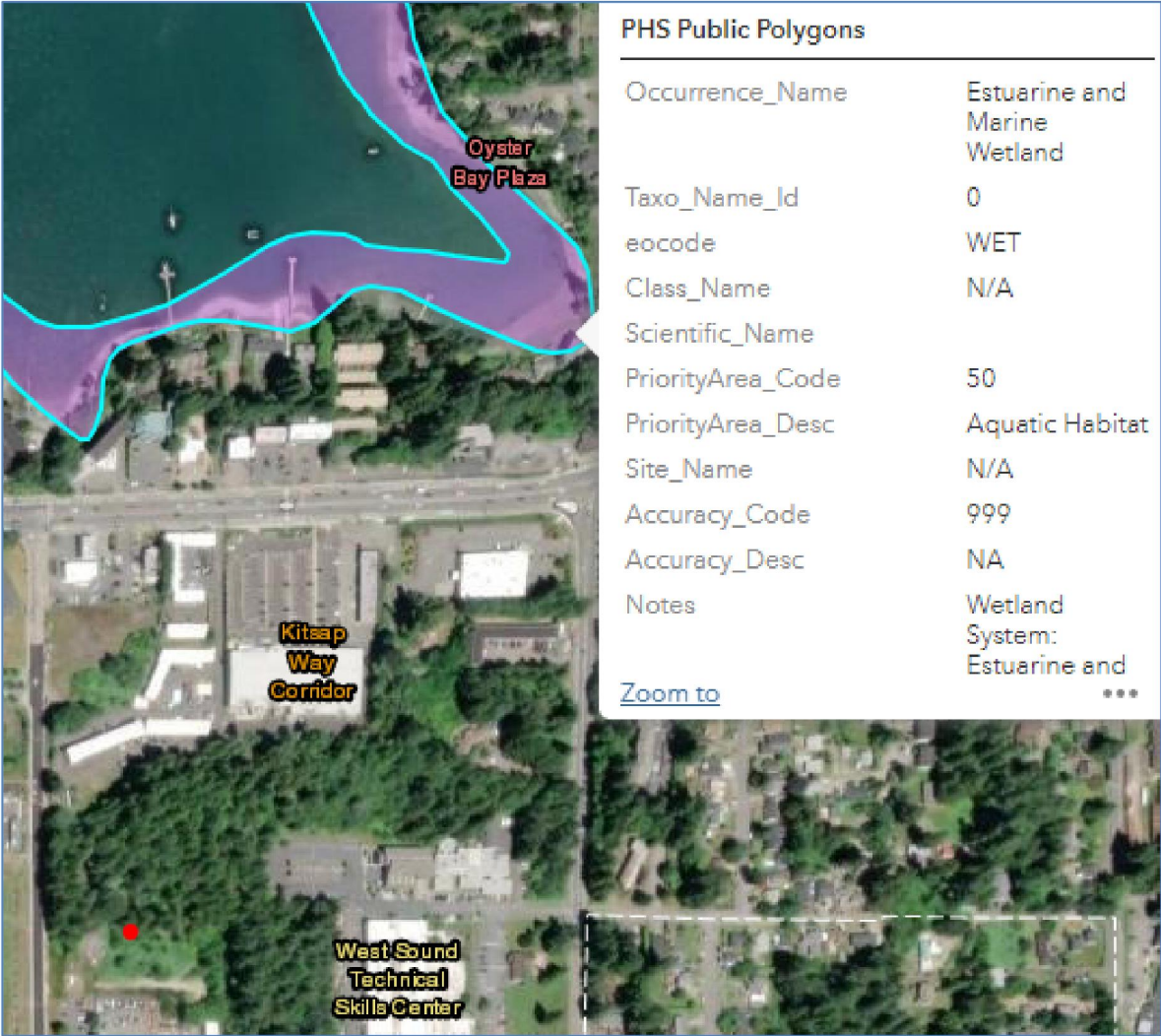
Josh.friedmann@hcmp.com  
(206) 470-7655

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<sup>3</sup> See, e.g., BMC 20.02.100(b)(8) and (c)(1)(v); 20.02.110(c)(1)(iii) and (f)(1)(iv); 20.02.130(b)(1)(ii); 20.02.030(g); 20.04.160; WAC 197-11-355(2)(a)(iv) and (2)(d)(ii); WAC 197-11-510(1)(g); and WAC 197-11-680(5)(b)(i).

APPENDIX A

**Figure 1: Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife’s rendering of Estuarine and Marine Wetland Habitat in Oyster Bay, immediately downgradient from the Site (marked with a small red circle)**





## APPENDIX B

**Figure 2: Depiction from the City's Oct. 11, 2023 presentation, showing the Site as partially if not fully treed.**



**Figure 3: The City's depiction of the Site's "Typical upland property conditions," as provided by the City's 2019 Report.**



**From:** Dianna Loiacano <dancingwolf2003@msn.com>

**Sent:** Wednesday, December 13, 2023 6:04 AM

**To:** City Council <City.Council@ci.bremerton.wa.us>

**Subject:** Homeless Encampment

I am not sure who will get this but, however I am wondering why you are choosing to grant a permit of any sort and allowing a Warehouse to be built, that would only allow those who are homeless to stay the night and then they are forced to leave in the day.

We are a first-time homeowner residing in the Bay Vista homes and like so many of my neighbors, we are trying very hard to wrap around our head's so many un-answered questions that the mayor was refusing to answer and refused to come to the meeting last night. We do understand that those who are homeless are in need during the cold. But then they will be pushed back out in the day. So much has been taken from these people who do reach out for help. We have always thought of our small-town as having the proper information that so many people who need it within our community could find. Not just throw the homeless aside like they are a pack of wolves. There are so many buildings being shut down, if not demolished that can be used for helping the homeless instead of building up apartments and condos. What happened to Bremerton and the compassion that was the reason for ships and good business? We do miss the old Bremerton. Please respond.

Dianna Loiacano



**From:** Jim short <[jimshort@comcast.net](mailto:jimshort@comcast.net)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 13, 2023 9:19 AM  
**To:** Anna Mockler <[Anna.Mockler@ci.bremerton.wa.us](mailto:Anna.Mockler@ci.bremerton.wa.us)>  
**Subject:** Oyster bay homeless camp

I urge you to try to get the council to reject mayor Wheelers proposal. Wheeler lied to us about the temporary nature and duration of moving the homeless into the motel on Kitsap way. We've all seen the zombies walking up and down the roadways including recently marine drive. Encouraging more is the same up by bay vista is beyond stupidity. "Build it and they will come " is a saying about baseball. Not about homeless camps. The enterprising people who've pulled themselves up to enjoying decent housing are about to get totally screwed by mayor wheeler. Kitsap way is the visible entrance to our once nice city. Putting a homeless facility there is so wrong. Please get the council to put a stop to this outrage

Thanks.

Jim Short - marine drive  
360 731 7012  
Sent from my iPhone

**From:** Lisa Levy <llevy@jspllc.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 13, 2023 2:23 PM  
**To:** City Council <City.Council@ci.bremerton.wa.us>  
**Subject:** 100 Oyster Bay Ave North - Proposed Shelter

Bremerton City Council –

I wanted to send an email before your study session this evening to highlight many of the Bay Vista Communities' concerns with the location of this proposed shelter. We hosted close to 60 community members last night to have an open discussion and in case it is helpful for your reference, this is a summary of several major concerns that residents and neighbors kept bringing up:

- There were 11 potential sites identified for this shelter, why is this the best location?
  - If resources will not be provided at this location and most are located downtown, how will the unhoused population get to and from here? Public transit is very limited. Is this additional cost to expand public transit included in the proposed costs?
  - Where will they go everyday as this shelter will force them to leave every morning? To the playground across the street? To the streets not built out for this much foot traffic?
  - Ambrose apartments is located .9 miles away from the closest school. The bus picks up only for children 1+ mile away. Will the children of this neighborhood need to pass this shelter every day on their way to and from school?
  - + for the many vulnerable senior citizens living in the area, how will safety concerns be addressed? We have been told to form a Neighborhood Watch as the Police are unstaffed and cannot help us here
- The company that builds these types of shelters has never done so in a residential neighborhood like Bay Vista
- The Salvation Army is currently open thru Q1/Q2 of 2024 and are **willing to stay open** if they receive the funding. This site is already built out and has 75 available beds but has never been full. This site is arguably much easier to access and much closer to all existing local resources and aid. Why did the Salvation Army not receive additional funding?
  - If the 75-bed existing shelter is not at capacity, why is there a proposal to build a 200+ bed shelter in a location with potential environmental concerns?
- Rock the Block has helped house 36+ individuals seeking assistance. They have requested additional funding and were denied. Why?
- Between Rock the Block, the Bremerton Housing Authority and the Salvation Army – their level of expertise on housing the unhoused population is far superior, so the community and its leadership should be asking the professionals about where a project like this should be sited

Thank you,

Lisa Levy  
Asset Manager  
Jackson Square Properties  
[655 Montgomery Street, Suite 1700](#)  
[San Francisco, CA 94111](#)  
Office: 415-273-2161  
Cell: 650-303-6442

**From:** Brittany Mellegard <bmellegard@msn.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 13, 2023 4:00 PM  
**To:** City Council <City.Council@ci.bremerton.wa.us>  
**Subject:** Community meeting 12/12 with Mayor Wheeler

Greetings City Council,

As you are aware, there is a proposal from Mayor Wheeler to build a sprung structure/homeless shelter in the Bay Vista neighborhood on Oyster Ave, which is currently slated to be voted on during the 12/20/23 city council meeting.

I feel it is important to highlight that Mayor Wheeler and Chief of Police Tom Wolfe had an agreement with the Ambrose apartments to have a community meeting on 12/12 at 5pm and a Q&A to which neither showed up last night.

It's already quite insulting that the neighborhood was not involved or communicated with regarding this project, but then to not show up to a planned meeting to address everyone's questions and concerns is not only discourteous but also extremely disrespectful to everyone's time. Many people waited for well over an hour.

As a neighborhood we already have concerns about this project, but then to be blatantly blown off by the mayor and the police chief only increases these concerns and further strains the relationship. We are frustrated by this incident and the lack of transparency from the mayor on this project overall.

I added a picture of the flyer below documenting their agreement with the Ambrose apartments to hold a community meeting at 5 pm on 12/12.

Thank you for your time.

Respectfully,

Brittany Mellegard  
A resident of Bay Vista



**Bremerton proposed homeless shelter –  
Meet with Mayor Greg Wheeler and Chief  
of Police Tom Wolfe**

We will be hosting a community meeting with Mayor Wheeler and  
Chief of Police Tom Wolfe on **Tuesday 12/12/23 at 5PM** at  
**Ambrose Apartments Clubhouse/Leasing Center**

(4520 Bay Vista Blvd, Bremerton)

**Let your voice be heard!** This will be an open forum. We invite  
everyone to attend and provide feedback on our community and our  
community's needs/safety.

Please visit our website for more information and future updates:

<https://bayvistacommunitycoalition.godaddysites.com/>

OR please use the QR Code:



**Published for  
January 10  
Study Session**

**PRESENTATION**





ADMINISTRATION  
RECOMMENDATION  
FOR SHELTER  
DEVELOPMENT

City Council Study Session  
1/10/2024

## Goal

- Provide shelter for those who accept it
- Allow the City to enforce our laws and protect our neighborhoods

## Agenda

- Review Shelter Recommendation & Coordinated Entry
- Review Timeline and Critical Dates
- Capital Cost Estimates
- Operations Discussion

# Alternative Summary

Issue / Feature	Shelter Type		
	Congregate Sprung Shelter	Pallet Community	Regulated Encampment
Likelihood to immediately fill resulting in inability to enforce No Camping Ordinance	Low	High	Unknown
Potential for on-site drug or alcohol use	Low	High	High
Dignified housing that communicates compassion for residents/value of residents	Yes	Yes	No
Climate controlled environment/year-round protection from weather	Yes	Yes	No
Construction cost for 100 beds at Oyster Bay Site (Note 1)	\$5.4M	\$6.6M	\$3.2M
Operations and maintenance cost (Note 2)	Low	High	N/A
Shelter expected life (years, Note 3)	50	15	N/A
Can incorporate architectural features (glazed entryway, vestibules, canopys, etc.)	Yes	No	N/A
Facilities centralized in one space - can use restroom without going outside	Yes	No	No
Shelter can be re-purposed	Yes	No	N/A

## Notes:

- 1) Additional beds can be added at essentially no cost with a Sprung Shelter; site expansion required with a Pallet Community.
- 2) O&M cost not currently quantified, but expected to be much higher for Pallet since each Pallet unit has it's own 2,700W heater and 8,000 BTU AC unit, has non-code compliant insulating R value, and is fabricated of less durable materials. Code compliance is also a consideration.
- 3) Shelter life per discussions with RPM and Pallet. Note that Sprung Structures warrants the skin at 25-years, and the structure at 50-years. Pallet Shelters warrants their structures against manufacturing defects for 2 years.

# Congregate Shelter Recommendation

- Build a congregate shelter with capacity of 100 persons
  - Low barrier walk-up facility that does not require coordinated entry
  - Goal is to always have beds available
- Shelter would operate as a 24/7 day and night shelter year-round with wrap around human services to connect folks to the care needed
  - Envisioned as the 1<sup>st</sup> step in a continuum of care with temporary stays as folks are stabilized and moved on to more transitional and permanent housing solutions
  - Provide safety net for those waiting for or ineligible for housing
  - Shelter site would operate as a closed campus with security and on-site outdoor areas for clients to be outside to prevent loitering in the neighborhood

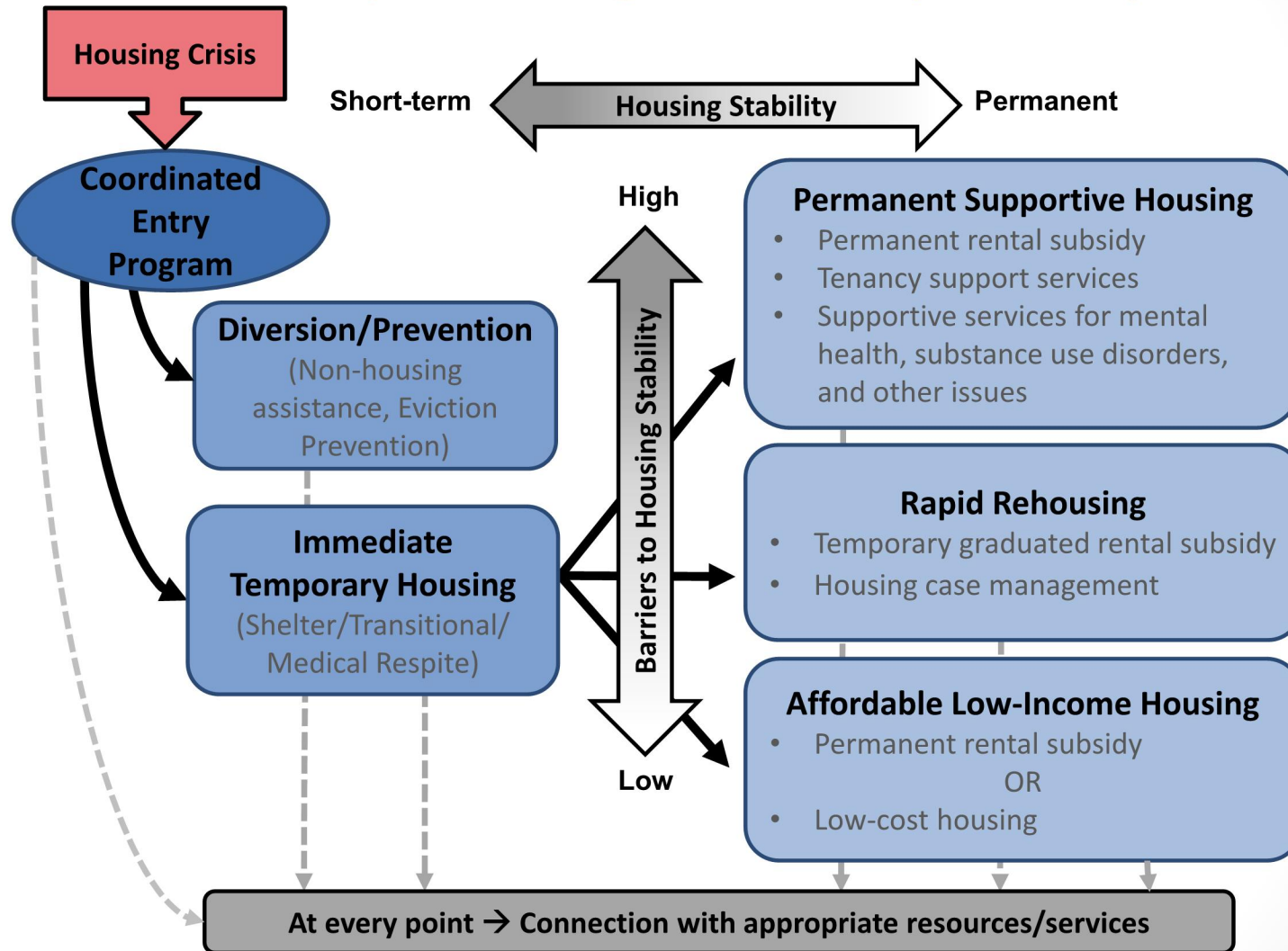


# Coordinated Entry

- Coordinated Entry (CE) is required by both State and Federal funding sources. Housing resources that receive public funding must use a CE program.
- CE is a system that centralizes and standardizes the process for people to connect with housing resources. It is intended to provide equity and to coordinate the work of multiple agencies within the housing resource space.
- For Kitsap County CE is administered by Kitsap Community Resources through the Housing Solutions program, with funding from Kitsap County.
- As of the week of 12/18 there were 240 households on the list (mostly individuals and some families).
- Walk-up emergency shelter, such as the Salvation Army, and domestic violence shelters are exempt from CE placement requirements and refer client to Housing Solutions.
- Other continuous-stay housing types (hotel vouchers, pallet shelters) are matched to households based on the household vulnerability score and position on the list.



# Kitsap Housing Crisis Response System



# Why Sprung?

Sprung building provides:

- Time and cost-effective building option
- Flexible interior space that can be designed to fit community needs
- Can be repurposed for Public Works purposes in future

## Options and Amenities

- ✓ Parking
- ✓ Enclosed campus
- ✓ Trauma informed design
- ✓ Outdoor recreation area
- ✓ Will consider accommodating pets
- ✓ Will consider how to accommodate families
- ✓ Office space for on-site services
- ✓ Phone/Computer access for clients
- ✓ Mail Service for clients
- ✓ Laundry and hygiene
- ✓ Security and monitoring to ensure safety of all clients





## PRELIMINARY LAYOUT





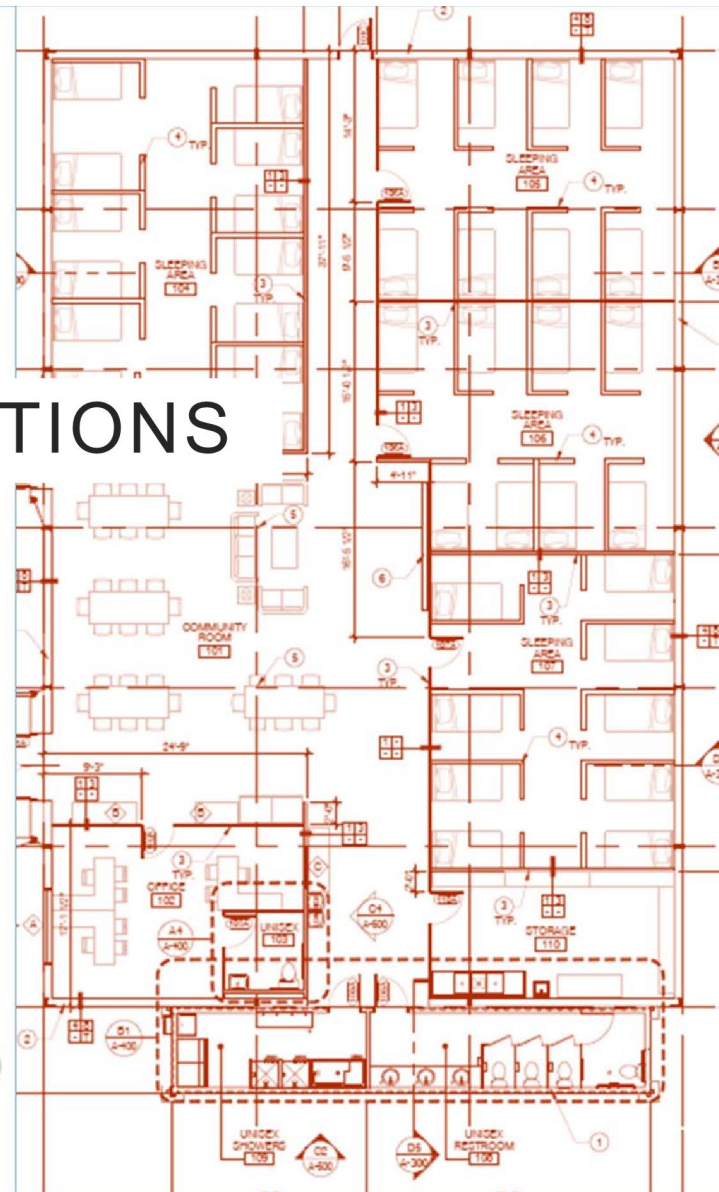
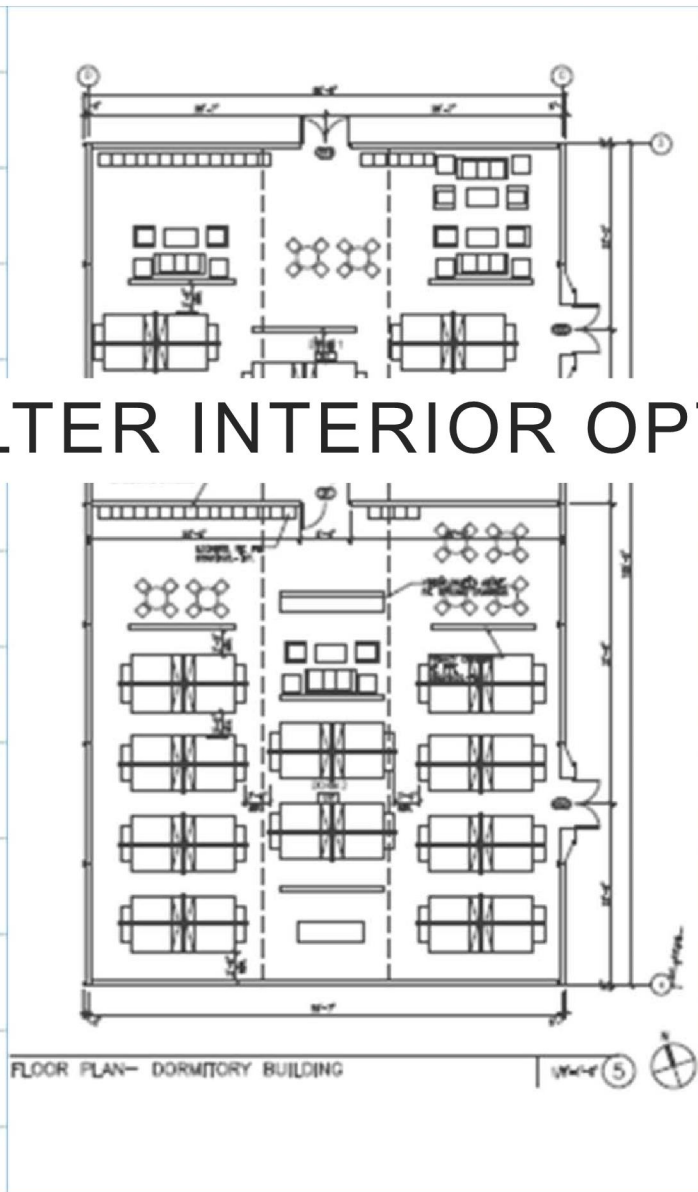
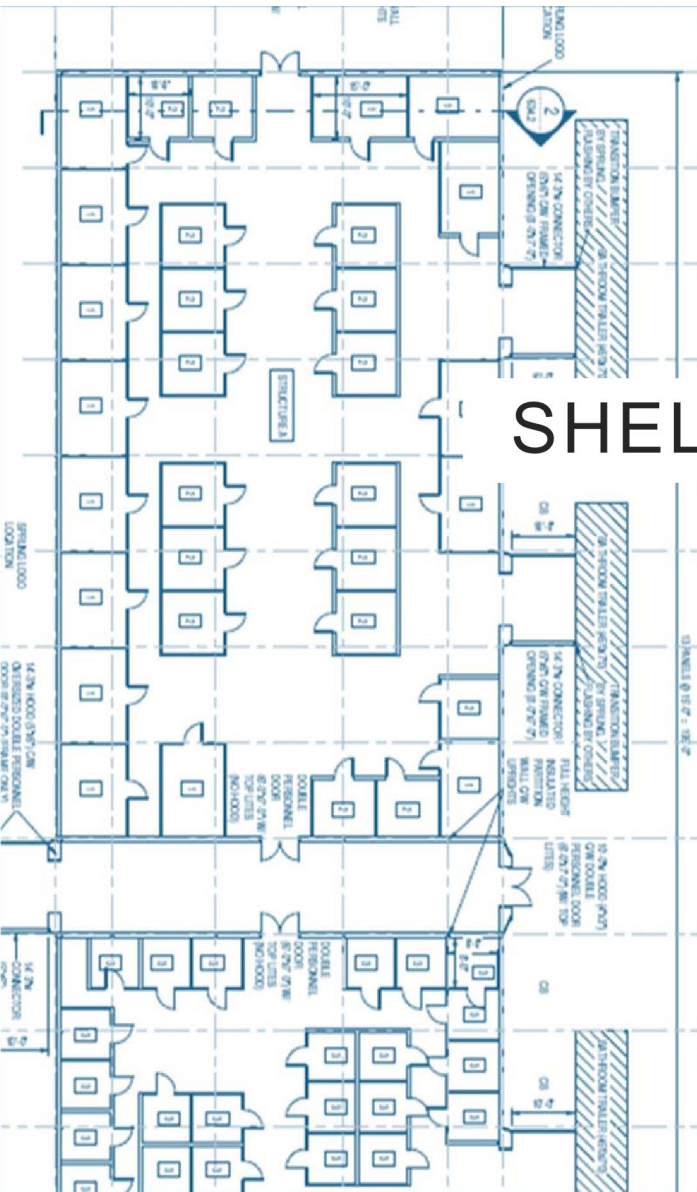
**PRELIMINARY LAYOUT**





**PRELIMINARY LAYOUT**

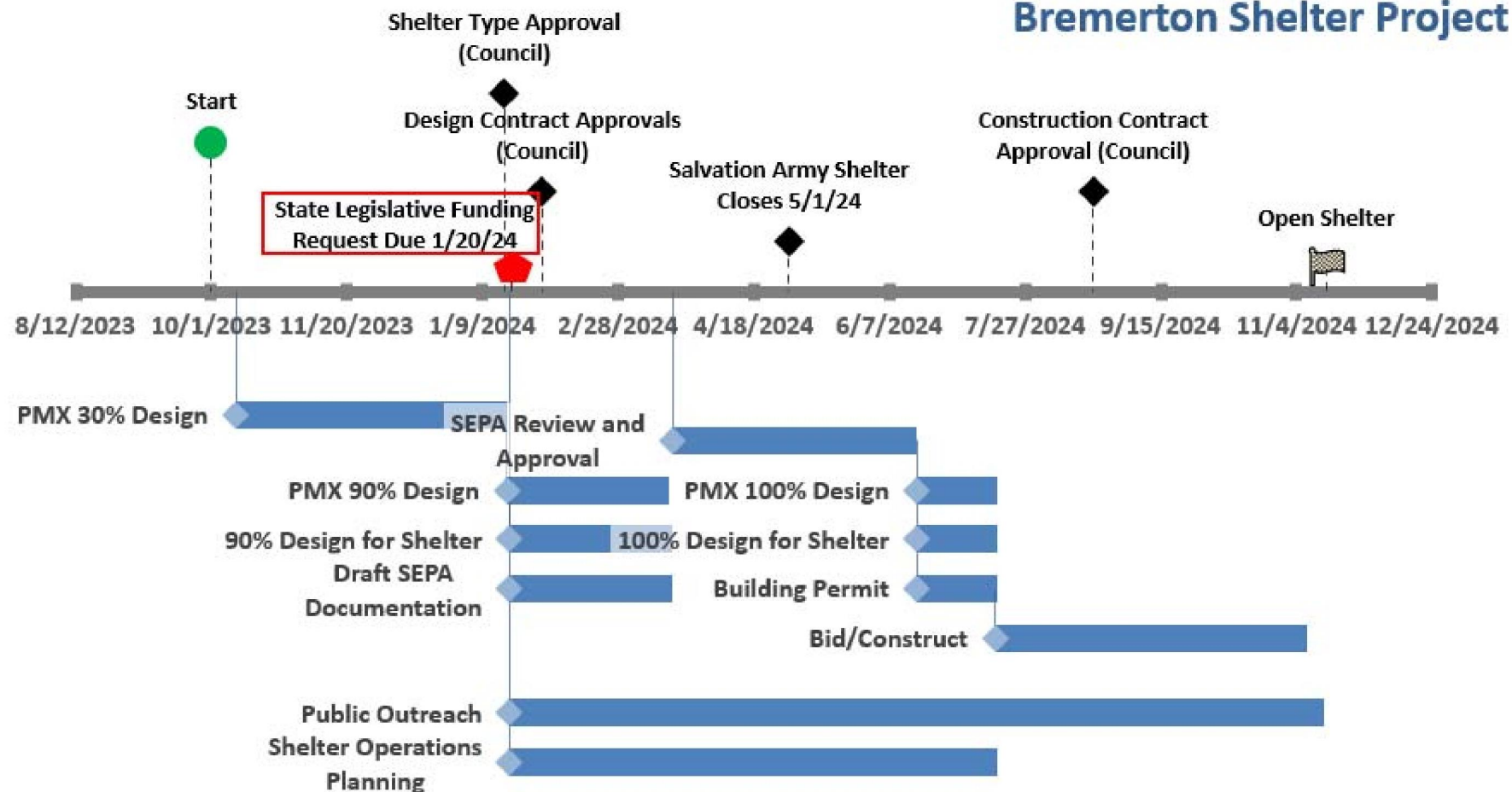




# SHELTER INTERIOR OPTIONS

# Timeline

## Bremerton Shelter Project



# POTENTIAL CAPITAL COSTS FOR OYSTER BAY SITE

ORDER OF MAGNITUDE  
COSTS, NOT BUDGETARY

<b>Site Grading Phase</b>		
<b>Item</b>	<b>Ext. Cost</b>	<b>Notes</b>
Site Grading	\$ 1,000,000.00	
Frontage Improvements	\$ 300,000.00	
Stormwater	\$ 200,000.00	
Design- Grading	\$ 120,000.00	
CM/CE - Grading	\$ 100,000.00	
Contingency	\$ 150,000.00	
Tax	\$ 135,000.00	<i>*construction items only</i>
<b>Grading Sub-Total</b>	<b>\$ 2,005,000.00</b>	
<b>Shelter Building Phase</b>		
<b>Item</b>	<b>Ext. Cost</b>	<b>Notes</b>
Sprung Building	\$ 750,000.00	
Interior Build-out	\$ 1,500,000.00	<i>*includes bathrooms, HVAC, sprinklers</i>
Lighting	\$ 100,000.00	
Fencing	\$ 30,000.00	
Power/Utilities	\$ 300,000.00	
Design- Shelter	\$ 120,000.00	
CM/CE - Shelter	\$ 150,000.00	
Misc	\$ 150,000.00	<i>*cots, mattresses, misc furniture, trash set up</i>
Contingency	\$ 150,000.00	
Tax	\$ 241,200.00	<i>*construction items only</i>
<b>Shelter Sub-Total</b>	<b>\$ 3,491,200.00</b>	
<b>Project Total</b>	<b>\$5,496,200.00</b>	

# Funding Plans for Capital

	Cost	Revenue					Funding Gap
		Water Fund	ARPA	County	ARC of the Peninsula	Suquamish Tribe	
Site Grading Phase (1)	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000					\$0
Shelter Building Phase (2)	\$4,000,000		\$1,100,000	\$1,500,000	\$100,000	\$40,000	(\$1,260,000)

**Notes:** 1) Site grading phase is forward compatible with long-term expansion plan for PW Facility

2) Strategy to close the revenue gap includes pursuing state grants and additional funding from the County



# Operations for Oyster Bay Site

- Contract out for operations
  - Facility repair and general maintenance will be City forces
  - Salvation Army has expressed interest in serving community as operator of facility
- Develop an operations plan with local resource agencies and with input from the community
- Consider utilizing security contracts to provide additional security for surrounding neighborhood
- Need more information for a cost estimate, but operations plan and operations funding strategy will be developed during shelter design



# Next Steps

- Execute contracts for grading design
- Pursue funding for shelter
- Pursue funding and planning for shelter operations
- Pursue shelter design contract
- Create and execute a public outreach plan

*“I firmly believe that my proposal delivers a balanced, compassionate path forward to provide a safe place for vulnerable people seeking shelter from the elements, while simultaneously allowing the City to enforce our laws and protect our neighborhoods.”*

- Mayor Wheeler



PROJECT PROPOSAL

# Hybrid Shelter Model

Prepared for Bremerton City Council

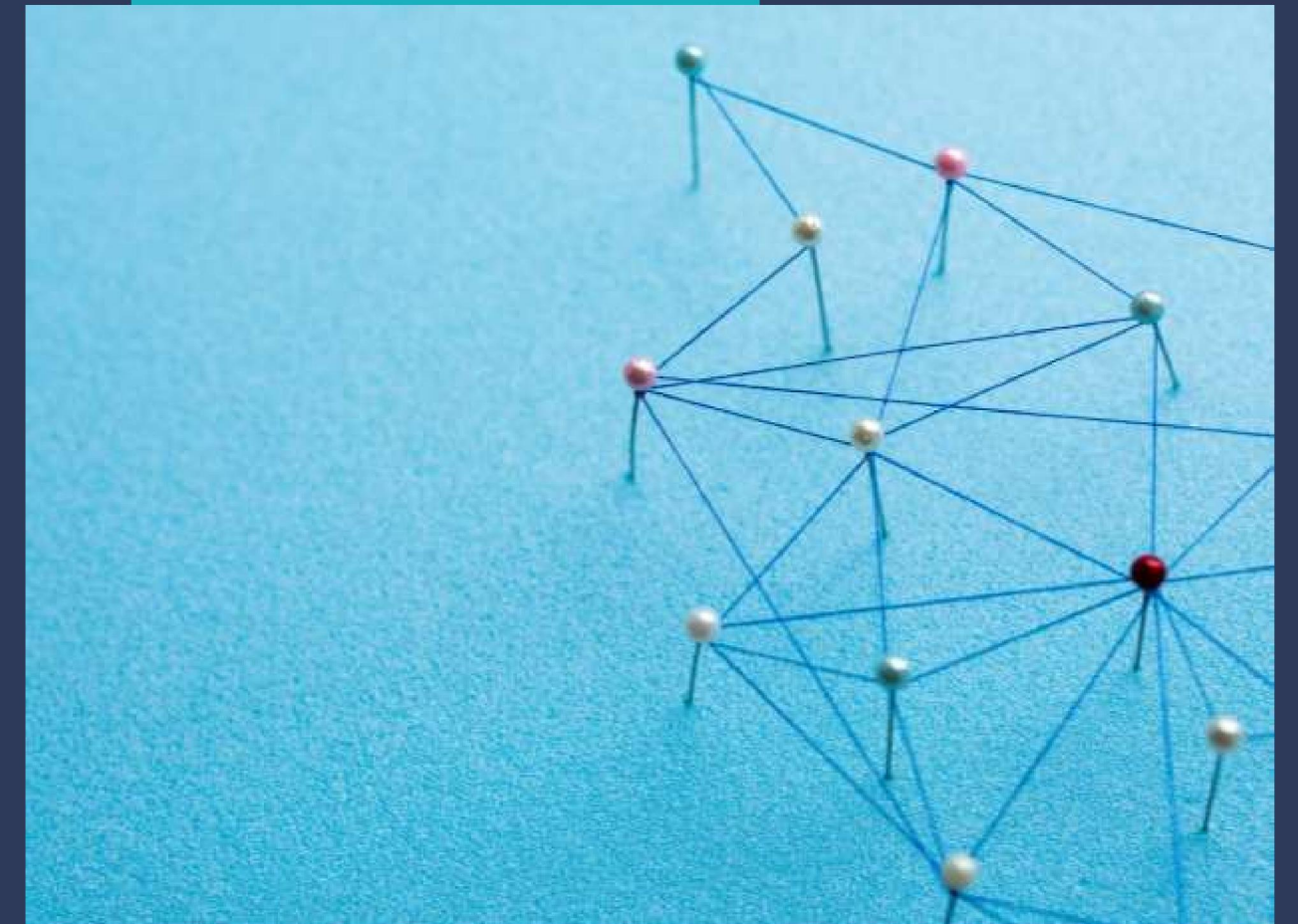
January 10, 2024 Study Session (Updated)





# The Vision

Work together as a community with our City and our County to provide a shelter model in Bremerton that provides a pathway to permanent housing developed around individual needs, human dignity, safety and security, and a holistic approach to healing, health and overcoming barriers to successfully live in permanent quality housing without causing further trauma through the process.





# Consider Lived Experience



*“The need of those on the streets of Bremerton is “broad.” Our unhoused population have many different behavioral health needs and live with a wide variety of trauma, and we just can’t fit them in one style shelter without creating more trauma in their lives or delaying their progress to gain stable housing.”*

# What is the Hybrid Model?



# Hybrid Approach Provides Options

40 Pallet Homes  
with room to  
expand for Private  
Transitional Space



Congregate  
Shelter with up  
to 50 Beds



Supportive  
Services and  
Voucher Referral  
Program





# Working Together We Can Do This!

Minimize negative impact on neighborhoods & Maximize positive impacts on unhoused residents

- Emergency shelter is not a forever option
- Housing dignity
- Community security
- Financial sustainability
- Support transition to permanent housing
- Multiple housing options
- Minimizes risk of communicable disease transmission & lowers impact on Kitsap's health care system



# Benefits of the Hybrid Option

## **This proposal provides:**

- Housing dignity options along the continuum of housing
- Full utilization of existing shelters and permanent housing options
- Individual long-term services
- An inclusive approach
- Shelter that is better managed and secured
- Protection from further traumatization
- Collaboration among community partners
- The best solution to address immediate encampment problem within the current housing continuum

What is the potential  
cost?

# Financial Picture for Hybrid

Depends on Site

Item	Amount
40 Pallet Units (includes all pallets, support units, and infrastructure)	\$1.4 Million
Congregate Shelter	\$1 Million
Purchase Site Ready to Build or Lease Site Ready to Build	\$3 Million (Estimate) or \$140K Per Year to Lease
Annual Operations (Based on SA and Pendleton Place Annual Costs)	\$1.5 to \$3 Million
Total Cost for Year One Under Leasing Model	\$5.4 Million
Total Cost for Year One Under Purchase Model	\$8.4 Million

- No sites have been secured but several have been identified.
- Community impact needs to be part of process.



# Year One Financial Estimate (Based on Leasing Structure)

\$5.4M Plan includes one larger site or two smaller sites and provides up to 90 beds/units

Oversight Staff	\$37,500
Administrative	\$25,175
SUDP/MHP	\$27,500
RN	\$69,500
Case Managers	\$340,000
Support Staff/Peers	\$468,000
Contracted Security	\$393,120
Maintenance & Janitorial	\$124,800
Transportation Aides	\$99,008
Staffing subtotal	\$1,584,603

Client Assistance Costs (bus passes, IDs, DLs, etc)	\$52,000
Transportation (insurance, vehicle maintenance, gas)	\$41,600
Equipment (W&D units, kitchen appliances, etc)	\$50,000
Supplies (Bedding, mattresses)	\$100,000
Telecommunications/Computers	\$25,000
Rent for Building/Land	\$252,000
Accounting Services	\$2,400
Insurance	\$10,000
Fire Safety	\$25,000
Water & Sewer	\$24,000
Garbage	\$24,000
Telephone/Internet	\$2,400
Misc (Food & Client Supplies)	\$306,997
Pallet Shelter and Congregate	\$2,400,000
Permitting and Upgrades	\$500,000
Operations subtotal	\$3,815,397



# Housing Continuum

PRECIPITATING EVENTS



UNHOUSED

EMERGENCY  
SHELTER

SUPPORTIVE  
HOUSING

AFFORDABLE  
RENTAL

WORKFORCE  
HOUSING

AFFORDABLE  
HOME OWNERSHIP

MARKET  
RENTAL

MARKET HOME  
OWNERSHIP





# Housing Continuum

PROGRESSING EVENTS



UNHOUSED

EMERGENCY  
SHELTER

SUPPORTIVE  
HOUSING

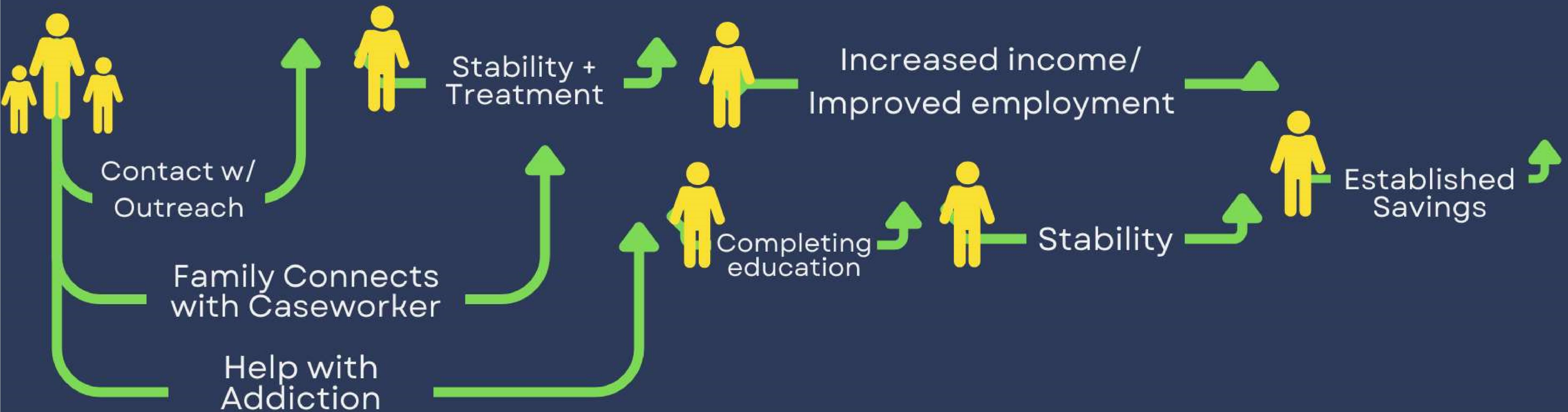
AFFORDABLE  
RENTAL

WORKFORCE  
HOUSING

AFFORDABLE  
HOME OWNERSHIP

MARKET  
RENTAL

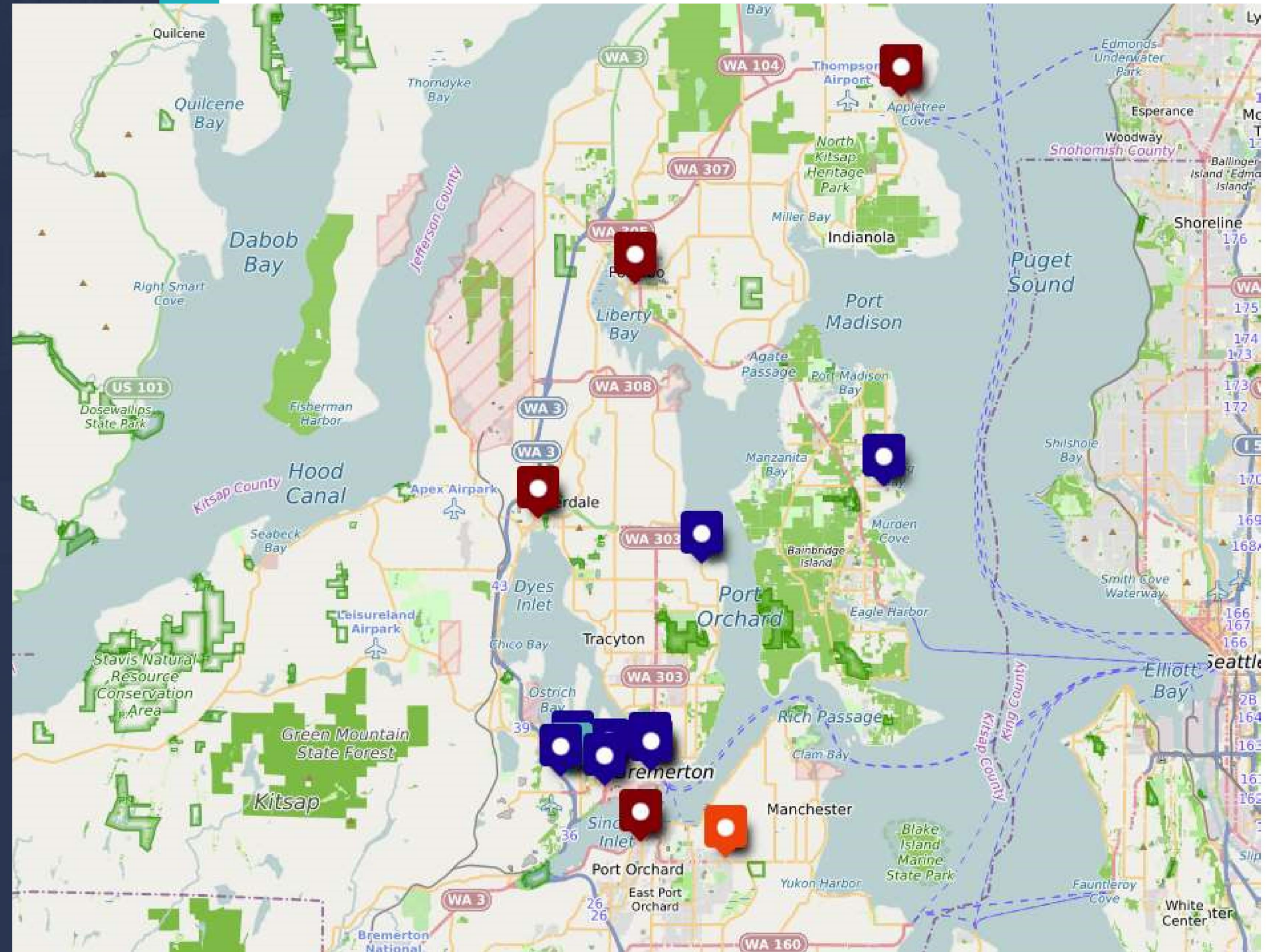
MARKET HOME  
OWNERSHIP



What is the current shelter use  
and need?



# Shelters in Kitsap





# Shelter Utilization Resources

- BHA is implementing a referral program with each organization to provide vouchers to individuals/households ready for independent subsidized housing
- A number of other affordable transitional options are available through the shared housing organizations (app 240)
- BHA and Housing Kitsap have 250 fully funded vouchers available

Shelter	Type	Beds	
Salvation Army	Low-Barrier Congregate	80 Beds	
St. Vincent de Paul	Women & Children	22 Beds	
Coffee Oasis	Youth and Young Adults	6 Beds in Bremerton and 5 Beds in Poulsbo	
Kitsap Rescue Mission	Individual and Family Hotel Units	100 Beds	
Alive Shelter	Families in Dangerous Situations	17 Beds	
Georgia's House	Women and Children	22 Beds	
Benedict House	Men and Men with Children	24 Beds and respite	





# Continuum of Care



HOUSING, SERVICES,  
AND GOVERNMENT  
ORGANIZATIONS



# Foundational Community Supports Model

Initial Shelter Phase – Meets basic needs, time should be short, space provides:

- Safe sleeping
- Nutritional meals
- Basic medical care
- Hygiene facilities

Intermediate Phase – Transition to higher privacy arrangement with Comprehensive Services:

- Private or Semi-private living space within shelter
- Employment Assistance
- Mental Health counseling and support
- Substance abuse treatment and recovery support
- Life skills training



# Foundational Community Supports Model

## Advanced Support Phase – Care Navigators and Skill Development

- Assigned care navigator for personalized guidance
- Advanced employment skills training
- Continuing education
- Ongoing services

## Final Stage – Step-by-Step Transition to Permanent Housing

- Assistance in securing permanent housing
- Financial planning and budget management
- Community Integration
- Follow-up services to ensure successful transition

# What is a Pallet Shelter?

# Background

In August 2023, Pallet Shelter presented at the Kitsap Housing and Homelessness Coalition virtual monthly meeting which was attended by over 50 community service providers, including members of the County and Bremerton City Council. During the next month, the Pallet Shelter Everett site was toured by community leaders and Mayor Wheeler for its potential to meet the needs of Bremerton. Excerpts of the Pallet presentation are provided in the following slides to show how the Pallet model works.



Kitsap Housing and  
Homelessness Coalition



**Pallet**<sup>™</sup>

The Leader in Rapid-Response  
Shelter Villages<sup>™</sup>





**Pallet is a Public Benefit Corporation powered by a staff with lived experience, who are paid a living wage with benefits.**





PALLET SHELTER VILLAGES

**The dignity of  
private space in a  
healing community  
environment.**





# 3800+

111

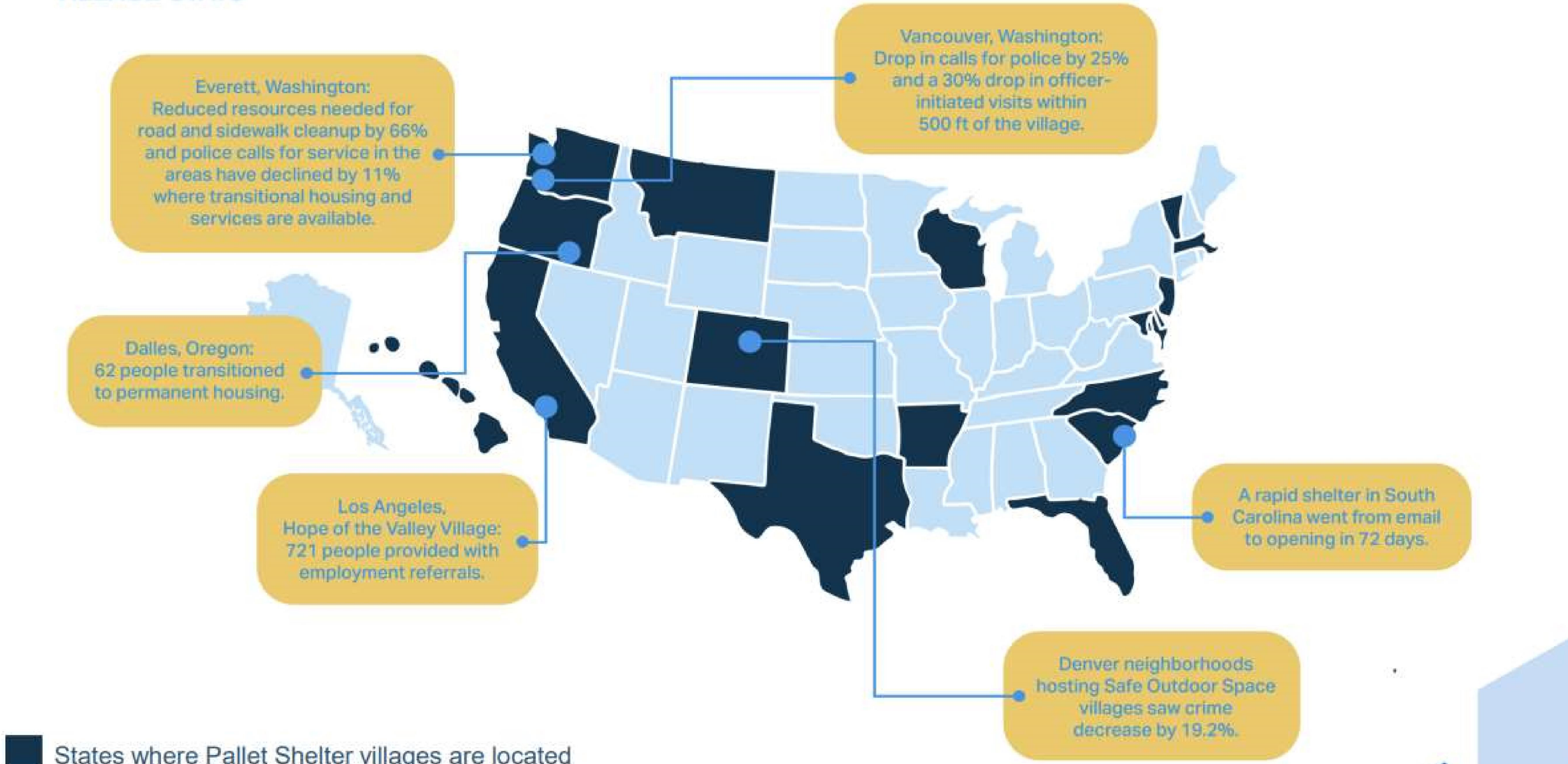
17

21 / 85 +





VILLAGE STATS





FROM PALLET PRESENTATION TO KITSAP HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS COALITION - AUGUST 17, 2023





# Pallet Community

Pallet fills an underrepresented gap in this continuum by providing rapid, interim shelter in a community setting. Our safe and private shelter villages are designed to offer the essential time, space, and respite for people experiencing homelessness to plan their next steps in transitioning to permanent housing. With more than 4,000 shelters deployed across the country, we have proven it a successful and cost-effective response to the human rights crisis of unsheltered homelessness.



[WATCH: EVERETT NOW PALLET SHELTER EXPANSION VIDEO](#)

[READ MORE ON EVERETT WEBSITE](#)



How do we start?

# Simultaneous Process

## Implement Partnership Task Force

- Form task force – City and County take lead with support from affordable housing task force and homeless and housing coalition to meet weekly
- BHA to contract with all Kitsap Shelters to provide vouchers – goal 30 to 40 beds over the next 9 months, process is already underway and includes housing navigation services
- Build centralized system to provide daily availability of shelter beds available – KCR or St Vincent de Paul
- Outreach to all service providers to establish commitment of services – BHA & KMHS
- Outreach to all foodbanks and other non-profits to provide food and essential client supplies – work with established relationships in place and build upon that

## Build the Hybrid Shelter Pallet & Small Congregate

- Identify sites for purchase or lease that meet zoning requirements
- Initial community impact analysis
- Create operations and security plan including who will run the shelter
- Conduct community outreach
- Go after funding – KCR to take lead with support from affordable housing task force
- Build shelter including infrastructure (expedited permitting)
- Shelter target date to open – October 2024

# Funding Resources

There are several funding resources available for a hybrid model.

Funding Source	Amount
City of Bremerton	\$2.4 Million
Kitsap County	\$1.5 Million
<b>GAP</b> – (Propose CIAH Funding)	\$1.5 Million
WSHFC Lap Funding	\$3 Million (for purchase of land)
FCS	TBD
WA State Dept. of Commerce	TBD



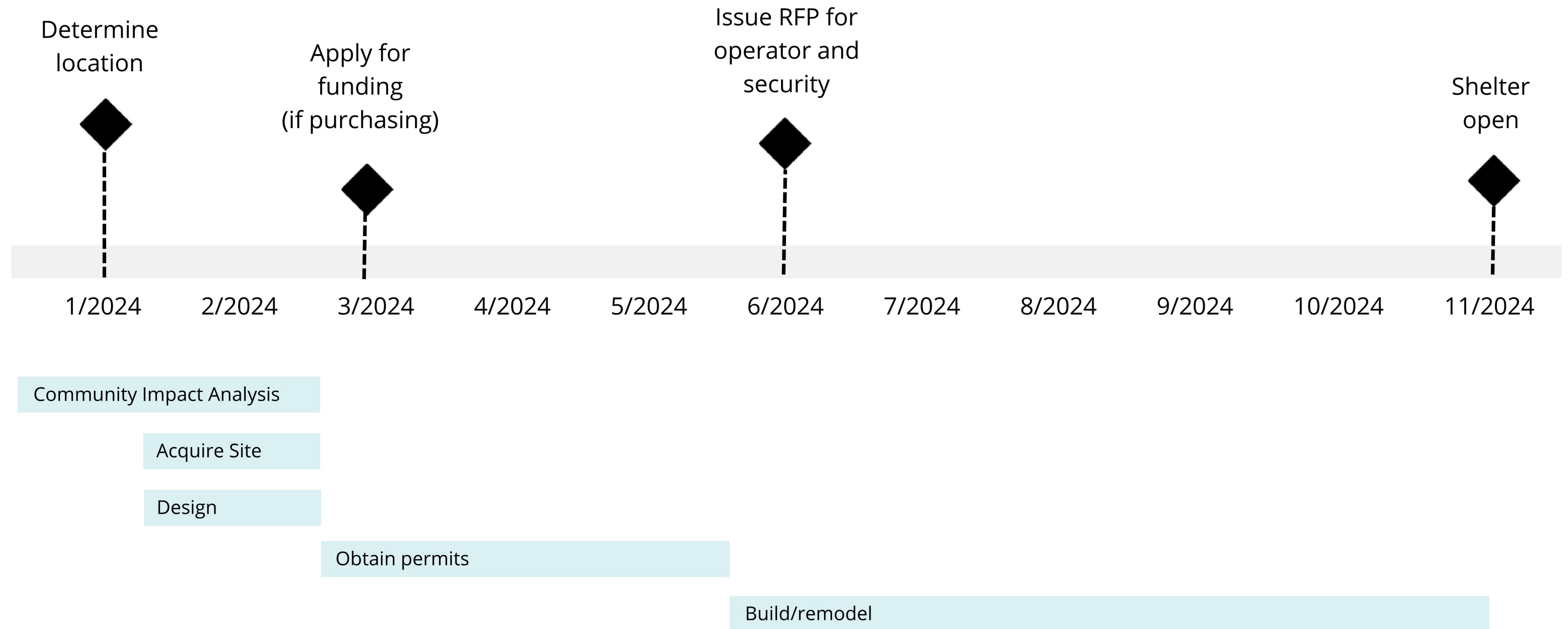
# Community Outreach Plan

City, Council, & Community Partners  
working together

- Evaluate feasibility of preferred location
- Council members hold district meeting
- Develop community information sheets
- Develop operating and security plan
- Direct outreach out to surrounding businesses
- Hold community meetings
- Address concerns raised

# Projected Potential Timeline

## Estimated Timeline for Hybrid Shelter Model



# Thank You

Joe Crain  
St. Vincent de Paul  
[joe@svdpaul.org](mailto:joe@svdpaul.org)

Monica Bernhard  
Kitsap Mental Health Services  
[monicab@kmhs.org](mailto:monicab@kmhs.org)

Tony Ives  
Kitsap Community Resources  
[aives@kcr.org](mailto:aives@kcr.org)

Jill Stanton  
Bremerton Housing Authority  
[jstanton@bremertonhousing.org](mailto:jstanton@bremertonhousing.org)



**Published for  
January 10  
Study Session**

**ITEM C11 – Public Comments**

**From:** Benjamin Simons <[benjamin@palletshelter.com](mailto:benjamin@palletshelter.com)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 9, 2024 4:18 PM  
**To:** Jeff Coughlin <[Jeff.Coughlin@ci.bremerton.wa.us](mailto:Jeff.Coughlin@ci.bremerton.wa.us)>  
**Cc:** Jeff Coughlin <[Jeff.Coughlin@ci.bremerton.wa.us](mailto:Jeff.Coughlin@ci.bremerton.wa.us)>  
**Subject:** RE: Hello from Pallet

Hi Jeff – I've created a folder for you with some more info about Pallet and some third party case studies and news articles – [City of Bremerton, WA | Pallet](#). Feel free to present any of those documents or send the folder out to whomever you think might be interested. It provides a lot of insight into our mission, why we build our shelters, and the impact that other communities have seen.

Pallet is a Public Benefit Company based in Everett, WA with two missions – 1. Provide living wage employment opportunities to people with lived experience in homelessness, the criminal justice system, and substance abuse disorders and 2. End unsheltered homelessness. Our new line of shelter – S2, is the culmination of 7 years' experience building more than 120 shelter communities across the nation. By listening to our employees with lived experience and the residents living in our shelters, we have designed and released a product that lasts longer, is safer, more comfortable, and more energy efficient than our original line.

Pallet is not the final solution to homelessness, but it does achieve an incredibly important goal – providing our unsheltered neighbors with a safe and stable environment where they can get a good night's sleep, lock their belongings, and ultimately work with a dedicated onsite service provider to end the cycle of homelessness and transition to permanent housing. The key difference between a Pallet community and a congregate community is this insistence on dignity and privacy. Without those benefits, we will see the same results from offering shelter as we've seen for the past decades – a continued cycle of homelessness and poverty.

Pallet is constantly balancing the sometimes competing priorities of dignity and speed. Homelessness is a national crisis, and it requires an expedient response, but building a shelter that people won't accept, just to have enough beds to enforce anticamping laws is counterproductive. Success means heads in beds and people moving into housing. To help our partners focus on that priority, we have designed a set of Dignity Standards (link in the folder), that sets a roadmap to success for communities who are adopting the individual shelter model. When our partners adopt these standards, they consistently see metrics like decreased crime in the area, decreased encampments, and increases in folks finding employment and housing (see link for case studies and impact reports).

When it comes to speed, we cannot be matched. We strive to maintain an inventory of 100 shelters and the required bathrooms, laundry, and community spaces at all times. Our manufacturing facility in Everett can produce up to 20 additional shelters each day and each shelter is assembled onsite in about an hour by our Deployment Teams. Infrastructure requirements are as basic as flat ground and utility connections. Recently, we received an email from the City of Everett, WA about an emergency they were having at a converted hotel. Before the day was out, we had product lined up and ready to ship out the door. The deployment happened the day after, and folks were provided a safe place to stay without a night on the streets.

As a local, WA company. We would be honored to be part of the solution to unsheltered homelessness in Bremerton. Thank you for your consideration.



**Benjamin Simons**

Sr. Manager, Technical Implementation

he/him | 425.595.4544 | [www.palletshelter.com](http://www.palletshelter.com)

*We envision a world where no one goes unsheltered*



**From:** City of Bremerton <webmaster@ci.bremerton.wa.us>

**Sent:** Friday, December 29, 2023 7:38 PM

**To:** City Council <City.Council@ci.bremerton.wa.us>

**Subject:** Message from Mayor Wheeler



BREMERTON WASHINGTON



## Message from Mayor Wheeler

On January 17, the City Council will consider my proposal to construct a low-barrier, walk-up homeless shelter on an enclosed campus off Kitsap Way that will operate year-round. I have two goals that will be achieved with my proposal; first, to provide our homeless community members with a safe, warm, dry and comfortable place to stay out of the elements, and second, to ensure that the unrestricted camping that occurred in our neighborhoods this past summer never happens again. To be clear, our laws that restrict camping in the City can only be enforced when there is sufficient shelter space available for those who request it, and my proposal for a low-barrier, walk-up shelter is the only option currently being considered that will provide that.

After my proposal was initially presented to the City Council in October, two nonprofits and a public agency jointly submitted a proposal to the City Council for Pallet transitional housing and other spaces at two different locations. Their approach, while a valuable part of a holistic vision for responding to homelessness, will not address illegal camping in Bremerton's neighborhoods since Pallet homes will fill quickly, and there will not be sufficient shelter for those who request it. Again, if shelter space is not available for those who seek it, the City cannot enforce its laws that preclude camping, and homeless people will again be allowed to establish encampments throughout the City.

I encourage you to attend both the Study Session on January 10, and the City Council meeting on January 17 where my proposal, and also likely the alternative proposal will be considered by the City Council. Homelessness is a complex issue that will not be solved anytime soon; however, I firmly believe that my proposal delivers a balanced, compassionate path forward to provide a safe place for vulnerable people seeking shelter from the elements, while simultaneously allowing the City to enforce our laws and protect our neighborhoods. Please see my letter below that provides additional detail on why I believe my proposal is the only option currently identified that will effectively address the impacts of homelessness on our City.

## ***Letter from Mayor Wheeler: Two Proposals to Address Homelessness Going to City Council; Council Will Decide Which Option to Choose on January 17***

A very important policy decision is being made by the City Council next month on January 17 about how to best address homelessness, and this decision will greatly impact Bremerton. On the surface, the Council will be deciding between two options to address homelessness, and while these options may seem comparable, they are not. The policy implications, and ultimate ability of the City to enforce its laws, will be very different depending on which option Council chooses.

### **The Two Proposals: A Brief Summary**

1. **City of Bremerton's Proposal** - I have made a proposal to the City Council to construct an enclosed campus for a 100-person capacity, low-barrier walk-up congregate shelter ([Sprung](#) structure) to be located off Kitsap Way, on property owned by the City. The property this facility will be constructed on was purchased for Public Works purposes, and since the shelter is not intended to be permanent, both the site grading and proposed Sprung structure are forward-compatible with that long-term use. You can learn more about my proposal at the [City's Public Works & Utilities Department Project Website](#).
2. **Non-profits & Public Agency Proposal** - A proposal by the leaders of the Bremerton Housing Authority, St. Vincent de Paul, and Kitsap Community Resources was presented to the City Council to construct a combination of transitional housing and congregate shelter space at two locations. One site is off Wheaton Way at Mills Crossing that consists of 40 [Pallet](#) structures for transitional housing and a 20-person capacity congregate shelter, and another 40 Pallet structures of transitional housing at another location. You can learn about this proposal by looking at pages 706 – 712 of the [December 13th City Council Study Session meeting packet](#). Note that the Wheaton Way location was not identified in the proposal but was forwarded to City and County leaders separately.

### **Key Considerations in Evaluating these Two Options Include:**

**Homelessness is a complex issue with many causes.** The City of Bremerton is already supporting many efforts aimed at helping people who are experiencing or at risk of homelessness. You can read about some of them in the [Mayor's 2023 Initiatives](#) and my [Affordable Housing Initiatives for 2023](#). However, homelessness impacts the entire community, not just the people who are experiencing homelessness. There is a criminal element that thrives in homeless encampments, negatively impacting neighborhoods, business districts and vulnerable populations. This drains City resources and degrades City amenities and public spaces. The Salvation Army has reported that many people who use their walk-up, low-barrier shelter are eager to be out of the elements and away from the criminals who prey upon them.

**There is an unauthorized camping ordinance -- but it is not enforceable in the City when there is a lack of available shelter.** The City Council passed an ordinance this



September that made camping on public property in the City illegal, but suspended enforcement of the ordinance when there is no overnight shelter space available ([Bremerton Municipal Code 9.32 Unauthorized Camping](#)). There was record setting public input when this ordinance was discussed, and the community consensus was clear - Bremertonians do not want unregulated encampments anywhere in the City.

A timeline on the development of the City Council's unauthorized camping ordinance and the efforts of my administration to enforce the ordinance is available for download [here](#).

**No year-round, low-barrier walk-up shelter currently exists to fill the gap in our City.**

- A walk-up low-barrier shelter provides a safe, dry, and climate-controlled place for people to go, and has a proven record of providing needed available shelter space.
- The Salvation Army is the only walk-up low-barrier shelter in Bremerton, and it is only open 5-6 months each year. This means the City's no-camping ordinance can only be enforced 5-6 months a year.
- The Salvation Army was never designed to primarily function as a shelter. When operating as a shelter, furniture is moved aside, and people sleep on mats on the floor in hallways, offices, common areas, and other available space.
- Since re-opening its shelter on November 1, the Salvation Army has housed an average of 60 people each night, with a high of 77 people. Note that a 100-person capacity shelter would meet this existing need year-round, with additional capacity.

**A year-round, low-barrier walk-up shelter fills a need for individuals and families.**

- My proposal for Sprung shelters provides flexible interior space that can be modified depending on the need. As an example, separate space for families and other more vulnerable users may be accommodated through thoughtful design. Sleeping areas may include barracks-style bunks as well as spaces that provide more privacy. The shelter can also include office space for wrap around services by non-profits and other service providers. The design for my proposal will be developed by a professional with shelter design experience, in consultation with input from shelter operators and people with experience living in shelters.

**Pallet transitional housing tends to fill 'within days of opening'**

The second option being proposed is for pallet transitional housing and has been submitted by the leaders of the Bremerton Housing Authority, St. Vincent de Paul, and Kitsap Community Resources, which will be considered by City Council on January 17.

- Transitional housing like a proposed Pallet structure provides privacy, utilities, a locking door, and space for belongings. Transitional housing is in high demand.
- As of December 22, there were 240 people (including some families) on Kitsap County's waiting list for those in need of housing.
- The company that provides Pallet structures states on its website for its homeless housing that, "[...every shelter community that Pallet has built](#)



has been filled within days of opening, and continues to operate at maximum capacity...”

The Pallet structure proposal presented in the December 13, 2023 City Council packet will likely be filled immediately leaving Bremerton with no overnight shelter available.

### **City Council Will Decide on Which Option to Choose on January 17**

On January 17, the Council will decide whether the City should choose: (1) to adopt my shelter proposal and protect the City’s neighborhoods, business districts and vulnerable population from the impacts of unauthorized camping while providing our homeless community members a safe, warm and dry place to walk up and stay overnight, or (2) the Pallet structures option which prioritizes “longer term transitional living” and “...assisting residents, all residents, of Kitsap County.”<sup>2</sup>

My obligation as Mayor is to serve Bremerton. I am asking the Council to approve my proposal for a shelter option because it is the best option for Bremerton.

The City’s Charter at Article IV, Section 19 states the Mayor “(s)hall see that all laws and ordinances are faithfully enforced and that law and order are maintained in the City.” I heard loud and clear in the unprecedented amount of public input received just a few months ago that the people of Bremerton expect the Unauthorized Camping ordinance to be enforced. I cannot enforce the City’s prohibition on public camping unless there is shelter space available. My proposal is the only option that effectively addresses the impacts of homelessness on our City; both for the benefit of the most vulnerable in our community, as well as for our neighborhoods and business districts.

To find details on the upcoming City Council Study Session on January 10 and public meeting on January 17, please look for information to be posted a few days before each meeting here: <https://www.bremertonwa.gov/691/Council-Meetings>.

<sup>1</sup> Council Study Session Packet December 13, 2023, page 708

<sup>2</sup> Council Study Session Packet December 13, 2023, page 706

City of Bremerton | [www.BremertonWA.gov](http://www.BremertonWA.gov)

STAY CONNECTED



City of Bremerton | 345 6th Street, Suite 100, Bremerton, WA 98337

Sent by [webmaster@ci.bremerton.wa.us](mailto:webmaster@ci.bremerton.wa.us) powered by





## Dr. Jeff Coughlin City Council President

January 2, 2023

The Council has received separate proposals for creating needed shelter space from the Mayor and from a group of nonprofit and public agency leaders. Late last week the Mayor used the City's e-mail and social media to send out a letter urging Citizens and the City Council to support his shelter proposal, and reject the proposals of our nonprofit and public agency partners ([www.bremertonwa.gov/civicalerts.aspx?AID=835](http://www.bremertonwa.gov/civicalerts.aspx?AID=835)). I want to clear up some misinformation that was in the Mayor's letter and attached timeline document, and provide additional information, to make sure folks are fully informed on this difficult and urgent topic before us. And to understand why it is critical the Council both have and thoroughly review and consider all proposals brought to us.

Starting a few years back, after the Ninth Circuit ruling *Martin v. Boise* in 2018, the city could only enforce its 2004-era law on unauthorized camping when shelter space was available, and the city operated this way for several years. After the Ninth Circuit ruling of *Johnson v. City of Grants Pass* in late 2022, the city needed to formally update its public camping law, and so the Council set that as a priority and goal for 2023.

In our form of government, nearly all legislation starts with a proposal from the Mayor and their administration — construction projects, new or updated laws, budgets, etc. — as the full-time Mayor and the hundreds of full-time city personnel under them have the time and experience to craft comprehensive proposals to present to the seven part-time Councilmembers for thorough review, vetting, input, and ultimately a vote. One the main duties assigned to the Mayor in our City Charter is that they “shall report to Council...concerning the affairs of the City and its financial and other needs, and shall make recommendations for Council consideration and action.”

By June 2023 the Mayor had not brought forth any proposal to update our camping law. The Council thus had to work over many months to get public feedback and explore all the options, with no input given by the Mayor until the week before Council was ready to vote. On September 20, 2023, Council passed an updated camping law, but despite even incorporating two last-minute changes requested by the Mayor, the Mayor declined to sign the updated law, and has not brought forth any alternative.

The updated law (in effect despite no mayoral signature) is in-line with other cities' updated laws across the Peninsula and the State to reflect the Ninth Circuit ruling's requirements. There is already no camping allowed in environmental, hazardous, or restricted areas, and no camping is allowed overnight in City Parks, regardless of shelter space availability. Prohibition of camping in other public areas like right-of-way along streets and on open city-owned land can be enforced when there is available shelter in the city or anywhere in the county if free transportation is provided.



The Mayor said in the Dec. 13<sup>th</sup> Council meeting regarding shelter creation, “This was dumped on me.” However, all throughout 2023 the Mayor has publicly stated he has been leading the exploration of shelter solutions and working with community partners, even touting trips to visit Pallet Shelter facilities, and responding to nearly every community suggestion that it was something he was already working on. The Council allocated significant city funding the FY2024 budget towards either creating shelter or working with our community partners to operate a shelter in the city, or the county if transportation is also provided.

A thorough proposal for a shelter should include the following, and ideally multiple proposals should be considered to find the best method to achieve results within budget.

- Where: Where is the proposed site, how big is it, and what is nearby?
- What: What form of shelter(s) and services will be provided?
- Who: Who is operating the shelter and managing the day-to-day activities?
- When: When will the shelter open, and how fast can it respond to changes in needs?
- How Many: How many folks can the shelter hold, and how many is needed for Bremerton?
- How Much: What are the initial and long-term costs, and where is the funding coming from?

While the Mayor did present where and what (Oyster Bay with a single congregate building) in late October to Council, no other options were presented, and the questions of who, when, how many, and how much remained. Those details were not presented until the last Council Study Session of the year on December 13, with some still not clear, and most notably that no operator is yet identified and the Mayor’s proposal does not have the shelter opening until the end of 2024, with no current plan to ensure shelter availability over the Summer of 2024. The time and cost of clearing, leveling, and providing utilities to an undeveloped parcel of land, and construction of a new congregate building, is significant when compared to other possibilities of using existing buildings or facilities. Additionally, community leaders have raised significant concerns about solely relying on a congregate model and not one that provides multiple shelter types and a continuum of care. If a community-led hybrid model (low barrier congregate shelter plus pallets or other types) can satisfy the needs of our city and its residents, allow for continuous enforcement of the camping ordinance, and be accomplished faster and/or cheaper, it is Council’s duty to thoroughly explore and consider it.

I have said repeatedly regarding this work that “Bremerton can take the lead, but we can’t do it alone”. Working together with the nonprofit and public agency leaders who have expertise in this field — not excluding them or pitting one idea against another — is the way to make the most efficient use of our limited tax dollars to both ensure there are no unregulated encampments in our city and that folks experiencing homelessness get meaningful help to not just end up back on the streets. My promise is to work with everyone on all the possible combinations of where, what, who, when, how many, and how much to choose the best path forward for Bremerton and its residents.

Thanks for Speaking Up,



Jeff Coughlin, PhD, PMP®  
President, Bremerton City Council

**From:** Michelle Fleetwood <m\_fleetwood@yahoo.com>

**Sent:** Saturday, December 30, 2023 10:50 PM

**To:** anton@nwhospitality.org; Greg Wheeler <Greg.Wheeler@ci.bremerton.wa.us>

**Cc:** City Council <City.Council@ci.bremerton.wa.us>; kitsapcommissioners@kitsap.gov; Charlotte Garrido <cgarrido@kitsap.gov>; Katie Walters <kwalters@kitsap.gov>; dawnmichelewilson@gmail.com; Bailey Tupai <bailey2pai@gmail.com>; Marwan Cameron <gather2grow@g2g2.org>; Drayton Jackson-FHPM <DJackson@HomelessPovertyManagement.org>; Kelsey Stedman <kelsey.e.stedman@gmail.com>; kim siebens <kimmysiebens@yahoo.com>; kuyehara@gannett.com; david.nelson@kitsapsun.com; Kristal I. Thomas <Kristal.Thomas@ExpressPros.com>; Donel Steves <donel@through-linecoaching.com>; Anthony Ives <aives@kcr.org>; Jill Stanton <jstanton@bremertonhousing.org>

**Subject:** Re: My Proposal to Construct a Homeless Shelter in Bremerton

These are some heavy duty discussions.

Long over due...

I respect you all.

Tap us in Coach.

Michelle Fleetwood  
Eagle's Wings  
Coordinated Care  
Co-founder -Director  
360.801.7039 call/text

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

---

On Sat, Dec 30, 2023 at 8:59 PM, Anton Preisinger

<[anton@nwhospitality.org](mailto:anton@nwhospitality.org)> wrote:

"A shining example".....

You are doing exactly what has failed EVERYWHERE else in the entire country. Look after the people first. Then, and ONLY then, will you be any kind of example to look towards. Your unconstitutional ordinance and treatment of our most vulnerable community members betrays your true beliefs and feelings. Keep you platitudes.

Anton Preisinger  
Founding Executive Director  
Northwest Hospitality  
888-222-5240  
[www.nwhospitality.org](http://www.nwhospitality.org)



----- Original message -----

From: Greg Wheeler <[Greg.Wheeler@ci.bremerton.wa.us](mailto:Greg.Wheeler@ci.bremerton.wa.us)>

To: Anton Preisinger <[anton@nwhospitality.org](mailto:anton@nwhospitality.org)>

Cc: City Council <[City.Council@ci.bremerton.wa.us](mailto:City.Council@ci.bremerton.wa.us)>, "[kitsapcommissioners@kitsap.gov](mailto:kitsapcommissioners@kitsap.gov)" <[kitsapcommissioners@kitsap.gov](mailto:kitsapcommissioners@kitsap.gov)>, Charlotte Garrido <[cgarrido@kitsap.gov](mailto:cgarrido@kitsap.gov)>, "[kwalters@kitsap.gov](mailto:kwalters@kitsap.gov)" <[kwalters@kitsap.gov](mailto:kwalters@kitsap.gov)>, Michelle Fleetwood <[m\\_fleetwood@yahoo.com](mailto:m_fleetwood@yahoo.com)>, "[dawnmichelewilson@gmail.com](mailto:dawnmichelewilson@gmail.com)" <[dawnmichelewilson@gmail.com](mailto:dawnmichelewilson@gmail.com)>, Bailey Tupai <[bailey2pai@gmail.com](mailto:bailey2pai@gmail.com)>, Marwan Cameron <[gather2grow@g2g2.org](mailto:gather2grow@g2g2.org)>, Drayton Jackson-FHPM <[DJackson@HomelessPovertyManagement.org](mailto:DJackson@HomelessPovertyManagement.org)>, Kelsey Stedman <[kelsey.e.stedman@gmail.com](mailto:kelsey.e.stedman@gmail.com)>, kim siebens <[kimmysiebens@yahoo.com](mailto:kimmysiebens@yahoo.com)>, "[kuyehara@gannett.com](mailto:kuyehara@gannett.com)" <[kuyehara@gannett.com](mailto:kuyehara@gannett.com)>, "[david.nelson@kitsapsun.com](mailto:david.nelson@kitsapsun.com)" <[david.nelson@kitsapsun.com](mailto:david.nelson@kitsapsun.com)>, "Kristal I. Thomas" <[Kristal.Thomas@ExpressPros.com](mailto:Kristal.Thomas@ExpressPros.com)>, Donel Steves <[donel@through-linecoaching.com](mailto:donel@through-linecoaching.com)>, Anthony Ives <[aives@kcr.org](mailto:aives@kcr.org)>, Jill Stanton <[jstanton@bremertonhousing.org](mailto:jstanton@bremertonhousing.org)>

Subject: RE: My Proposal to Construct a Homeless Shelter in Bremerton

Date: Saturday, December 30, 2023 8:33 PM

Dear Anton,

Thank you for your email. I appreciate you taking the time to share your thoughts with me. One of my main takeaways from the hundreds of individuals who testified over the summer from all over Bremerton was that no one wanted camping anywhere in the city. I took that message to heart when developing my proposal and fully believe it offers the only path forward that will keep our neighborhoods safe and offer support for those who will accept it. While pallet homes may be a valuable part of a holistic vision for responding to homelessness, my proposal for a homeless shelter directly addresses an imminent need; that our city no longer has a year around, low barrier, walk-up shelter. This directly affects our ability to enforce the new anti-camping ordinance, protect our neighborhoods and shelter unhoused individuals at the same time. I believe we have the opportunity to be a shining example of how best to manage this difficult situation. I have no doubt that a pallet community would fill up quickly leaving us with no shelter capacity and a return to the unregulated camping in our city that our neighborhoods and homeless individuals suffered from this summer. I am committed to ensuring that never happens again. Experienced shelter operators and individuals with real life experience living in shelters will be enlisted to help with design and operations development once I have approval to move forward. Take care and Happy New Year.

Sincerely,

Greg Wheeler

Mayor  
City of Bremerton  
(360) 473-5266



**From:** Anton Preisinger <[anton@nwhospitality.org](mailto:anton@nwhospitality.org)>  
**Sent:** Saturday, December 30, 2023 7:42 PM  
**To:** Greg Wheeler <[Greg.Wheeler@ci.bremerton.wa.us](mailto:Greg.Wheeler@ci.bremerton.wa.us)>  
**Cc:** City Council <[City.Council@ci.bremerton.wa.us](mailto:City.Council@ci.bremerton.wa.us)>; [kitsapcommissioners@kitsap.gov](mailto:kitsapcommissioners@kitsap.gov); Charlotte Garrido <[cgarrido@kitsap.gov](mailto:cgarrido@kitsap.gov)>; [kwalters@kitsap.gov](mailto:kwalters@kitsap.gov); Michelle Fleetwood <[m\\_fleetwood@yahoo.com](mailto:m_fleetwood@yahoo.com)>; [dawnmichelewilson@gmail.com](mailto:dawnmichelewilson@gmail.com); Bailey Tupai <[bailey2pai@gmail.com](mailto:bailey2pai@gmail.com)>; Marwan Cameron <[gather2grow@g2g2.org](mailto:gather2grow@g2g2.org)>; Drayton Jackson-FHPM <[DJackson@HomelessPovertyManagement.org](mailto:DJackson@HomelessPovertyManagement.org)>; Kelsey Stedman <[kelsey.e.stedman@gmail.com](mailto:kelsey.e.stedman@gmail.com)>; kim siebens <[kimmysiebens@yahoo.com](mailto:kimmysiebens@yahoo.com)>; [kuyehara@gannett.com](mailto:kuyehara@gannett.com); [david.nelson@kitsapsun.com](mailto:david.nelson@kitsapsun.com); Kristal I. Thomas <[Kristal.Thomas@ExpressPros.com](mailto:Kristal.Thomas@ExpressPros.com)>; Donel Steves <[donel@through-linecoaching.com](mailto:donel@through-linecoaching.com)>; Anthony Ives <[aives@kcr.org](mailto:aives@kcr.org)>; Jill Stanton <[jstanton@bremertonhousing.org](mailto:jstanton@bremertonhousing.org)>  
**Subject:** Re: My Proposal to Construct a Homeless Shelter in Bremerton

The only way to avoid the unrestricted camping that occurred in our neighborhoods this past summer and is still rampant in the face of inadequate resources and housing is to actually provide people with the housing and resources they need to be secure. Homelessness is a very complex problem, we agree about that if nothing else, but the solutions need not be.

You acknowledge that pallet housing would be both valuable and holistic and you recognize that the housing would be utilized by people in need (they would "fill quickly") but these are negative outcomes in your perspective because the camping ordinance that hurts vulnerable community members, displaces people away from services, damages public relations with law enforcement, makes outreach and resource provision harder, and spreads the impacts of people living unsheltered throughout more of the city won't be enforceable. Somehow, you still fail to see that these are the very tools our community needs to provide a path into housing and services that people need so they aren't out there looking to camp in the city in the first place.

This conversation and your study sessions are a waste of everybody's time. You do not care and will not listen/have not cared and have not listened. We have examples of successful service networks as close as Tacoma but you refuse to use those as models. You pat yourself on the back for clearing MLK while my colleagues and I are still working with most of the people who were displaced from there or mourning their deaths.

If you actually cared, you would be having Rock The Block leaders (myself last among them, for the record) present, inform, and guide the city's actions, not do all the humanitarian work behind the scenes while you do your political dance. Instead, you want to waste more of our time watching and listening to city leadership blindly blow smoke and explore excuses for why the obvious solutions can't be pursued.

Your arrogance is so profound that you're putting up a proposal in opposition to the Bremerton Housing Authority, St. Vincent's, and Kitsap Community Resources - the very experienced professionals you should be consulting, not contending with. This inept leadership demonstrates clearly that your goals are different, and in conflict with, the goals of the people and organizations who have the interest of our homeless community members and the overall health of our city and county foremost in mind.

We absolutely need the shelter you are proposing but standing alone there is no question that it will fail to actually serve the vast majority of our most vulnerable. Of course, you'll still be pleased because you'll get to keep arresting, displacing, and otherwise abusing people who don't fit into your cookie-cutter shelter for any number of valid reasons you don't care to take the time to understand. The region ALSO needs sanctioned open-air encampment(s), AND pallet shelter solutions, AND the KRM Quality Inn shelter to operate as a part of a cohesive network of viable shelter and housing services with associated resources. Without multiple options, you will be ostracizing sick people, forcing them into unsafe situations, dooming them to further inequity and death while simultaneously dooming the communities you are responsible for to a whack-a-mole torment that will never solve anything because you refuse to provide adequate resources.

Those of us who know our unhoused community members personally and work immensely hard to show them compassion and connect them with resources would much rather work with you but you haven't seemed remotely interested in anything we have to do or say. Be that as it is, I'll be there with the rest of Rock The Block and others to sift through your wreckage, trying to be present for the lives dismissed in the aftermath of your careless policies.

Anton Preisinger  
Founding Executive Director  
Northwest Hospitality  
888-222-5240

[www.nwhospitality.org](http://www.nwhospitality.org)



**From:** Greg Wheeler <Greg.Wheeler@ci.bremerton.wa.us>  
**Sent:** Saturday, December 30, 2023 2:57 PM  
**To:** Travis Merrigan <bikebremerton@gmail.com>  
**Cc:** City Council <City.Council@ci.bremerton.wa.us>  
**Subject:** RE: Build both: My Proposal to Construct a Homeless Shelter in Bremerton

Dear Travis,

Thank you for your email. I really appreciate you taking the time to share your thoughts with me. One of my main takeaways from the hundreds of individuals who testified over the summer from all over Bremerton was that no one wanted camping anywhere in the city. I took that message to heart when developing my proposal and fully believe it offers the only path forward that will keep our neighborhoods safe and offer support for those who will accept it. While pallet homes may be valuable part of a holistic vision for responding to homelessness, my proposal for a homeless shelter addresses an imminent need; that our city no longer has a year around, low barrier, walk-up shelter. This directly affects our ability to enforce the new anti-camping ordinance and shelter individuals at the same time. I believe we have the opportunity to be a shining example of how best to manage this difficult situation. Take care and Happy New Year.

Sincerely,

Greg Wheeler  
Mayor  
City of Bremerton  
(360) 473-5266

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**From:** Travis Merrigan <[bikebremerton@gmail.com](mailto:bikebremerton@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Friday, December 29, 2023 11:22 PM  
**To:** Greg Wheeler <[Greg.Wheeler@ci.bremerton.wa.us](mailto:Greg.Wheeler@ci.bremerton.wa.us)>  
**Cc:** City Council <[City.Council@ci.bremerton.wa.us](mailto:City.Council@ci.bremerton.wa.us)>  
**Subject:** Build both: My Proposal to Construct a Homeless Shelter in Bremerton

Mayor Wheeler,

I applaud you for making your case to the public for the need to build infrastructure for our homeless neighbors.

I'm a supporter of both the Oyster Bay facility and the pallet community. Both serve particular needs. Let's build both (maybe not immediately, but as funds allow).

Then when those are done, let's build one in my neighborhood 15th & Naval. I have a city owned spot picked out that would be great, an unused corner of Ivy Green Cemetery (I consulted the cemetery residents, none of them voiced concern.)

Let's approve multiple options so no one neighborhood feels singled out. Let's build all of the above.

Travis Merrigan



**From:** randall buchanan <randallbuchanan@hotmail.com>

**Sent:** Wednesday, January 3, 2024 2:34 PM

**To:** City Council <City.Council@ci.bremerton.wa.us>

**Subject:** Oyster Bay Homeless Shelter

The mayor is proposing spending millions of taxpayer's money on a homeless shelter on Oyster Bay Ave that is bound to fail. Putting the homeless in a large facility seems to always fail, and is not a permanent solution. Greg Wheeler states that the Oyster Bay facility is "not a permanent site". Seattle, Burien, and other cities know this all too well and seem to be moving in the direction of tiny houses. I was watching a news story on how the concept of tiny houses work. Greg Wheeler states that tiny houses would 'fill up quickly'. The mayor is not interested in ideas that work, or learning from other people's mistakes, but instead he wants to spend millions of taxpayer's money on a failed concept.

Sincerely, Randall Buchanan Resident Bremerton

**From:** Greg Wheeler <Greg.Wheeler@ci.bremerton.wa.us>  
**Sent:** Sunday, December 31, 2023 5:41 PM  
**To:** Mary Lou Long <maryloulong2515@gmail.com>  
**Cc:** City Council <City.Council@ci.bremerton.wa.us>; Katie Ketterer <Katie.Ketterer@ci.bremerton.wa.us>; Kylie Finnell <Kylie.Finnell@ci.bremerton.wa.us>; Thomas Knuckey <Thomas.Knuckey@ci.bremerton.wa.us>; Jennifer Hayes <Jennifer.Hayes@ci.bremerton.wa.us>  
**Subject:** RE: My Proposal to Construct a Homeless Shelter in Bremerton

Hi Mary Lou,

I am not proposing individual housing units (including pallets) of any kind. One of my main takeaways from the hundreds of individuals who testified over the summer from all over Bremerton was that no one wanted camping anywhere in the city. I took that message to heart when developing my proposal of developing a low barrier, walk-up, congregate living homeless shelter and fully believe it offers the only path forward that will keep our neighborhoods safe and offer support for those who will accept it. While pallet homes may be a valuable part of a holistic vision for responding to homelessness, my proposal for a homeless shelter directly addresses an imminent need; that our city no longer has a year around, low barrier, walk-up shelter. This directly affects our ability to enforce the new anti-camping ordinance, protect our neighborhoods and shelter unhoused individuals at the same time. I believe we have the opportunity to be a shining example of how best to manage this difficult situation. I have no doubt that a pallet community would fill up quickly leaving us with no shelter capacity and a return to the unregulated camping in our city that our neighborhoods and homeless individuals suffered from this summer. I am committed to ensuring that never happens again. Experienced shelter operators and individuals with real life experience living in shelters will be enlisted to help with design and operations development once I have approval to move forward. As I mentioned in my previous email, please refer to the link to the project website embedded in the below email to review the site selection criteria. Take care and Happy New Year.

Sincerely,

Greg Wheeler  
Mayor  
City of Bremerton  
(360) 473-5266

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**From:** Mary Lou Long <[maryloulong2515@gmail.com](mailto:maryloulong2515@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Sunday, December 31, 2023 12:20 PM  
**To:** Greg Wheeler <[Greg.Wheeler@ci.bremerton.wa.us](mailto:Greg.Wheeler@ci.bremerton.wa.us)>  
**Subject:** Re: My Proposal to Construct a Homeless Shelter in Bremerton

Renting a warehouse and retrofitting it with showers, restroom facilities and laundry machines would be more economical than building an entire building . If this is a facility that is more than likely going to be used for only a few months out of the year for mostly inclement weather, I think this is a far more sensible way to address the problem of street people that can not get into housing. Army cots can be purchased from surplus stores. People using this facility can use their own tent for privacy as they have

used on the streets. This will give them an area to have some privacy. As much as they did on the street. Making it a prerequisite that they are put into housing only makes it a magnet for more individuals to flock to our city. It is not the responsibility of tax paying citizens to provide for anyone who enters our city a living space. We the citizens have not voted to spend our hard earned tax dollars to be landlords of unprofitable housing units. Will those not able to find a way to provide for themselves be required to pay anything toward their housing? What is the scale which they will be held to? What if they do not make their payments? will they be required to make automatic payments from whatever resource they receive funds? Can we expel them? If these facilities are to be monitored how much will the city allocate to that new position or will it be a job for the police? Can you reply to these questions in writing?



**From:** jamie belcher <jamiedrubelcher5@gmail.com>

**Sent:** Tuesday, January 2, 2024 6:21 PM

**To:** City Council <City.Council@ci.bremerton.wa.us>

**Subject:** For:Jeff Coughlin,PhD, PMP President, Bremerton City Council RE: Oyster Ave. considered site for shelter

**Just read your words that were shared on our Bay Vista Neighborhood site.**

**Thank you for your  
intelligent and informed post.**

**I urge you to please not choose this Oyster Ave. site for a homeless shelter where I  
will be walking my dog and playing with the grandchildren  
at the playground across the street.**

**I moved here from The Long Beach Peninsula and bought a new home on Bay Vista  
Blvd., in what I thought  
was a safe environment. I'm a retired teacher with a masters degree. There must  
be a better solution.**

**Thank you for caring and understanding this issue. I appreciate you and your  
commitment to work with everyone.**

**Please help us protect our grandchildren and seniors.  
Jamie Dru Belcher**

**From:** Greg Wheeler <Greg.Wheeler@ci.bremerton.wa.us>  
**Sent:** Sunday, December 31, 2023 5:27 PM  
**To:** Mary Lou Long <maryloulong2515@gmail.com>  
**Cc:** City Council <City.Council@ci.bremerton.wa.us>; Katie Ketterer <Katie.Ketterer@ci.bremerton.wa.us>; Thomas Knuckey <Thomas.Knuckey@ci.bremerton.wa.us>; Kylie Finnell <Kylie.Finnell@ci.bremerton.wa.us>  
**Subject:** RE: My Proposal to Construct a Homeless Shelter in Bremerton

Good evening Mary Lou,

Thank you for your email. I appreciate you bringing your comments, questions, and concerns to my attention. A link to the project website that was imbedded in the below letter will answer many questions about site selection for a year around, low barrier, walk-up shelter. The Salvation Army is currently operating a winter homeless shelter. Take care and Happy New Year.

Sincerely,

Greg Wheeler  
Mayor  
City of Bremerton  
(360) 473-5266

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**From:** Mary Lou Long <[maryloulong2515@gmail.com](mailto:maryloulong2515@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Sunday, December 31, 2023 11:58 AM  
**To:** Greg Wheeler <[Greg.Wheeler@ci.bremerton.wa.us](mailto:Greg.Wheeler@ci.bremerton.wa.us)>  
**Subject:** Re: My Proposal to Construct a Homeless Shelter in Bremerton

I plan to attend. I am curious as to whether or not the mayor and the Council have considered the concept of renting for the severe weather months a warehouse or existing building to shelter those who have not been housed otherwise? Would it not be more economical to rent for these few months an existing shelter with restrooms and showers and a laundry facility? The retrofitting of the amenities would cost less than building an entire building. I would like to have an answer to why this option has not been offered or explored to date.

**From:** amy.m.watermanmn@gmail.com <amy.m.watermanmn@gmail.com>

**Sent:** Wednesday, January 3, 2024 11:41 AM

**To:** City Council <City.Council@ci.bremerton.wa.us>

**Subject:** Email of Appreciation - Bremerton City Council Considering All Options to address the Unhoused

Dear City Council Members,

I read Chairman Coughlin's comments in today's Kitsap Sun article and felt it was important to share my appreciation to the Council for pausing on your vote to ensure you are considering all options for our unhoused neighbors.

In September of 2023, I and many of my neighbors began asking Mayor Wheeler's office for the details of his proposed congregate shelter. At that time, we received vague or evasive responses as to how the due diligence was done and did not see that any impact assessment had been conducted before selecting the Oyster Bay site. Needless to say, his responses (or lack of response) concerned us. So much so, that we spoke to you during many Council meetings, in emails like this one, and via the Kitsap Sun.

As our elected officials, you have done as we hope all who are elected to office do – you listened. And, you have now taken up the difficult task of investigating all the options and demanding answers to all of the hard questions.

The Mayor has asked you to approve moving forward with building a Congregate shelter near Oyster Bay. He has done this without including the input of housing and social service experts. He has done so without providing a complete plan for funding. And he has done so without establishing what services will be required to run a shelter within a densely residential neighborhood.

You now have alternative solutions before you to consider. I urge you, on behalf of all Bremerton residents, to demand a plan where:

- 1) Funding for site selection, preparation, public safety, and human support services is transparent and clear;
- 2) Impact assessments (economic, safety and social) have been thoroughly conducted;
- 3) The structure of the actual facility is planned and built in a way that respects the humanity and dignity of its residents;
- 4) And, where planning and resources are clearly in place that truly enable our unhoused neighbors the opportunity to transition into more permanent housing.

In conjunction with my request to you, I and other residents of Bremerton have asked our County Commissioners to pursue the following so they too can aid you in completing this very difficult work:

- 5) A complete examination and analysis before committing any county funding for a shelter.
- 6) A 5-to-10-year funding plan so that all in Kitsap County understand the demands such a shelter will have on our communities.
- 7) An assessment that lays out the short and long-term economic and public safety impact.
- 8) An impact assessment that lays out how each shelter option will affect emergency (public safety, fire, and paramedic) services for all residents of Bremerton. And, if considerable, what the city and county will fund to ensure this is not the case.



- 9) Assess the intent of such a shelter and determine if, by placing a county wide shelter in the City of Bremerton, we are asking county residents with the least economic and political influence to bear the brunt of what is a county wide issue.

I look forward to hearing the progress you are making at the January 10<sup>th</sup> working session. Before then, I want to iterate that it is clear to me how very difficult this work is for our City Council. I am grateful for all of your efforts to truly examine the options before casting your vote.

Your efforts are important to me as a homeowner but also to the man I encountered in my car the other day. He was standing in front of the Dairy Queen off Kitsap Way eating a bag of chips – wearing no jacket and no shoes. All I had to give him was a heavy pair of socks from my winter car kit. My hope is that we will not simply build another congregate shelter that provides only temporary shelter for him.

Amy Waterman  
Bremerton Resident

**From:** Chuck Capps <chuck@advantagenissan.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 2, 2024 3:12 PM  
**To:** City Council <City.Council@ci.bremerton.wa.us>  
**Subject:** Homeless Camp Proposal

Hello Council,

First I would like to commend you all for postponing the decision making on the Mayors proposed homeless structure. Due diligence is necessary. I for one; am completely against having any shelter or housing on the Oyster Bay proposal. The drug use and crime associated with the homeless will only plague Kitsap Way business, and homes more than it is. I would suggest speaking with the troops on the ground and in the trenches. The BPD officers I have spoke with all agree on what a bad idea it is, and how crime will only increase.

Also from my understanding on following this, it is now also a county wide shelter? We DO NOT need to have everyone sending us more homeless people from around the county. That is not helping the tax payers of Bremerton. I understand you all are going to have to make some tough decisions. I hope you make them with the actual law biding, tax paying citizens best interest.

In closing, I would ask you to shut it all down. If it doesn't happen in the Mayor's time line too bad. This isn't something to rush into. Find a different location than the Oyster Bay one, and do not make something for the county to have everyone shipped to Bremerton. That's a terrible idea.

Thanks for listening

Chuck Capps  
Advantage Nissan/ Advantage Used Car & Truck Center  
[chuck@advantagenissan.com](mailto:chuck@advantagenissan.com)  
360-373-6300  
[www.advantagenissan.com](http://www.advantagenissan.com)  
[www.washingtonusedcardealer.com](http://www.washingtonusedcardealer.com)

"There are no traffic jams going the extra mile"



**From:** barb frey <barblfrey@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, December 29, 2023 11:08 PM  
**To:** Greg Wheeler <Greg.Wheeler@ci.bremerton.wa.us>; City Council  
<City.Council@ci.bremerton.wa.us>  
**Subject:** OYSTER BAY

Greetings,

I am writing once again regarding your idea of placing a homeless encampment/housing site on the hillside of Oyster Bay. For that matter, placing a homeless encampment/housing site in ANY residential/business area.

I will re-iterate; I have lived/worked In the Kitsap Way area for many years. I am very familiar with the citizens who prefer the homeless way of life. I respect their right to live that way. I want you to know that so you dont assume my statements are from a naive, closed-minded, disrespectful point of view. Most of the citizens that will inhabit this site aren't employed and don't want to be.(I know this to be a fact). As pretty a picture that you'd like to paint thinking they want to fit into our urban lifestyle....they don't. Again, that's their choice. As a result, they have 24 hours a day to walk through our nearby neighborhoods and retail sites and take what isn't nailed down. The dumpsters full of refuse the city disposes of when they clear an encampment weren't purchased by the residents of that encampment. It was taken from the hardworking residents in nearby neighborhoods. I have experience of my personal space being invaded by the those who prefer to use their dollars for drugs/alcohol and steal from me to get more money for drugs/alcohol.

In your latest email you speak of homelessness being a complex issue...it is not complex (THEY WANT TO LIVE BY THEIR OWN RULES) and it will never be solved. It is as simple as people who do not want to comply with rules of our civilized society because of drugs and/or mental health issues. You speak of 'delivering a balanced path forward to provide a safe place for people seeking shelter'. Well, that's the tax paying residents living in close proximity of the shelter you propose. They want to move forward in a safe place. Your placement of this encampment in this residential area is disrespectful to nearby residents because it jeopardizes their sense of security and their kids safety. Do you not care about the impact this will have on the residents of this area? You state in your email "There is a criminal element that thrives in homeless encampments". You're admitting the "negative impact on neighborhoods" but still insist on bringing it to the Oyster Bay neighborhood. What you don't seem to get is this criminal element IS the homeless people you're spending a lot of time and money inviting into my neighborhood. As I



said earlier, I don't want a homeless shelter close to any residential area. Find a site that doesn't make it convenient to appropriate the property of others. Away from kids play areas. Make it more difficult for them to destroy what we taxpayers have worked hard to build.

It is my experience that the many housing resources in Bremerton have been able to locate and financially assist the many that are truly searching for housing. I hope they will continue to assist those playing by the rules and seeking a better life.

I hope you will read this with the sincerity it was written.

Thanks  
Barb Frey

**From:** Lisa Ganowski <lisa.ganowski@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 3, 2024 12:39 PM  
**To:** City Council <City.Council@ci.bremerton.wa.us>  
**Subject:** Lisa Ganowski Letter to Editor

Ugh - clean version attached! L

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**From:** Lisa Ganowski <lisa.ganowski@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 3, 2024 12:23 PM  
**To:** City Council <City.Council@ci.bremerton.wa.us>  
**Subject:** Letter to Editor

Hello Bremerton City Council!

Attached is a copy of a letter-to-the-editor I submitted to the Kitsap Sun a few moments ago.

Thank you (again) for delaying your vote last month on the mayor's shelter proposal.

Thank you for your professionalism during last month's study session when the mayor reacted to your honest - and necessary - questions with a tantrum. I am appalled at his behavior during that meeting.

Thank you for taking the time you need to research and understand the implications of the two shelter proposals before you vote for what is best for all of Bremerton's residents.

Mr. Council President, thank you for your well-crafted letter in response to the mayor's letter.

Lisa Ganowski

Bremerton Resident

Small Business Owner

Trans-parent to a former Bremerton homeless drug abuser (who today celebrates 502 days in recovery)

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Last week, the mayor published a long letter arguing why his temporary congregate shelter is the only option Bremerton can pursue to address our homeless situation. I spent considerable time reading through his letter. Here are some points to consider and what his proposal means for our city:

1. Wastes millions of taxpayer dollars for a temporary fix.
2. Gives us something to look forward to when we scramble for another solution in the future.
3. Pushes the unhoused farther away from available services.

4. Doesn't acknowledge that our current shelter rarely fills to capacity. Many unhoused won't stay in this type of shelter and *choose the street or woods over this model*.
5. Instills fear the city can't enforce no-camping laws if we don't have space; a bully tactic used to force us into accepting his plan as the "only option."
6. Blows a smoke screen in front of other shelter proposals to hide their success with phrases like pallet shelters "will fill quickly" when this is actually an awesome indicator of a shelter model THAT WORKS.
7. Falsely calls our community experts' proposal "insufficient" because it doesn't address no-camping laws...Getting people safely off the street IS supporting no-camping laws.
8. Pretends that smaller shelters in multiple locations specifically designed to address the different needs of our unhoused neighbors isn't important; it's not one-size-fits-all.

Shame on you, Mr. Mayor. Mine is not the only vote you've lost.

Lisa Ganowski  
Bremerton Resident & Small Business Owner



**From:** Bill Mosiman <wpmosiman@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 7, 2024 5:29 PM  
**To:** City Council <City.Council@ci.bremerton.wa.us>  
**Subject:** Homeless Shelter Options

City Council,

We appreciate what a difficult problem it is in trying to address the homelessness issue. We also know this needs to be addressed sooner rather than later but getting it right the first time is even more important, so we encourage you to take whatever time is needed to get this right.

If the goal is to simply prevent the homeless from camping within the city the congregated shelter solution will suffice. However, the congregate shelter, as proposed by the mayor, will do nothing to reduce the homeless population so is only a half measure.

We agree with the opinions already shared with the city council regarding the problems with congregate shelters and the benefits of using pallet shelters and a pallet shelter/congregate shelter hybrid approach, so we do not need to repeat those points here. What we do want is for the City Council to make the decision based on data that demonstrates positive action to reduce the homeless population *along with* making shelter available. Absent such data, please take the advice of the social service agencies that have already weighed in. These folks have the experience and expertise with this problem that the Mayor does not have.

Finally, this is more than just about removing homeless encampments, this is about helping the most disadvantaged of our citizens in a respectful and humane manner while addressing the homeless encampment issue.

We strongly disagree with the Mayor's proposal and encourage you to adopt the solution proposed by the social service agencies.

Bill and Carolyn Mosiman  
1545 Madrona Point Dr.  
Bremerton, WA

**From:** Brianna Shafer <briannashafer@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 4, 2024 1:02 PM  
**To:** City Council <City.Council@ci.bremerton.wa.us>; Anna Mockler <Anna.Mockler@ci.bremerton.wa.us>  
**Subject:** Homeless Shelter

Dear Council Members,

On December 29<sup>th</sup>, 2023, Mayor Wheeler sent out a mass email to the residents of Bremerton explaining why his proposal is the best option along with extreme scare tactics to get you to vote for his *amazing* sales pitch. I am extremely disappointed to see our mayor act in such an immature manner throughout this whole process but very grateful that you are beginning to call him out and see his true colors. The mayor has continuously deceived you and the public in a way that it is hard to believe anything he says. This proposal seems to only benefit the Public Works Department (since they get the land after the 3 years) and the mayor more than it will help those who need these services. He brought you a poorly planned proposal 1-month before supposed funding requests are approved, refused to speak/work with important experts, and has stiff armed the entire community.

A few questions I have that our community has not been able to find out or make sense of:

1. Is the funding deadline Mayor Wheeler stated accurate? I have been trying to find out who we can get this answer from.
2. If Salvation Army is "out of the game" as Wheeler claimed in the study session, then why is it that they are willing to stay open until 2025 AND run this new shelter? Have any of the members reached out to The Salvation Army directly to see if this is another bluff? As stated in previous meetings, we have contacted a few people there and they stated as long as the city/state funds them, they remain open. Something isn't adding up.
3. Have you done your research and studied the proposed area that contains a preschool directly behind the area, West Sound Tech, and an elementary school down the road?
4. This site was only proposed for an "encampment", and it was determined 1 acre is not necessary for a shelter, are there any other locations?

Again, thank you so much to those of you who have spoken up and have had the communities back during this time. I truly hope the expert's proposal will be taken seriously by the council since there is no hidden agenda behind it.

Brianna Shafer

**From:** Brittany Mellegard <bmellegard@msn.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 4, 2024 3:46 PM  
**To:** City Council <City.Council@ci.bremerton.wa.us>  
**Subject:** Proposed Oyster Bay Ave and recent City Council Meetings

Greetings City Council,

I wanted to take some time to address a few more concerns I have about the proposed shelter on Oyster Bay and some items that came up on the 1/3/24, 12/20/23, and 12/13/23 city council meeting.

During the city council meeting on 12/20/23, Katie Ketterer from Public Works was given the opportunity to provide some counterpoints to concerns brought up from the neighborhood. She omitted one of our main concerns, which is the site being directly across from the neighborhood playground. It is also directly across from the OESD preschool on National Ave, West Sound Tech (hosts high school children), and right down the street from West Hills STEM Academy School (elementary school). I included a map below to show the proximity. Lastly, to which I believe you are already aware, this site is in the middle of a residential neighborhood.

On 1/3/24, CPT Dana Walters expressed that the site would be a great transition site for those recently released from jail or prison, but would not include those who are violent. Violence is not the only offense we should be protecting our children from.



Another talking point brought up by CPT Dana Walters was that this was a permanent shelter and that they would be happy to run it. This brings about two major questions.



1. Wheeler has said over and over again that the Salvation Army is "out of the year-round shelter business". How and why are they able to run this one? Where will this funding come from that we already can't provide or assist with for the current shelter? Per the presentation on 12/13/2023 this new shelter will cost around \$2 million a year to run and that's after the upwards of \$6 million to develop the property.
2. Wheeler has consistently touted this as a temporary shelter that will later be given to Public Works for future endeavors. So is it permanent or temporary? Who is being lied to?

On a more general note, I find it completely disingenuous that the mayor had the entire year to develop a proposal and work with the BHA/KCR/etc but decided to forge his own way and present an incomplete proposal just 4 weeks before an important deadline for grant funding (and expecting you to vote on it 1 week later). It seems that not just the city and its citizens, but also you as the city council are being coerced into this situation, which is unethical and unfair. There are so many unanswered questions, to which I personally emailed the Mayor in October 2023 and received a generic PR email and sales pitch back.

Some of the answers received were that he can't research or start anything without city council approval, and yet money was spent into the 5 figures to have a 30% design and presentation completed by RPM for a site that has yet to be approved.

I have a difficult time believing this site is the only site available for use, as it sits completely undeveloped. What I see here is a potential hidden agenda to use grant funding to develop property for Public Works use. The land issues have been brought up many times in council meetings regarding the terrain, steepness of the grade, storm water issues, etc. This proposal is to benefit Public Works and the mayor's PR image, not to help the people of Bremerton NOW.

Thank you for reading my letter, and I want to personally thank the council for asking the hard questions. I genuinely appreciate your support and search for clarity regarding this major issue.

Sincerely,  
Brittany Mellegard

**From:** Dianna Loiacano <[thedivagirl@gmail.com](mailto:thedivagirl@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 7, 2024 11:52 AM  
**To:** City Council <[City.Council@ci.bremerton.wa.us](mailto:City.Council@ci.bremerton.wa.us)>  
**Subject:** Please read

Mr. Coughlin read this article and forward on to whom ever will be voting in on the " Mayors" proposal.

Dianna Loiacano  
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<https://share.newsbreak.com/5ucynid0>

## Mayor's focus on single shelter isn't best for Bremerton

**Lisa Ganowski, Bremerton** Kitsap Sun

Published 10:26 a.m. PT Jan. 4, 2024

Last week, Bremerton Mayor Greg Wheeler published a long letter arguing why his temporary congregate shelter is the only option Bremerton can pursue to address our homeless situation. I spent considerable time reading through his letter. Here are some points to consider and what his proposal means for our city:

1. Wastes millions of taxpayer dollars for a temporary fix.
2. Gives us something to look forward to when we scramble for another solution in the future.
3. Pushes the unhoused farther away from available services.
4. Doesn't acknowledge that our current shelter rarely fills to capacity. Many unhoused won't stay in this type of shelter and choose the street or woods over this model.
5. Instills fear the city can't enforce no-camping laws if we don't have space; a bully tactic to force us into accepting his plan as the "only option."
6. Blows a smoke screen in front of other shelter proposals to hide their success with phrases like pallet shelters "will fill quickly" when this is actually an awesome indicator of a shelter model *that works*.
7. Falsely calls our community experts' proposal "insufficient" because it doesn't address no-camping laws...Getting people safely off the street IS supporting no-camping laws.
8. Pretends that smaller shelters in multiple locations specifically designed to address the different needs of our unhoused neighbors isn't important; it's not

one-size-fits-all. Shame on you, Mr. Mayor. Mine is not the only vote you've lost.

*Lisa Ganowski, Bremerton*

*This article originally appeared on Kitsap Sun: [Mayor's focus on single shelter isn't best for Bremerton](#)*



**From:** Francesca Taporco <ftaporco@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 3, 2024 5:26 PM  
**To:** Anna Mockler <Anna.Mockler@ci.bremerton.wa.us>  
**Cc:** City Council <City.Council@ci.bremerton.wa.us>  
**Subject:** Bremerton Homeless Shelter

Dear Councilmember Anna Mockler and City Council,

I'm writing to you in regards to the city's or mayor's plans to develop a homeless shelter off of Oyster Bay.

We are residents of Bay Vista and were informed in the Fall by our HOA of the city's plans for an emergency shelter. We believe our unhoused community members deserve to live with dignity. We also know we are not experts on the housing and homelessness crisis; and I hesitate to weigh in on an issue I still need more education on. However, we do have reservations on if the current plan for the development is the best course of action for Bay Vista residents and our safety, as well as our unhoused community members.

In 2023, my husband and I had experienced firsthand crime and safety issues within Bay Vista. His truck was stolen out of our driveway in May of 2023 (A police report was filed: B23-002810). We also had an incident in April with another current Bay Vista community member where their unleashed dog attacked our leashed dog and us while we walked by (An animal control report was filed: Case #61219). These crime and safety issues have already caused us to take various precautions; such as adding anti-theft devices to our cars, more cameras to our house, and adjusting our walking route to the wooded trail directly behind our home/neighborhood. We frequently see children running through the trail playing outside; but we more often see what we believe to be non-residents, or unhoused people, partaking in illegal and illicit behaviors. It is our belief that the Bay Vista community already is experiencing issues we need help addressing; adding more people and neighbors into the mix will just exacerbate what we're currently dealing with.

At this time, we realize there's no perfect solution as this is a complex issue. We want to express we plan to increase our engagement and truly hope that you and your fellow councilmembers, as well as the mayor, put your best efforts out to listen to community members concerns from Bay Vista while also doing your best to support the unhoused, in collaboration with the experts and resources in our city and beyond.

Thanks for your time and consideration.

Best,  
Francesca & Brian Tyson

--

**From:** Thomas, Kristal I. <Kristal.Thomas@ExpressPros.com>

**Sent:** Thursday, January 4, 2024 4:15 PM

**To:** City Council <City.Council@ci.bremerton.wa.us>; Michelle Fleetwood <m\_fleetwood@yahoo.com>

**Cc:** anton@nwhospitality.org; Greg Wheeler <Greg.Wheeler@ci.bremerton.wa.us>; kitsapcommissioners@kitsap.gov; Charlotte Garrido <cgarrido@kitsap.gov>; Katie Walters <kwalters@kitsap.gov>; dawnmichelewilson@gmail.com; Bailey Tupai <bailey2pai@gmail.com>; Marwan Cameron <gather2grow@g2g2.org>; Drayton Jackson-FHPM <DJackson@HomelessPovertyManagement.org>; Kelsey Stedman <kelsey.e.stedman@gmail.com>; kim siebens <kimmysiebens@yahoo.com>; kuyehara@gannett.com; david.nelson@kitsapsun.com; Donel Steves <donel@through-linecoaching.com>; Anthony Ives <aives@kcr.org>; Jill Stanton <jstanton@bremertonhousing.org>

**Subject:** RE: Public Comments - My Proposal to Construct a Homeless Shelter in Bremerton (Michelle Fleetwood)

Thank you for looping me into this conversation Anton.

Dear City Council Members and Mayor Wheeler,

I am writing to urge you to support the proposal to build pallet homes for the homeless in our community. Pallet homes can provide dignified, safe, and cost-effective shelter for people experiencing homelessness, as well as a pathway to permanent housing and employment.

As you may know, many people who are homeless have experienced trauma, such as abuse, violence, or loss, that has impacted their mental and physical health, their relationships, and their ability to function in society. Living on the streets or in congregate shelters can exacerbate their trauma and make it harder for them to recover and reintegrate.

This is something I see every day as an employment agency. It is very difficult for those in a shelter situation to maintain the attendance, focus and attention needed to hold a job.

No to mention, they must take their belongings with them to work everyday which takes some of the dignity out of work as they are now advertising their situation.

Pallet homes can offer a solution that addresses the needs of the homeless population and the goals of our city. Pallet homes are:

- **Dignified:** Pallet homes provide privacy, security, and comfort for the residents, who can stay with their partners, pets, and belongings. They can also decorate and personalize their space, which can foster a sense of ownership and pride.
- **Safe:** Pallet homes are made of durable and non-organic materials that are resistant to mold, mildew, and rot. They are also fireproof, waterproof, and insulated, which can protect the residents from harsh weather and environmental hazards. And for especially women and children who have experienced sexual/physical abuse, shelters are not always safe and can be triggering. Lack of safety can create permanent mental disabilities that will require continued support.
- **Cost-effective:** Pallet homes are easy to assemble, transport, and maintain, which can save time and money for the city and the service providers. They are also energy-efficient and environmentally friendly, which can reduce the carbon footprint and the waste generated by the homeless population. They can also be moved to different areas of the City/County as needed to support the homeless population and do not need to be a permanent fixture in any one place.

- Pallet homes have been proven to be effective in reducing homelessness and improving outcomes for the homeless population in other cities, such as Los Angeles, Everett, and Seattle. They have also been praised by the residents, who have reported feeling more hopeful, stable, and empowered by living in pallet homes.

I believe that pallet homes can make a positive difference in our community, and I hope that you will support this proposal. By investing in pallet homes, we can not only provide shelter for the homeless, but also help them heal from trauma and achieve their potential.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Sincerely,

**Kristal Thomas | Owner & CEO**

Express Employment Professionals

4545 Auto Center Way, B2 | Bremerton, WA 98312

(360) 479-4756 | [Kristal.Thomas@ExpressPros.com](mailto:Kristal.Thomas@ExpressPros.com)

Book Time with me: [Microsoft Bookings](#)





**From:** Lisa Levy <llevy@jsp LLC.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 4, 2024 12:09 PM  
**Cc:** City Council <City.Council@ci.bremerton.wa.us>  
**Subject:** Ambrose Letter to Residents and Community

January 4, 2024

Dear Ambrose Residents and Bay Vista Neighbors,

You might have seen Mayor Wheeler's email about his shelter proposal, which he circulated Friday before the holiday weekend. We appreciate the Mayor's hard work, but we need to clarify several areas where his letter does not share the whole story.

The Mayor has shared ***no evidence or factual support*** for his statement that "my proposal... is the only option" that will provide enough shelter space for those who request it. The Mayor's continued lack of transparency around this project was shown once again in this email; he did not list the proposed address. Does he not want the neighborhood to know that this site at 100 Oyster Bay is located near to a school, a park, a new neighborhood with many young families and seniors?

We also do not know why he stated his idea is the only one that can possibly work. First, the existing Salvation Army shelter is often not full. But more importantly, ***his process and his proposal have ignored other viable proposals and ideas, particularly from local social services experts and nonprofit partners.*** He has been receiving proposals and requests from social services experts since at least March of 2023, but it seems like he has mostly ignored them.

Social-services experts and nonprofit partners have been clear that the Mayor's current proposal will not do much to help our neighbors get back on their feet. It would be an expensive band-aid instead of a practical and compassionate solution. This current proposal does not offer any transitional housing to truly assist the unhoused population find permanent housing. It is truly temporary.

***In his letter, the idea that the Mayor describes as the "City of Bremerton's Proposal" is actually the Mayor's proposal.*** Ignoring help and ideas from community stakeholders and nonprofit help or advice, it seems like he directed City staff to run a limited process that rushed to clear-cut the Oyster Bay site for a homeless shelter in a family-oriented residential neighborhood, where shelter clients will not have good access to transit, jobs, or any social services they may need. A coalition of experts and nonprofit leaders are still working on other proposals that we hope will also be presented to the City Council. These proposals offer a better hybrid approach to actually helping the unhoused population and these proposals have a plan (with costs) for operations. By comparison, we have not seen a fully explained plan (and certainly no consideration of ongoing costs) in the Mayor's current proposal.

The City's next meetings on this proposal will be held at 5:30 pm on January 10th and 17th, in person and on Zoom. The most important meeting is on the 17th.

***Public comment will be allowed in person on the 17<sup>th</sup>, when the Council is scheduled to vote. If you are able to - attend in person, or [email the Council](#) and please make a simple public comment just asking that the Mayor and Council seriously listen to social services experts about how better shelter***

***options can be built. Ask that they take that advice seriously, instead of rushing to clear-cut and build in our community without pausing to think of the consequences.***

If you can't attend the full Council's meeting on the 17th, consider attending Councilmember Anna Mockler's townhall meeting on Jan. 8th, from 4-6 pm at 100 Oyster Bay Ave N (Bremerton Public Works).

Former Bremerton councilmember Roy Runyon said on December 20th: "I'm glad [the Councilmembers] are asking questions and slowing the process down. You guys should have had options, choices: this is what this is going to cost capital-wise, this is what this is going to cost operationally. You weren't given choices."

Let's all make our voices heard, to help the Council give thoughtful consideration to ***all*** options to support our unhoused neighbors – not just the Mayor's idea.

Thank you,

Lisa Levy  
Asset Manager – Ambrose Apartments

CC: City Council: [City.Council@ci.bremerton.wa.us](mailto:City.Council@ci.bremerton.wa.us)

PS: We have been very grateful to see the Councilmembers' leadership in thinking critically about the various proposals and issues at hand, including most recently a very thoughtful letter from Councilmember Jeff Coughlin.

Lisa Levy  
Asset Manager

**From:** randall buchanan <randallbuchanan@hotmail.com>

**Sent:** Thursday, January 4, 2024 1:13 PM

**To:** City Council <City.Council@ci.bremerton.wa.us>

**Subject:** Oyster Bay Homeless Shelter

Dear Council Members, Thank you for your hard work and research on this problem. After reading the latest article dated January 4 in the Kitsap Sun, Social Service Providers Discuss Hybrid Shelter Option ahead of Vote, it has become clear that the Mayors idea of one size fits all is flawed. Spending millions of dollars on a concept that is bound to fail. I urge you to vote against the mayor's proposal and come up with a real solution that will work. A lot of Bremerton residents are watching this vote, and I believe it would be wise not attach yourself to this political sinking ship.

Best regards,  
Randall Buchanan



**From:** sheilaroberts sheilasplace.com <sheilaroberts@sheilasplace.com>

**Sent:** Thursday, January 4, 2024 8:04 AM

**To:** Anna Mockler <Anna.Mockler@ci.bremerton.wa.us>

**Cc:** City Council <City.Council@ci.bremerton.wa.us>

**Subject:** Concerns re Mayor Wheeler's letter

Dear Council Members,

Upon receiving the mayors 12/29 message regarding his homeless shelter proposal, I wrote to him regarding my concerns. I have included both my letter and his response below. In my letter, I expressed my concerns regarding his insistence that the Oyster Bay site he's been pushing is the best option for helping the homeless rather than what has been proposed by the organizations and experts that deal with helping the homeless on a regular basis. These are the experts, the people with boots on the ground, and I am still mystified over the fact that he is so determined to push his plan through despite hearing consistent opposition from the experts. He has presented no concrete plans for size or layout of this shelter, no plans for shelter operations, and no plans for the safety of the shelter residents or the community adjacent to the site. The mayor continues to state this is temporary however he has provided no timeline and can't guarantee this shelter, which would be near no social services, won't be permanent as there is no plan in place to help people off the streets. He is treating this as a long term stop gap at a massive cost to the tax payers. He has continued to state there are 200+ people waiting for rooms while ignoring the fact that the Salvation Army has not filled up since opening. The fact of the matter is that people would rather sleep on the street in the cold and rain at risk of going to jail than go to SA and you can see that proof all over the city. Despite ALL that information he is continuing to push this larger than necessary congregate shelter when the real need is small room/palette house shelters. The hybrid option provided by the community agencies addresses both needs, an immediate overnight shelter and something that provides privacy and dignity and a bit more stability to those who want to break the unhoused cycle they have found themselves in.

Additionally, he has consistently neglected to address the real affects that the community this shelter would be placed within would feel. If you have walked by Salvation Army, you see what can happen when people do not have a place for their stuff, the surrounding area looks like a dumpster. Visitors to Bremerton certainly won't feel good about staying in either of the vintage hotels near the site. I realize we have two very nice hotels in downtown Bremerton, but surely we don't need to drive others out of business. Finally, as this feels like a general herding of people with varying needs and problems into one facility, I'm concerned about safety issues, not only to the residents in the shelter also the community in general.

I feel our mayor is not only letting us down but actively working against the community he is supposed to be representing and I'm hoping that based on your very detailed questions and concerns presented at the last study session that you, our city council will do what he is not and protect all of the citizens of our city. Please vote against the mayors proposal and steer the mayor in the direction of the wiser and more carefully considered plan.

Sincerely,  
Sheila Rabe  
2140 Madrona Point Dr.

Dear Sheila,

Thank you for your email. I appreciate you taking the time to share your thoughts with me. One of my main takeaways from the hundreds of individuals who testified over the summer from all over Bremerton was that no one wanted camping anywhere in the city. I took that message to heart when developing my proposal and fully believe it offers the only path forward that will keep our neighborhoods safe and offer support for those who will accept it. While pallet homes may be a valuable part of a holistic vision for responding to homelessness, my proposal for a homeless shelter directly addresses an imminent need; that our city no longer has a year around, low barrier, walk-up shelter. This directly affects our ability to enforce the new anti-camping ordinance, protect our neighborhoods and shelter individuals at the same time. I believe we have the opportunity to be a shining example of how best to manage this difficult situation. I have no doubt that a pallet community would fill up quickly leaving us with no shelter capacity and a return to the unregulated camping in our city that our neighborhoods and homeless individuals suffered from this summer. I am committed to ensuring that never happens again. Experienced shelter operators and individuals with real life experience living in shelters will be enlisted to help with design and operations development once I have approval to move forward. Take care and Happy New Year.

Sincerely,

Greg Wheeler  
Mayor  
City of Bremerton  
(360) 473-5266

**From:** Dan Herron <dh913@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 5, 2024 11:45 AM  
**To:** City Council <City.Council@ci.bremerton.wa.us>  
**Subject:** Homeless shelter(s)

Dear City Council Members,

I've been following your discussions about the homeless and shelter housing for them. Based on what I have seen so far, I advocate a hybrid model as suggested by our community partners like KCR. I realize that the devil is in the details and I trust that you will pursue due diligence in finding the best solution(s). Unfortunately, time is of the essence. We will need a decision at the next city Council meeting on January 17th.

I urge you to come up with some kind of decision by then even if it means compromising. We (and the homeless) cannot put off this decision any longer. I also understand that there are funding deadlines coming up soon.

No decision will be perfect, but you can always make adjustments as we move forward. I agree with Council Member Younger, we cannot go backwards. We must have shelter space available so that we don't return to the camping in public spaces like we had last summer.

Sincerely,

Dan Herron  
1540 Houston Avenue  
Bremerton, WA 98312  
646 - 340 - 4696  
[dh913@hotmail.com](mailto:dh913@hotmail.com)



**From:** Jon D. Brenner <jdb@spinnakerbldg.com>

**Sent:** Tuesday, January 9, 2024 9:15 AM

**To:** Greg Wheeler <Greg.Wheeler@ci.bremerton.wa.us>; Legal <Legal@ci.bremerton.wa.us>; City Council <City.Council@ci.bremerton.wa.us>; vbrazitis@kitsap.gov; tperez@kitsap.gov; jaufderh@kitsap.gov

**Cc:** Neil Wachter <n timer@spinnakerbldg.com>

**Subject:** Shelter Ordinance Oyster Bay Development

Dear All,

Please find attached correspondence regarding the Oyster Bay Development. Hard copies will follow.

Sincerely,

Jon Brenner | Paralegal

Sanchez, Mitchell, Eastman & Cure, PSC

4110 Kitsap Way, Suite 200 | Bremerton, WA 98312

T 360.479.3000 | F 360.479.3983

[jdb@spinnakerbldg.com](mailto:jdb@spinnakerbldg.com)

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(1921-1987)

January 9, 2024

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345 6th St., Suite 100  
Bremerton, WA 98337

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Quinn Dennehy  
Council Member  
345 6th St., Suite 100  
Bremerton, WA 98337

VIA US MAIL AND EMAIL

(Greg.Wheeler@ci.bremerton.wa.us / legal@ci.bremerton.wa.us / City.Council@ci.bremerton.wa.us)

**RE: City's Draft Shelter Ordinance Oyster Bay Development**

Dear Mayor Wheeler, Council Members and Ms. Finnell:

The 144-homeowner Bay Vista Community Owners Association urges the City Council to reject the Mayor's proposal to develop a homeless shelter and services facility on the City's Oyster Bay real property (Tax Parcel No. 3748-001-007-0200), located off Kitsap Way. The

Association is prepared to pursue court intervention if the City adopts this proposal, which has been assembled without proper review required under State law and likely violates Bremerton's own zoning and critical areas codes. Furthermore, this proposed siting would place a low-barrier shelter facility in very close proximity to the Bay Vista neighborhood and its many families.

The City's proposed facility has been described as "an enclosed campus for a 100-person capacity, low-barrier walk-up congregate shelter", housed in a "Sprung" structure. This proposal is being cast as one of two options to be considered at the January 17, 2024 Council meeting, with "Plan B" being a pallet shelter facility proposed by several local non-profits. Respectfully, this is a false choice, because the Mayor's proposal has focused the City's staff, attention and effort on a property that cannot legally host the proposed facility, and the City has failed to conduct legally mandated review. Further, the City has apparently adopted a go-it-alone approach, without working with its community partners such as the Bremerton Housing Authority to develop an appropriate alternative.

My law firm represents the Bay Vista Community Owners Association, and we write to urge the City to select an alternate site for its proposed facility. Among other problems, the City has failed to satisfy its obligations under the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA). Although this is a litigation warning letter, you need to know that my clients want to engage with their City leaders on these subjects to try to craft a solution that can work for everybody. When they approach you, please hear them out.

SEPA prohibits the City from taking action that would "limit the choice of reasonable alternatives" before the City does its mandated SEPA work. WAC 197-11-070(1)(b). This regulation "applies to all agencies with authority to 'approve, veto, or finance all or part' of a project". *Columbia Riverkeeper v. Port of Vancouver USA*, 188 Wn.2d 80, 86, 392 P.3d 1025 (2017); *see also Magnolia Neighborhood Plan. Council v. City of Seattle*, 155 Wn. App. 305, 313, 230 P.3d 190 (2010), *as amended on reconsideration* (May 14, 2010) (affirming applicability of SEPA review to City Council's ordinance adopting plan for City-owned affordable housing development, notwithstanding that the plan had not advanced to permit-review stage).

It appears the City has ignored its obligations to "integrate" the SEPA process "with agency activities at the earliest possible time to ensure that planning and decisions reflect environmental values, to avoid delays later in the process, and to seek to resolve potential problems." WAC 197-11-055(1). The SEPA regulations require environmental study as early as a project's principal features and impacts can be identified:

"The lead agency shall prepare its threshold determination and environmental impact statement (EIS), if required, at the earliest possible point in the planning and decision-making process, when the principal features of a proposal and its environmental impacts can be reasonably identified."



WAC 197-11-055(2). The City has rushed to reach the decision-making stage without a SEPA determination. Beyond SEPA, the City's proposal raises critical areas, zoning and public safety concerns.

The City's proposed site consists of a steep wooded hillside, with a closed depression that must be filled in to allow the property's use. To develop it, the City will have to partially log the property and then regrade it to create a level area for the facility. We believe this property includes critical areas subject to Chapter 20.14 Bremerton Municipal Code (Critical Areas). Agencies, even the City, must undergo critical areas review. BMC 20.14.150. It is telling that public agencies may apply for exception to this regulation, but the agency's "application shall include critical area identification; critical area report, including mitigation plan if necessary; and any other related project documents such as environmental documents pursuant to SEPA". BMC 20.14.150.

**Zoning.** The City's Oyster Bay land is zoned "general commercial" (GC), meaning that all residential use is permitted outright, except for "Group residential facility – class II". BMC 20.62.020(t). Group residential includes residences for "homeless or otherwise dependent persons (not including dormitories), typically with shared living quarters without separate kitchen facilities for each room or unit". BMC 20.42.040. The City has not clarified whether its proposed facility is a "Class 1 (assisted living)" or "Class II" facility. The latter would be disallowed in this zone.

**Proximity to School Facility.** Like many subsets of our state's population, the unsheltered community likely includes persons who are designated as sex offenders under state law. The City's Oyster Bay property is less than 500 feet from the Early Childhood Education Center at the Olympic Educational Service District 114, serving preschoolers, as well as the West Sound Technical Academy, which serves students as young as 16. Has the City considered the liability it may incur by opening its low-barrier facility so close to school facilities and a public park? The SEPA process requires the City to document consideration of environmental impacts in terms of both "the "natural" and "built" environment "[and] elements of the built environment shall consist of public services and utilities (such as water, sewer, *schools*, fire and police protection), transportation[.]" RCW 43.21C.110 (emphasis added).

Many controversial state and local agency capital projects are conducted to include as much SEPA work as is possible before the agency makes path-determinative decisions. Failure to do this will result in project invalidation. Professor Settle, widely considered to be Washington's real property and land use subject matter expert, wrote this of agency failure to meet SEPA's procedural requirements:

*"The usual remedial result of a judicial determination of SEPA violation is simply invalidation of the agency action. Thus, action which was not preceded by a proper threshold determination process is invalid and the agency must begin the decision-making process anew and action for which a required EIS was inadequate or not prepared is rendered a nullity and remanded for reprocessing in light of an EIS."*

City of Bremerton  
January 9, 2024  
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Richard L. Settle, *The Washington State Environmental Policy Act: A Legal and Policy Analysis*, Ch. 20, § 20.09 (citations omitted; emphasis added). In other words, agency action taken without compliance with SEPA is *ultra vires*. *South Tacoma Way, UC v. State of Washington*, 169 Wn.2d 118, 233 P.3d 871 (2010) (citing *Noel v. Cole*, 98 Wn.2d 375, 378-80, 655 P.2d 245 (1982)).

Illegal agency action is subject to injunctive action in superior court, which will result in the loss of critical time for the City to pursue a workable and legally compliant plan on an alternate site. The City needs to work with its community partners to achieve its aim of establishing sufficient capacity to house those experiencing homelessness.

The Bay Vista Community Owners Association would prefer to avoid litigation with the City. They know the City's leaders want to do the right thing. However, the Association is prepared to pursue injunctive relief to stop the project if the City adopts the plan to site its homeless facility and operation at the Oyster Bay property. Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,



NEIL R. WACHTER  
[nrw@spinnakerbldg.com](mailto:nrw@spinnakerbldg.com)

NRW/jb

Cc: Victoria Brazitis, Kitsap County Administrator ([vbrazitis@kitsap.gov](mailto:vbrazitis@kitsap.gov))  
Tim Perez, Kitsap County Risk Manager ([tperez@kitsap.gov](mailto:tperez@kitsap.gov))  
Jacquelyn Aufderheide, Chief Civil Deputy Prosecuting Attorney ([jaufderh@kitsap.gov](mailto:jaufderh@kitsap.gov))

**From:** Bree Medley <bree@brandtdesigninc.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 9, 2024 11:41 AM  
**To:** City Council <City.Council@ci.bremerton.wa.us>  
**Cc:** Anna Mockler <Anna.Mockler@ci.bremerton.wa.us>  
**Subject:** Oyster Bay Avenue Homeless Shelter

**01.08.2024**

**To Bremerton City Council**

**RE: Bremerton Homeless Shelter Plans; Oyster Bay Ave Site**

Dear Council Members,

I would like to start by applauding your efforts to find the best approach to combatting the homeless crisis Bremerton is experiencing. While I understand the mayor was tasked with finding a solution, he has made it apparently clear (this is based on his statements at multiple meetings) that he is not interested in working with local agencies that support this community to find the best solution nor is he willing to waiver in his direction. Given his position, I would like to pose to you a question as you head into your next study session – why?

Why this site? Why this proposal?

The mayor has continued to say that the Oyster Bay Avenue site is the best/only site based on a number of requirements that it met; ownership, transportation, proximity to support, readiness, size and zoning:

Starting with size; the requirements stated that the site be at least 1 acre. This requirement is **only** necessary if housing a regulated encampment. A sprung shelter or pallet shelter community are not bound by that code.

So, with that element removed, we can move to readiness; This site is as far from ready as you can get. There is no access, no utilities, is densely vegetated with trees and bramble and has a slope of 85 feet to combat.

I have provided a very high-level outline of the site development that would go into the this property:

- The site requires an updated soils and geological assessment to determine viability (last report is expired and noted quite a few development issues)
- The site will likely require an environmental impact review given the nature of the slope.
- The site will be subject to a SEPA review.
- If it can be developed, the grading needed will require constant geotechnical monitoring which is an added cost.
- If it can be developed, the grading will require massive retaining both on the up slope and down slope sides (I estimate +/- 35' of retaining on each side will be required which is astronomical and likely done in three tiers both sides of the slope) These types of retaining systems are exceptionally expensive and massively disruptive to the surrounding properties.
- If it can be developed, the amount of cut and impact associated with export of soils will likely require a traffic impact study (think 100's of truck loads depending on soil quality and quantity.)
- If it can be developed, the grading likely will not start until late April/ Early May if permitting and reports go exactly to plan and then the grading itself will likely not be completed until mid-late fall.



- I say this as someone with experience grading sites similar to this and know the time frame to do this work is no less than 6 months if things go smoothly.
- I believe the city is assuming a cost of 1.2-2.1 million dollar to develop the land alone. (in my experience you are looking at 2 million at the low end...)
  - To ask you to approve a proposal that has not been designed and in my opinion wildly under-estimates the cost of development is setting everyone up for massive cost overruns and inevitably, failure.

After looking at size and readiness, you can then start to assess the other subjective requirements linked to the site analysis which are transportation, and access to services. I think you would be hard pressed to link this site with having strong positions in either of those categories.

So again, I ask you all to think about why this site is being pushed? While it may be forward compatible with future needs public works has, the assumption that the homeless problem will be solved in 4 years is highly unlikely, and to spend 2 to 4+ million dollars on a 4-year fix seems fiscally irresponsible.

When you start to look at the site on face value, the mayor is asking City Council to spend a huge amount of tax-payer time and money under the guise of an emergency response set forth by a set of criteria set by the mayor's team and in the end don't really support the type of shelter(s) being proposed. While I don't want to think there is some ulterior motive to proposing or pushing this site, the mayors lack of willingness to reassess this project given the push back from the community as well as the community agencies makes one start to question his motivation. Is his decision to dig his heels in merely a matter of ego, or is there something else we are not being told. Given the level of secrecy and vagueness surrounding his proposal to date, it has led to a lot of mistrust among the community regarding the basis of his decisions.

I am not going to go into why he is choosing the shelter type he is proposing, as I am not an expert in this area and think that analysis is best provided by the community agencies that are experienced, educated and equipped to provide you all direction.

I ask that as you look at the proposals, please consider all of the costs and make sure the money being spent is going towards fixing the problem, not developing land for public works. That is not the task at hand.

Again, this is not an easy solution, nor is there going to be a perfect solution. But there are better solutions than others. Finding a variety of solutions to a multifaceted problem will likely result in a more successful outcome than a one size fits all approach.

As always, your time, consideration and care are greatly appreciated.

Bree Medley  
Bremerton Resident

**From:** Dianna Loiacano <thedivagirl@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, December 30, 2023 4:12 PM  
**To:** Greg Wheeler <Greg.Wheeler@ci.bremerton.wa.us>  
**Subject:** Re: My Proposal to Construct a Homeless Shelter in Bremerton

Mr. Wheeler, still you or your advisor could have told informed the staff at the apartments to explain why YOU and as well the chief couldn't make it or do your favorite thing and come up with an excuse so we YOUR community were not just sitting around looking for you to be there. Instead, you and your people chose to say nothing. We were advised that you said you were on your way and we all took time away from our families to be at the meeting. Why are you so cruel to the ones who take the time to vote for you?  
I don't get it.

Dianna Loiacano

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On Sat, Dec 30, 2023, 2:43 PM Greg Wheeler <[Greg.Wheeler@ci.bremerton.wa.us](mailto:Greg.Wheeler@ci.bremerton.wa.us)> wrote:

Dear Dianna,

Thank you for your email. Included in my reply is the Bremerton City Attorney to provide a response on why the Chief and myself were advised not to attend this meeting. She will be connecting with you shortly. We look forward to attending community meetings in the future once the City Council has voted on my proposal. Take care.

Sincerely,

Greg Wheeler

Mayor

City of Bremerton

(360) 473-5266

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**From:** Dianna Loiacano <[thedivagirl@gmail.com](mailto:thedivagirl@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Friday, December 29, 2023 10:05 PM  
**To:** Greg Wheeler <[Greg.Wheeler@ci.bremerton.wa.us](mailto:Greg.Wheeler@ci.bremerton.wa.us)>  
**Subject:** Re: My Proposal to Construct a Homeless Shelter in Bremerton

Mr. Wheeler or to your secretary. Since you took the time to send .e thus email, I feel that I should respond back to you. I have NOT asked for email nor am I interested in your prolonged writing. Back in November at a meeting that we attend at the Summit you told all of us that this Encampment was " just thrown" on you. You sir are a liar. You said at our 2nd meeting that you were going to attend the meeting set by the apartments on Bay Vista. This meeting you chicken out on and stood us up. We all believed that you and Mr. Wolf, chief of Bremerton of police were going to attend. You sir have failed your community, which is unfair and to that I say that at least you could have sent a representative in your place to answer questions that we all had. This left us to all gather our thoughts on how our own mayor would not attend a meeting that he and the chief knew was happening. Thos is so4mething that you want and not the city council. Shame on you, all for the good of yourself!! Next, after spending time reading some of the statements from those who are homeless. Some say that they are not looking for just one night or a check in and out. Some do not want to be bound or held down. So, I believe that this thing you are looking to build is only a temporary fix and a boost on you making it in the next vote.

I do think that the city council's idea is a good one. Just do us all a favor and attend meetings that you know are occurring.

Dianna Loiacano



**From:** Greg Wheeler <Greg.Wheeler@ci.bremerton.wa.us>  
**Sent:** Sunday, December 31, 2023 5:41 PM  
**To:** Mary Lou Long <maryloulong2515@gmail.com>  
**Cc:** City Council <City.Council@ci.bremerton.wa.us>; Katie Ketterer <Katie.Ketterer@ci.bremerton.wa.us>; Kylie Finnell <Kylie.Finnell@ci.bremerton.wa.us>; Thomas Knuckey <Thomas.Knuckey@ci.bremerton.wa.us>; Jennifer Hayes <Jennifer.Hayes@ci.bremerton.wa.us>  
**Subject:** RE: My Proposal to Construct a Homeless Shelter in Bremerton

Hi Mary Lou,

I am not proposing individual housing units (including pallets) of any kind. One of my main takeaways from the hundreds of individuals who testified over the summer from all over Bremerton was that no one wanted camping anywhere in the city. I took that message to heart when developing my proposal of developing a low barrier, walk-up, congregate living homeless shelter and fully believe it offers the only path forward that will keep our neighborhoods safe and offer support for those who will accept it. While pallet homes may be a valuable part of a holistic vision for responding to homelessness, my proposal for a homeless shelter directly addresses an imminent need; that our city no longer has a year around, low barrier, walk-up shelter. This directly affects our ability to enforce the new anti-camping ordinance, protect our neighborhoods and shelter unhoused individuals at the same time. I believe we have the opportunity to be a shining example of how best to manage this difficult situation. I have no doubt that a pallet community would fill up quickly leaving us with no shelter capacity and a return to the unregulated camping in our city that our neighborhoods and homeless individuals suffered from this summer. I am committed to ensuring that never happens again. Experienced shelter operators and individuals with real life experience living in shelters will be enlisted to help with design and operations development once I have approval to move forward. As I mentioned in my previous email, please refer to the link to the project website embedded in the below email to review the site selection criteria. Take care and Happy New Year.

Sincerely,

Greg Wheeler  
Mayor  
City of Bremerton  
(360) 473-5266

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**From:** Greg Wheeler <Greg.Wheeler@ci.bremerton.wa.us>  
**Sent:** Sunday, December 31, 2023 5:27 PM  
**To:** Mary Lou Long <maryloulong2515@gmail.com>  
**Cc:** City Council <City.Council@ci.bremerton.wa.us>; Katie Ketterer <Katie.Ketterer@ci.bremerton.wa.us>; Thomas Knuckey <Thomas.Knuckey@ci.bremerton.wa.us>; Kylie Finnell <Kylie.Finnell@ci.bremerton.wa.us>  
**Subject:** RE: My Proposal to Construct a Homeless Shelter in Bremerton

Good evening Mary Lou,

Thank you for your email. I appreciate you bringing your comments, questions, and concerns to my attention. A link to the project website that was imbedded in the below letter will answer many questions about site selection for a year around, low barrier, walk-up shelter. The Salvation Army is currently operating a winter homeless shelter. Take care and Happy New Year.

Sincerely,

Greg Wheeler  
Mayor  
City of Bremerton  
(360) 473-5266

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**From:** Mary Lou Long <[maryloulong2515@gmail.com](mailto:maryloulong2515@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Sunday, December 31, 2023 12:20 PM  
**To:** Greg Wheeler <[Greg.Wheeler@ci.bremerton.wa.us](mailto:Greg.Wheeler@ci.bremerton.wa.us)>  
**Subject:** Re: My Proposal to Construct a Homeless Shelter in Bremerton

Renting a warehouse and retrofitting it with showers, restroom facilities and laundry machines would be more economical than building an entire building . If this is a facility that is more than likely going to be used for only a few months out of the year for mostly inclement weather, I think this is a far more sensible way to address the problem of street people that can not get into housing. Army cots can be purchased from surplus stores. People using this facility can use their own tent for privacy as they have used on the streets. This will give them an area to have some privacy. As much as they did on the street. Making it a prerequisite that they are put into housing only makes it a magnet for more individuals to flock to our city. It is not the responsibility of tax paying citizens to provide for anyone who enters our city a living space. We the citizens have not voted to spend our hard earned tax dollars to be landlords of unprofitable housing units. Will those not able to find a way to provide for themselves be required to pay anything toward their housing? What is the scale which they will be held to? What if they do not make their payments? will they be required to make automatic payments from whatever resource they receive funds? Can we expel them? If these facilities are to be monitored how much will the city allocate to that new position or will it be a job for the police? Can you reply to these questions in writing?

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**From:** Mary Lou Long <[maryloulong2515@gmail.com](mailto:maryloulong2515@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Sunday, December 31, 2023 11:58 AM  
**To:** Greg Wheeler <[Greg.Wheeler@ci.bremerton.wa.us](mailto:Greg.Wheeler@ci.bremerton.wa.us)>  
**Subject:** Re: My Proposal to Construct a Homeless Shelter in Bremerton

I plan to attend. I am curious as to whether or not the mayor and the Council have considered the concept of renting for the severe weather months a warehouse or existing building to shelter those who have not been housed otherwise? Would it not be more economical to rent for these few months an existing shelter with restrooms and showers and a laundry facility? The retrofitting of the amenities would cost less than building an entire building. I would like to have an answer to why this option has not been offered or explored to date.

**From:** Len Psyk <LPsyk@panattoni.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, December 30, 2023 8:21 AM  
**To:** Greg Wheeler <Greg.Wheeler@ci.bremerton.wa.us>  
**Subject:** Re: My Proposal to Construct a Homeless Shelter in Bremerton

How will either of the two alternatives be funded (both the initial cost and subsequent operational costs)?

What are the comparative costs of the two options?

Does either alternative provide for funding of the on going maintenance costs of the facilities?

Does the City have sufficient staffing and funding for police or social services that will be required under either option?

What portion of the City Budget will be allocated to the program?

Sent from my iPhone



**Len Psyk** | Sr. Development Manager  
Panattoni Development Company, Inc.  
1821 Dock St.  
Suite 100 | Tacoma, WA 98402  
Office: 206.838.3847 | Cell: 206.755.6722  
[LPsyk@panattoni.com](mailto:LPsyk@panattoni.com)

**From:** Tim Lavin <tjplavin@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, December 29, 2023 7:50 PM  
**To:** Greg Wheeler <Greg.Wheeler@ci.bremerton.wa.us>  
**Subject:** Re: My Proposal to Construct a Homeless Shelter in Bremerton

Well done Mayor!

Sent from my iPhone

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**From:** Peter Thurman <peterthurman861@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, December 30, 2023 10:41 AM  
**To:** Greg Wheeler <Greg.Wheeler@ci.bremerton.wa.us>  
**Subject:** Re: My Proposal to Construct a Homeless Shelter in Bremerton

Mayor Wheeler,

Thank you and I support your subject efforts. Happy holidays.

Sincerely and respectfully,

Peter Thurman, Bremerton resident

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**From:** Lynch, Greg <glynch@oesd114.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, December 30, 2023 10:02 AM  
**To:** Greg Wheeler <Greg.Wheeler@ci.bremerton.wa.us>  
**Subject:** Re: My Proposal to Construct a Homeless Shelter in Bremerton

Great work Greg and thanks for sharing!

Sent from my iPhone

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**From:** Travis Merrigan <bikebremerton@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, December 29, 2023 11:22 PM  
**To:** Greg Wheeler <Greg.Wheeler@ci.bremerton.wa.us>



**Cc:** City Council <City.Council@ci.bremerton.wa.us>

**Subject:** Build both: My Proposal to Construct a Homeless Shelter in Bremerton

Mayor Wheeler,

I applaud you for making your case to the public for the need to build infrastructure for our homeless neighbors.

I'm a supporter of both the Oyster Bay facility and the pallet community. Both serve particular needs. Let's build both (maybe not immediately, but as funds allow).

Then when those are done, let's build one in my neighborhood 15th & Naval. I have a city owned spot picked out that would be great, an unused corner of Ivy Green Cemetery (I consulted the cemetery residents, none of them voiced concern.)

Let's approve multiple options so no one neighborhood feels singled out. Let's build all of the above.

Travis Merrigan

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**From:** thenwcp@gmail.com <thenwcp@gmail.com>

**Sent:** Friday, December 29, 2023 9:24 PM

**To:** Greg Wheeler <Greg.Wheeler@ci.bremerton.wa.us>

**Subject:** Re: My Proposal to Construct a Homeless Shelter in Bremerton

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Mayor Wheeler,

The sprung shelter does indeed look like the best option for our city. I also agree that the pallet homes would not work well because of how much would need to go into maintaining those individual buildings just to keep them safe to live in. Thank you for doing the work needed to obtain a reasonable and effective solution. You and your office have my permission to use this email in support of your proposal.

Respectfully,

Michael Larson

**From:** Rick Cortes <rickcortes10@gmail.com>

**Sent:** Friday, December 29, 2023 9:22 PM

**To:** Greg Wheeler <Greg.Wheeler@ci.bremerton.wa.us>

**Subject:** Re: My Proposal to Construct a Homeless Shelter in Bremerton

Mr Mayor:

Your proposals and initiatives are reflective of the great work put forth by dedicated and competent community professionals and citizenry with you at the helm. Your stated mission in the age old complex struggle solving homelessness seems to strike a new balance between being compassionate and protecting the community.

I look forward to checking in the January hearings.

Thank you for all that you do.

Rick Cortes

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**From:** Glenn Stockton <glenn.stockton@gmail.com>

**Sent:** Friday, December 29, 2023 9:06 PM

**To:** Greg Wheeler <Greg.Wheeler@ci.bremerton.wa.us>

**Subject:** Re: My Proposal to Construct a Homeless Shelter in Bremerton

Dear Mayor Wheeler,

A major challenge in this is how to serve the homeless who do not want to be homeless and are seeking a route out of homelessness, without attracting additional homeless who prefer the homeless lifestyle. The first group deserves our care and attention, while the second group deserves to be gently but persistently encouraged to depart our fine city. Differentiating between these two groups is critical in creating policy and practical action. Our neighbor across the Puget Sound from us has clearly failed in this. Hopefully, we can learn from their mistakes.

Best Regards,

Glenn Stockton

360.621.8653

**From:** Wayne Sargent <wayne.sargent@outlook.com>

**Sent:** Friday, December 29, 2023 8:21 PM

**To:** Greg Wheeler <Greg.Wheeler@ci.bremerton.wa.us>  
**Subject:** Re: My Proposal to Construct a Homeless Shelter in Bremerton

You might add the time/place for the meeting on the 17th.

See you there,

Wayne Sargent

Sent from my iPad

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**From:** DrLovlie <drlovlie@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, December 29, 2023 8:14 PM  
**To:** Greg Wheeler <Greg.Wheeler@ci.bremerton.wa.us>  
**Subject:** Re: My Proposal to Construct a Homeless Shelter in Bremerton

I didn't see any mention that you were going to accept homeless from all over kitsap county?

K Lovlie

Sent from my iPhone

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**From:** sheilaroberts sheilasplace.com <sheilaroberts@sheilasplace.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, December 29, 2023 9:15 PM  
**To:** Greg Wheeler <Greg.Wheeler@ci.bremerton.wa.us>  
**Subject:** Re: My Proposal to Construct a Homeless Shelter in Bremerton

Mayor, I hope our city council will listen to the true boots on the ground experts when it comes to deciding how to work toward helping our homeless rather than buying into the small city within a city that you are proposing.

Sheila Rabe

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**From:** Anton Preisinger <anton@nwhospitality.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, December 30, 2023 7:42 PM  
**To:** Greg Wheeler <Greg.Wheeler@ci.bremerton.wa.us>

**Cc:** City Council <City.Council@ci.bremerton.wa.us>; kitsapcommissioners@kitsap.gov; Charlotte Garrido <cgarrido@kitsap.gov>; kwalters@kitsap.gov; Michelle Fleetwood <m\_fleetwood@yahoo.com>; dawnmichelewilson@gmail.com; Bailey Tupai <bailey2pai@gmail.com>; Marwan Cameron <gather2grow@g2g2.org>; Drayton Jackson-FHPM <DJackson@HomelessPovertyManagement.org>; Kelsey Stedman <kelsey.e.stedman@gmail.com>; kim siebens <kimmysiebens@yahoo.com>; kuyehara@gannett.com; david.nelson@kitsapsun.com; Kristal I. Thomas <Kristal.Thomas@ExpressPros.com>; Donel Steves <donel@through-linecoaching.com>; Anthony Ives <aives@kcr.org>; Jill Stanton <jstanton@bremertonhousing.org>

**Subject:** Re: My Proposal to Construct a Homeless Shelter in Bremerton

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

The only way to avoid the unrestricted camping that occurred in our neighborhoods this past summer and is still rampant in the face of inadequate resources and housing is to actually provide people with the housing and resources they need to be secure. Homelessness is a very complex problem, we agree about that if nothing else, but the solutions need not be.

You acknowledge that pallet housing would be both valuable and holistic and you recognize that the housing would be utilized by people in need (they would "fill quickly") but these are negative outcomes in your perspective because the camping ordinance that hurts vulnerable community members, displaces people away from services, damages public relations with law enforcement, makes outreach and resource provision harder, and spreads the impacts of people living unsheltered throughout more of the city won't be enforceable. Somehow, you still fail to see that these are the very tools our community needs to provide a path into housing and services that people need so they aren't out there looking to camp in the city in the first place.

This conversation and your study sessions are a waste of everybody's time. You do not care and will not listen/have not cared and have not listened. We have examples of successful service networks as close as Tacoma but you refuse to use those as models. You pat yourself on the back for clearing MLK while my colleagues and I are still working with most of the people who were displaced from there or mourning their deaths.

If you actually cared, you would be having Rock The Block leaders (myself last among them, for the record) present, inform, and guide the city's actions, not do all the humanitarian work behind the scenes while you do your political dance. Instead, you want to waste more of our time watching and listening to city leadership blindly blow smoke and explore excuses for why the obvious solutions can't be pursued.

Your arrogance is so profound that you're putting up a proposal in opposition to the Bremerton Housing Authority, St. Vincent's, and Kitsap Community Resources - the very experienced professionals you should be consulting, not contending with. This inept leadership demonstrates clearly that your goals are different, and in conflict with, the goals of the people and organizations who have the interest of our homeless community members and the overall health of our city and county foremost in mind.



We absolutely need the shelter you are proposing but standing alone there is no question that it will fail to actually serve the vast majority of our most vulnerable. Of course, you'll still be pleased because you'll get to keep arresting, displacing, and otherwise abusing people who don't fit into your cookie-cutter shelter for any number of valid reasons you don't care to take the time to understand. The region ALSO needs sanctioned open-air encampment(s), AND pallet shelter solutions, AND the KRM Quality Inn shelter to operate as a part of a cohesive network of viable shelter and housing services with associated resources. Without multiple options, you will be ostracizing sick people, forcing them into unsafe situations, dooming them to further inequity and death while simultaneously dooming the communities you are responsible for to a whack-a-mole torment that will never solve anything because you refuse to provide adequate resources.

Those of us who know our unhoused community members personally and work immensely hard to show them compassion and connect them with resources would much rather work with you but you haven't seemed remotely interested in anything we have to do or say. Be that as it is, I'll be there with the rest of Rock The Block and others to sift through your wreckage, trying to be present for the lives dismissed in the aftermath of your careless policies.

Anton Preisinger

Founding Executive Director

Northwest Hospitality

888-222-5240

[www.nwhospitality.org](http://www.nwhospitality.org)



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**From:** Dr. Colleen Kragen <colleen.kragen@gmail.com>

**Sent:** Wednesday, January 3, 2024 2:56 PM

**To:** Greg Wheeler <Greg.Wheeler@ci.bremerton.wa.us>

**Subject:** Re: My Proposal to Construct a Homeless Shelter in Bremerton

Mayor Wheeler,

Thank you for sharing this with me. I'll do my best to attend. It looks like a good program! Happy new year.

Regards,

Colleen Kragen

**From:** Patricia Heavner <plynnh61@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, December 30, 2023 11:42 AM  
**To:** Greg Wheeler <Greg.Wheeler@ci.bremerton.wa.us>  
**Subject:** Re: My Proposal to Construct a Homeless Shelter in Bremerton

Dear Mr Greg Wheeler  
Mayor of City of Bremerton

As a former Chemical Dependency Professional working at Kitsap Recovery Center for Kitsap county, I can appreciate the many faucets of dealing with our crisis of unhoused. I firmly stand on your side when it comes to immediate actions. This email has been the first I've received that has been packed with information. I have supported your campaign and have voted each time for you, why because your first year you walked right up to myself and inquired what stress your visions for our city.

I continue to vote for you as I see you walking to and from the same streets we all walk or drive on. I know you're aware of the seriousness of getting ahead of this NOW, we as a community can NO longer just accept sidewalk camping, there are just too many ramifications from this.

When West Park was demolished and all those persons sent out to find housing, this was the beginning of a huge crisis.

With our population increasing at a level I'm certain no one predicted, with mass immigration happening our available housing market for low income persons is just not available.

So then the county sells the recovery center to mental health system and poof no more immediate access to treatment, prior to even this DSHS gets rid of the ADATSA program which I ran for the whole country, I by the way in the state of WA had the HIGHEST amount of assessments completed and the highest amount of persons in treatment. My case load was 159 at any given time. When all these funding and beds went away trickle effect.....

I believe as a community we need to reconsider our current city council members.

Thank you for your continued hard work and commitment to Bremerton.

Patricia Heavner

**From:** Greg Wheeler <Greg.Wheeler@ci.bremerton.wa.us>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 2, 2024 11:18 AM  
**To:** Scott Richardson <sronmi@hotmail.com>  
**Subject:** RE: My Proposal to Construct a Homeless Shelter in Bremerton

Good morning Scott,

I just wanted to take a moment to acknowledge I received and read your email. As a side note, drugs have been recriminalized as of August 2023 and I supported this happening. I will continue working with state representatives to ensure that law enforcement has the tools to keep our community safe. This will be an ongoing effort I am committed to.

Sincerely,

Greg Wheeler  
Mayor  
City of Bremerton  
(360) 473-5266

**From:** Scott Richardson <[sronmi@hotmail.com](mailto:sronmi@hotmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 1, 2024 4:19 AM  
**To:** Greg Wheeler <[Greg.Wheeler@ci.bremerton.wa.us](mailto:Greg.Wheeler@ci.bremerton.wa.us)>  
**Subject:** Re: My Proposal to Construct a Homeless Shelter in Bremerton

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Greg,

The criminal justice 'solution' for drug use isn't working. While 'containing' the problem to a single location in Bremerton is a step in the right direction, you have more to do.

You need to march down to Olympia and tell those morons that the laws need to change. Speak the truth! Confront the leftist fascists!

We need to repeal the legalization of marijuana. We need to make war on addiction. Addicts need to be punished. They need to be shamed with an ankle bracelet that monitors them 24x7x365. If they fail to stay sober, then let's ship them off to someplace unpleasant until they get the message. Paying for an ankle monitoring device is cheaper, more humane, and more effective than prison.

For those that have already destroyed their minds, let's institutionalize them at an in-patient facility. It's better than scaping the bodies off the sidewalk and sending them to the morgue.

Regards,

Scott

---

**From:** Greg Wheeler <[Greg.Wheeler@ci.bremerton.wa.us](mailto:Greg.Wheeler@ci.bremerton.wa.us)>  
**Sent:** Saturday, December 30, 2023 3:14 PM  
**To:** Scott Richardson <[sronmi@hotmail.com](mailto:sronmi@hotmail.com)>; Ann Richardson <[ann.b.richardson@hotmail.com](mailto:ann.b.richardson@hotmail.com)>  
**Cc:** Kylie Finnell <[Kylie.Finnell@ci.bremerton.wa.us](mailto:Kylie.Finnell@ci.bremerton.wa.us)>; Amanda Harvey <[Amanda.Harvey@ci.bremerton.wa.us](mailto:Amanda.Harvey@ci.bremerton.wa.us)>; Brett Jette <[Brett.Jette@ci.bremerton.wa.us](mailto:Brett.Jette@ci.bremerton.wa.us)>; Aaron Elton <[Aaron.Elton@ci.bremerton.wa.us](mailto:Aaron.Elton@ci.bremerton.wa.us)>; Mike Davis <[Mike.Davis@ci.bremerton.wa.us](mailto:Mike.Davis@ci.bremerton.wa.us)>; Tom Wolfe <[Tom.Wolfe@ci.bremerton.wa.us](mailto:Tom.Wolfe@ci.bremerton.wa.us)>; Jennifer Hayes <[Jennifer.Hayes@ci.bremerton.wa.us](mailto:Jennifer.Hayes@ci.bremerton.wa.us)>  
**Subject:** RE: My Proposal to Construct a Homeless Shelter in Bremerton

Good afternoon Scott and Ann,

Thank you for your email. Drug use and public intoxication are crimes, and the city will enforce those laws. Once an arrest has been made, those individuals are turned over to the criminal justice system for their day in court and potential sentencing or deferred prosecution. In Bremerton we have made the decision to hold individuals accountable for those crimes. Municipal, District & Supreme court decisions are made separately and independent from my administration including the Bremerton Police Department. Those decisions are guided by laws (local, state, and federal) and past decisions from all the courts. When we see individuals released or prosecution deferred in Bremerton that is accomplished independently from me. One of my main takeaways from the hundreds of individuals who testified over the summer from all over Bremerton was that no one wanted camping anywhere in the city. I took that message to heart when developing my proposal and fully believe it offers the only path forward that will hold individual accountable, keep our neighborhoods safe, and offer support for those who will accept it. I believe we have the opportunity to be a shining example of how best to manage this difficult situation. Take care and Happy New Year.

Sincerely,

Greg Wheeler  
Mayor  
City of Bremerton  
(360) 473-5266

**From:** Scott Richardson <[sronmi@hotmail.com](mailto:sronmi@hotmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Saturday, December 30, 2023 5:54 AM  
**To:** Greg Wheeler <[Greg.Wheeler@ci.bremerton.wa.us](mailto:Greg.Wheeler@ci.bremerton.wa.us)>; Ann Richardson <[ann.b.richardson@hotmail.com](mailto:ann.b.richardson@hotmail.com)>  
**Subject:** Re: My Proposal to Construct a Homeless Shelter in Bremerton

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Good Morning Greg,



Your proposal still doesn't address the core problems of drugs, mental illness and crime.

Think a little harder Greg. What can you do?

Here's a thought: What if drug use and public intoxication were a crime and convicted miscreants were forced to get help? Mandatory inpatient or outpatient treatment? Mandatory monitoring devices?

You can do a little better Greg. You're not stupid.

Regards,  
Scott & Ann Richardson

---

**From:** Greg Wheeler <Greg.Wheeler@ci.bremerton.wa.us>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 2, 2024 11:18 AM  
**To:** Scott Richardson <sronmi@hotmail.com>  
**Subject:** RE: My Proposal to Construct a Homeless Shelter in Bremerton

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Greg Wheeler  
Mayor  
City of Bremerton  
(360) 473-5266

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**Sent:** Monday, January 1, 2024 4:19 AM  
**To:** Greg Wheeler <[Greg.Wheeler@ci.bremerton.wa.us](mailto:Greg.Wheeler@ci.bremerton.wa.us)>  
**Subject:** Re: My Proposal to Construct a Homeless Shelter in Bremerton

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Regards,

Scott

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**Sent:** Saturday, December 30, 2023 3:14 PM  
**To:** Scott Richardson <[sronmi@hotmail.com](mailto:sronmi@hotmail.com)>; Ann Richardson <[ann.b.richardson@hotmail.com](mailto:ann.b.richardson@hotmail.com)>  
**Cc:** Kylie Finnell <[Kylie.Finnell@ci.bremerton.wa.us](mailto:Kylie.Finnell@ci.bremerton.wa.us)>; Amanda Harvey <[Amanda.Harvey@ci.bremerton.wa.us](mailto:Amanda.Harvey@ci.bremerton.wa.us)>; Brett Jette <[Brett.Jette@ci.bremerton.wa.us](mailto:Brett.Jette@ci.bremerton.wa.us)>; Aaron Elton <[Aaron.Elton@ci.bremerton.wa.us](mailto:Aaron.Elton@ci.bremerton.wa.us)>; Mike Davis <[Mike.Davis@ci.bremerton.wa.us](mailto:Mike.Davis@ci.bremerton.wa.us)>; Tom Wolfe <[Tom.Wolfe@ci.bremerton.wa.us](mailto:Tom.Wolfe@ci.bremerton.wa.us)>; Jennifer Hayes <[Jennifer.Hayes@ci.bremerton.wa.us](mailto:Jennifer.Hayes@ci.bremerton.wa.us)>  
**Subject:** RE: My Proposal to Construct a Homeless Shelter in Bremerton

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Sincerely,

Greg Wheeler  
Mayor  
City of Bremerton  
(360) 473-5266

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**Sent:** Saturday, December 30, 2023 5:54 AM  
**To:** Greg Wheeler <[Greg.Wheeler@ci.bremerton.wa.us](mailto:Greg.Wheeler@ci.bremerton.wa.us)>; Ann Richardson <[ann.b.richardson@hotmail.com](mailto:ann.b.richardson@hotmail.com)>  
**Subject:** Re: My Proposal to Construct a Homeless Shelter in Bremerton

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Good Morning Greg,

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Think a little harder Greg. What can you do?

Here's a thought: What if drug use and public intoxication were a crime and convicted miscreants were forced to get help? Mandatory inpatient or outpatient treatment? Mandatory monitoring devices?

You can do a little better Greg. You're not stupid.

Regards,  
Scott & Ann Richardson

---



**From:** Robin Luethe <r.l.luethe@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 1, 2024 7:52 AM  
**To:** Greg Wheeler <Greg.Wheeler@ci.bremerton.wa.us>  
**Subject:** Re: My Proposal to Construct a Homeless Shelter in Bremerton

The Bremerton Police Chief Strachan, when my wife and I returned to Bremerton in 2015, was well familiar with the neighborhood I was talking about. He noted that County law enforcement was not equipped to deal with that sort of urban problem. Oddly, my two nephews still live there, and a friend of theirs has one of the three family homes. They are all upstanding citizens. Something Chief Strachan said has always stuck with me, that 80%, maybe more, of those homeless are not criminally minded and do not represent a danger to themselves or to their neighbors. It is that 10-20% who cost so much that can destroy most efforts to look after the 80%.

---

On Sat, Dec 30, 2023 at 1:21 PM Greg Wheeler <[Greg.Wheeler@ci.bremerton.wa.us](mailto:Greg.Wheeler@ci.bremerton.wa.us)> wrote:

Hi Robin,

Thank you for your email. I really appreciate you taking the time to review my proposal and offer your encouragement and support. That means a lot to me. One of my main takeaways from the hundreds of individuals who testified over the summer from all over Bremerton was that no one wanted camping anywhere in the city. I took that message to heart when developing my proposal and fully believe it offers the only path forward that will hold individual accountable, keep our neighborhoods safe, and offer support for those who will accept it. On another note, I would like to include officials from the Bremerton Police Department in my reply for their information and follow up. Even though the property you are reporting is in the county, you are being affected as a Bremerton resident and that concerns me. Take care Robin and Happy New Year.

Sincerely,

Greg Wheeler  
Mayor  
City of Bremerton  
(360) 473-5266

**From:** Robin Luethe <[r.l.luethe@gmail.com](mailto:r.l.luethe@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Saturday, December 30, 2023 12:41 PM  
**To:** Greg Wheeler <[Greg.Wheeler@ci.bremerton.wa.us](mailto:Greg.Wheeler@ci.bremerton.wa.us)>  
**Subject:** Re: My Proposal to Construct a Homeless Shelter in Bremerton

Thank you for this email and well throughout solution for a most difficult problem. Probably my only suggestion is that smaller 'tent cities' throughout the city might be more acceptable to the citizenry. The old cartoon and its now famous line somehow applies. We have met the enemy and he is us. Those folks in tent cities are us, or at least and often our family, friends, classmates. Also to keep costs under control surveillance cameras with recording can allow tracking down dangerous behavior.

You might be interested, and likely heard about it, the neighborhood next door to our family home near Kitsap Lake has become somewhat of a tent city. It is a peninsula of county surrounded by the city. The family friends had one dysfunctional son, he lived there with his pals (drug addicts all) until his death. His sibling still has not found a plan to clear out the survivors. It all has been quite sad, a number of our growing up friends fell into that category. Robin

**From:** Greg Wheeler <Greg.Wheeler@ci.bremerton.wa.us>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 5, 2024 4:43 PM  
**To:** Jennifer Chamberlin <Jennifer.Chamberlin@ci.bremerton.wa.us>; Travis Merrigan <bikebremerton@gmail.com>  
**Cc:** City Council <City.Council@ci.bremerton.wa.us>; Jennifer Hayes <Jennifer.Hayes@ci.bremerton.wa.us>  
**Subject:** RE: Congrats Madam President + Safe Streets + Tiny Homes

Thank you Council President and Travis for including me in this conversation. I'm looking forward to working with council in 2024 and taking a giant step towards improving the lives of our most vulnerable citizens (those who are not eligible or ready for the housing solutions that have been discussed recently) and protecting our neighborhoods at the same time. My proposal (with council's support) will accomplish that. As Salvation Army (SA) Captain, Dana Walters, briefed the council recently, many of the individuals staying at the SA shelter are not eligible for the housing options, including pallets, that are being suggested. They will again, be unsheltered and camping in neighborhoods, without our support. I'm looking forward to ensuring that does not happen again. Take care and Happy New Year!

Sincerely,

Greg Wheeler  
Mayor  
City of Bremerton  
(360) 473-5266

**From:** Jennifer Chamberlin <[Jennifer.Chamberlin@ci.bremerton.wa.us](mailto:Jennifer.Chamberlin@ci.bremerton.wa.us)>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 5, 2024 4:00 PM  
**To:** Travis Merrigan <[bikebremerton@gmail.com](mailto:bikebremerton@gmail.com)>  
**Cc:** City Council <[City.Council@ci.bremerton.wa.us](mailto:City.Council@ci.bremerton.wa.us)>; Jennifer Hayes <[Jennifer.Hayes@ci.bremerton.wa.us](mailto:Jennifer.Hayes@ci.bremerton.wa.us)>; Greg Wheeler <[Greg.Wheeler@ci.bremerton.wa.us](mailto:Greg.Wheeler@ci.bremerton.wa.us)>  
**Subject:** Re: Congrats Madam President + Safe Streets + Tiny Homes

Hi Travis!

Thank you so much for the welcome. I'm humbled and excited to serve the city as council president this year.

I am copying Mayor Wheeler and his staff on your ideas. I am looking forward to our discussion this week regarding the proposed homeless shelter. This shelter will be a step up from what is currently offered to our houseless population. I trust that Mayor Wheeler is doing his best to raise resources to make it happen but it will be a heavy lift for sure.

Thank you for being so involved and providing public comment. Your energy is a welcome addition and I look forward to chatting with you again in the future.

Jennifer Chamberlin  
District 1  
Bremerton City Council President

---

**From:** Travis Merrigan <[bikebremerton@gmail.com](mailto:bikebremerton@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 5, 2024 1:55 PM  
**To:** Jennifer Chamberlin <[Jennifer.Chamberlin@ci.bremerton.wa.us](mailto:Jennifer.Chamberlin@ci.bremerton.wa.us)>  
**Subject:** Re: Congrats Madam President + Safe Streets + Tiny Homes

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Also worthy for consider for low cost housing. 'Co-Living' spaces

<https://www.sightline.org/2024/01/05/washington-bill-would-legalize-low-cost-co-living-homes/>

On Thu, Jan 4, 2024 at 9:22 AM Travis Merrigan <[bikebremerton@gmail.com](mailto:bikebremerton@gmail.com)> wrote:  
CP Chamberlin,

Congrats on being elected President.

I work hard on safe streets, not only for safety of cyclists and school kids, but also because transit/bike streets allow low income people to survive without a car, a huge expense for a low-income family.

Also, I care about homelessness. I don't have a strong opinion about the Oyster Bay site, other than - that alone won't be enough and the City can't do it all on its own. I think tiny home villages deserve to be part of the solution.

The recent proposal for 'Pallet Homes' was pretty good, but pretty damn expensive. Seattle does it way cheaper per tiny home. My Seattle office is 300 feet from [this tiny home village](#), which is quiet, safe and a great neighbor. 76 little, individually built homes, none of which cost much to build. [Check this Seattle tiny home video if you have a minute](#). I think Bremerton needs 2 or 5 of these little villages, and that the City should partner with Churches (churches have the right under state law to house the homeless - see below) to build them in several places.

Anyway, I'm really optimistic that you and I can partner on both safe streets stuff, and that I can be an asset in finding humanitarian solutions to homelessness in Bremerton.

Cheers,

Travis Merrigan

Here's some relevant info on churches and homeless shelters (I'm not religious and don't belong to any church, but I would consider joining or start one to do this).



# Limits on Local Government Regulation of Religious Organizations Providing Homeless Shelters

Federal and Washington State law provides religious organizations with more leeway than non-religious entities to provide shelter or housing to persons experiencing homelessness on property that the entity owns or controls. These laws put some limits on the ability of local governments to regulate encampments, shelters, and car camping on such properties, outside of what is “reasonable” regarding occupancy, intensity of use, and spacing for the sake of public health and safety. Additionally, local government regulations cannot substantially burden the decisions or actions of a religious organization. For more information, see the MRSC blog post [2020 Legislation on Temporary Homeless Encampments](#).

## Relevant Federal and State Statutes

- [42 U.S.C. 2000cc](#) – Religious Land Use and Institutionalized Persons Act (RLUIPA)
- [RCW 36.01.290](#) (counties), [35A.21.360](#) (code cities), and [35.21.915](#) (other cities and towns) – Provide that any conditions imposed by cities and counties:
  - Must be necessary to protect public health and safety, and
  - Must not substantially burden the decisions or actions of a religious organization regarding the location of housing or shelter for homeless persons on property owned by the religious organization.

**From:** Lisa Levy <llevy@jspllc.com>

**Sent:** Tuesday, January 9, 2024 4:22 PM

**To:** City Council <City.Council@ci.bremerton.wa.us>

**Subject:** 1-10 Study Session Questions

Hello,

I would like to request that my questions are added to the study session packet for the City Council Study Session tomorrow, 1/10, regarding the Mayor's proposed shelter. Please let me know if this email is received in time.

I would really like to thank the City Council Members for their well thought out questions. I appreciate all the time and effort they have put into reviewing the Mayor's proposal as well as the 2<sup>nd</sup> proposal now being presented from the experts.

I did have several other questions and concerns regarding the Mayor's proposal that I do not think have been addressed:

- How does the Mayor respond to the subject matter experts' concerns that his project will not help our unsheltered community members get back on their feet?
- Did the Mayor consider proposals he received from subject matter experts earlier in the process? Did the mayor consider the proposal he received from Eagles Wings Coordinated Care in March of 2023? Why or Why not?
- The Salvation Army has noted that many clients need accommodation for their pets. How will the Mayor's proposal accommodate pets?
- Who will monitor and control for health outbreaks in clients and pets?
- What is the next step after the sprung shelter for the unhoused to find permanent housing?
- Does the mayor have any concerns about the fact that congregate, sprung shelters have substantially lower rates of success than alternative service models?
- How long will individuals be permitted to stay in the sprung shelter under the Mayor's proposal?
- What are the operations and maintenance costs of the Mayor's Proposal?
  - Where are these operational costs described?
  - Who designed the budget for such operating costs, and what are their qualifications?
  - When the Shelter opens, who will be responsible for paying operations and maintenance costs?
  - Has a funding stream been identified?
  - If so, when will those funds become available? Are such funds committed by the funder?

- How long is this \$5.4 million “temporary” shelter going to be here for?
- Where is the documentation of this timeline?
- Are there or will there be any restrictions on state capital funds for the purpose of such a temporary use?
- What is the intended use of the site after this shelter is removed?
- How much additional money will be needed to shift the shelter to a different location?
- How will the relocation and/or the permanent facility be funded?
- Will the “sprung shelter” infrastructure remain property of the City after the relocation? What are the plans to store and/or maintain it for reuse?
- It has been mentioned that the current Salvation Army site is rarely full – why does the mayor want to build for 100 beds?
  - Is this proposal solving for a Bremerton issue or a County issue?
  - Has an interlocal agreement been executed, and if so, may we see its terms? Was the Council consulted on the terms of this interlocal agreement?
- I understand that public agencies are required to follow strict procurement rules. The Mayor mentioned that the Salvation Army has agreed to run the shelter. In an earlier meeting, he commented that the City “may need to go out with an RFP” for operations. This will be a sizeable contract and should require a formal solicitation of services through a Request for Proposal. How has the Mayor determined that the Salvation Army will operate the shelter? Has there been a formal procurement for these services?
- Who is funding this project and what is the 1/20 deadline for? What is the process for approvals on this funding?

Thank you,

Lisa Levy

**From:** Roy Runyon <sealance2449@gmail.com>

**Sent:** Tuesday, January 9, 2024 4:24 PM

**To:** City.council@bremerton.ci.wa.us; City Council <City.Council@ci.bremerton.wa.us>; aives@kcr.org

**Subject:** Kitsap County Homes For All tiny shelters

To Whom It May Concern,

The Kitsap County Homes For All program has eight to twelve 96 sq. foot shelters in South Kitsap that have gone unused since inception of the program in 2017-2018. Acquiring these for use in a congregate homeless facility could reduce capital costs. Please see the link below for information on the County's program:

[https://www.kitsapgov.com/BOC\\_p/Pages/HomesForAll.aspx](https://www.kitsapgov.com/BOC_p/Pages/HomesForAll.aspx)

Regards,

Roy Runyon  
360-440-0620



**From:** Ambrose Manager <ambmgr@amcllc.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 9, 2024 4:52 PM  
**To:** City Council <City.Council@ci.bremerton.wa.us>  
**Cc:** Ambmgr@amcllc.net  
**Subject:** Ambrose Apartments - Questions & Concerns for Mayors Proposal  
**Importance:** High

Good evening,

I am reaching out from the Ambrose Apartments on behalf of my property's employees, residents, and our neighboring homes of the area.

Thank you in advance for your time, and information – I would like to request confirmation of receipt, as well as to confirm that this email will be part of the study session packet please!

Please see below;

We appreciate the Mayor providing renderings of the outside of the proposal. What will the inside of the proposal be like? How many persons per room?

How much privacy does the Mayor's proposal provide for its clients? What is the bathroom setup?

RPM, the Mayor's expert in sprung shelters, has said that this type of shelter is not a good setup for children, because of concerns about safety from sex offenders. Has the mayor evaluated these concerns? Does the mayor have any concerns about risks to children or the City?

Originally, it appears that the Mayor's proposal would not have included families. Other information has differed. As presented today, will the Mayor's proposal allow families? How will it accommodate their needs?

Will the Mayor's sprung shelter have any windows?

Will the Mayor's sprung shelter have any laundry available on site? Where is the nearest laundromat?

Salvation Army has noted that they are short-staffed and already have a difficult time staffing their own smaller shelter. How will the Mayor's proposal support them in providing service to up to 100 people in the proposed congregate environment?

Will all of the clients be required to depart from the shelter during any given hours or time of day?

Are any social services available in this neighborhood for the clients of the proposed shelter?

How well will the proposed shelter be served by transit?

What is the mayor's plans to help clients reach jobs and services?

What is the mayor's plans to mitigate potential effects on parks, schools and senior housing that are within a mile, and in many instances within 100 feet? Have funding streams been identified to mitigate potential effects?

Thank you,

Chloe Ashcraft

Property Manager – Ambrose Apartments

smknight1953@comcast.net

1/3/2024 10:13 PM

To: Jeff Coughlin, rep. district #3

FROM: ~~SHIRLEY~~ SHIRLEY KNIGHT <smknight1953@comcast.net>

Re: Pallet Housing/Tiny houses for Homeless

Am I correct in understanding that this option does NOT include bathrooms? Admittedly plumbing would increase the cost, but is not hygiene and health worth it ???!! Are there some public bathrooms close by that precludes the necessity for individual toilets? Truly, I cannot imagine shelter without a bathroom. Please advise.

This shelter for the homeless has gone on waaaaaay too long...it is the dead of winter, as you know, and January is very late for a decision of this kind. I am disappointed not only in the Council's reaction to this crisis, but also the Mayor of Bremerton !!!

*Shirley*

*Jeff, but you're more  
frustrated than I am!  
S.*

Received by Bremerton City Council Office  
Date

*1/10/23*

1135 Wheaton Way Apartment B1  
Bremerton, WA 98310-4470

**From:** Sarah Setty <settysm30@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 10, 2024 3:32 PM  
**To:** City Council <City.Council@ci.bremerton.wa.us>  
**Subject:** Outrageous!

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

My name is Sarah Setty and I am a member of the Bay Vista Community. We were just informed that today that Jennifer Chamberlin took the nonprofits such as BHA off of the agenda this evening. Eventually they were placed on the agenda again but only given 10 minutes at the end of the session. I have attached the message the Bay Vista community received this afternoon. After all that has been said, shown, and expressed, how could she dare say that an alternative proposal was not necessary. This seems like a major stab in the back by the newly appointed President and I shudder to think of what the rest of this year with her at the helm has in store. Perhaps it was not deemed necessary since it is not her district currently at risk by the mayor's proposal. I hope this gets addressed and explained to the community.

We already feel as a community that we are unheard, unseen, and unimportant. Situations like this only show us that we are correct.

 Connecting...

I am angry writing this. This morning, the nonprofits making the alternative shelter proposal to city council tonight, discovered they were NOT on the agenda. One of them called & was told by new Chair, JENNIFER chamberlain, that she took them off the agenda because she. Believes in The mayor & the alternate proposal wasn't needed. She eventually reversed her decision & has now told the nonprofits they will get only 10 minutes at the END of tonight's meeting to present. This is Outrageous! Please attend tonight if you can. If she shuts down the nonprofits, please protest verbally!

13:51



**From:** Jennifer Chamberlin <Jennifer.Chamberlin@ci.bremerton.wa.us>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 10, 2024 4:41 PM  
**To:** City Council <City.Council@ci.bremerton.wa.us>; settysm30@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Re: Public Comments - Outrageous! (Sarah Setty)

Ms. Setty,

You were misinformed. I never removed the community partners from the agenda. I only learned about this agenda oversight today thanks to Anna Mockler. When there is a transition of leadership there will always be communications that will need to be caught up on. This morning I called Tony Ives and asked him to attend. He will receive roughly the same amount of time as the mayor which is fair. Please feel free to reach out if you need any clarification. I am a straight shooter publicly and one-on-one. Take good care.

Jennifer Chamberlin  
District 1  
Bremerton City Council President

From: Brian Smith <brian.smith.7064@icloud.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, January 10, 2024 4:19 PM  
To: City Council <City.Council@ci.bremerton.wa.us>  
Subject: Bremerton City Council Study Session

Hello City Council,

I am requesting that a member of your legal team provide an official explanation as to the legal ability of the Council Chair removing an agenda from a study session, knowing they would be on vacation in a different state. The study session, in question, is exactly one week from a vote which will have considerable sociopolitical implications. The removal of the agenda item prevents key stakeholders from receiving adequate attention before a critical vote and the Chair has, essentially, impaired the full understanding of the rest of the council.

I look forward to the City's response.

-Brian Smith

From: Jennifer Chamberlin <Jennifer.Chamberlin@ci.bremerton.wa.us>  
Sent: Wednesday, January 10, 2024 5:40 PM  
To: City Council <City.Council@ci.bremerton.wa.us>; brian.smith.7064@icloud.com  
Cc: Anna Mockler <Anna.Mockler@ci.bremerton.wa.us>; Kylie Finnell  
<Kylie.Finnell@ci.bremerton.wa.us>  
Subject: Re: Bremerton City Council Study Session

Mr. Smith,

I am copying and pasting a reply sent to another concerned person.

You were misinformed. I never removed the community partners from the agenda. I only learned about this agenda oversight today thanks to Anna Mockler. When there is a transition of leadership there will always be communications that will need to be caught up on. This morning I called Tony Ives and asked him to attend. He will receive roughly the same amount of time as the mayor which is fair. Please feel free to reach out if you need any clarification. I am a straight shooter publicly and one-on-one. Take good care.

Jennifer Chamberlin  
District 1  
Bremerton City Council President

**From:** Roy Runyon <sealance2449@gmail.com>

**Sent:** Wednesday, January 10, 2024 10:01 PM

**To:** City Council <City.Council@ci.bremerton.wa.us>

**Subject:** Alternative Resolution: Low-Barrier Walk-up Congregate Homeless Shelter

To Whom It May Concern,

I suggest preparation of an alternative resolution to the one preferred by the Administration.

The alternative motion might read: Move to approve Resolution \_\_\_\_\_ directing that the Administration develop a low-barrier walk-up hybrid model homeless shelter program in conjunction with various community partners at one or more locations.

Regards,

Roy Runyon



**From:** Roy Runyon <sealance2449@gmail.com>

**Sent:** Wednesday, January 10, 2024 9:39 PM

**To:** City Council <City.Council@ci.bremerton.wa.us>

**Subject:** Possible Funding Source for Congregate Homeless Shelter Capital and Operations

To Whom It May Concern,

I and other citizens have mentioned a possible funding source for capital and operations costs for a proposed congregate homeless shelter. 1/10 of 1% (county-wide sales tax) for Mental Health and Substance Abuse funding Proposals are evaluated by a volunteer committee led by Doug Washburn. This committee's recommendations are passed onto the Kitsap County Commissioners for approval and funding.

Here's a link providing specifics of the County's program:

<https://www.kitsapgov.com/hs/Pages/CAC-LANDING.aspx#:~:text=13>, See%20the%202024%20awards.

Regards,

Roy Runyon

**From:** Roy Runyon <sealance2449@gmail.com>

**Sent:** Wednesday, January 10, 2024 5:25 PM

**To:** aives@kcr.org; City.council@bremerton.ci.wa.us; City Council <City.Council@ci.bremerton.wa.us>

**Subject:** FYI: Redmond's Oasis Village welcoming first 20 residents to new transitional housing community - KTVZ

<https://ktvz.com/news/redmond/2024/01/09/redmonds-oasis-village-welcoming-first-20-residents-to-new-transitional-housing-community/>

**Published for  
January 17  
Council Meeting**

**ITEM 6D – Public Comments**

**From:** amy.m.watermanmn@gmail.com <amy.m.watermanmn@gmail.com>

**Sent:** Monday, January 15, 2024 10:45 AM

**To:** City Council <City.Council@ci.bremerton.wa.us>

**Subject:** Writing to Voice Support for Unhoused Plan Proposed by Non-Profits at January 10th Committee Meeting

Dear Council Members,

The Mayor and his team eagerly and proactively jumped in to find a solution to our shelter options for the unhoused in Bremerton. But, I urge this council to proceed with the proposal presented by a consortium of non-profit organizations at the January 10<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Katie Ketterer on the Mayor's team, for one, worked tirelessly on figuring out a way forward that could be feasible for the city. Housing the homeless is not her area of expertise but she and others in the mayor's office moved forward with determination and a commitment to find a solution.

And, when it became clear this was actually a much broader issue, the city of Bremerton began the work to bring county-wide expertise into the effort.

The mayor is absolutely correct, Bremerton needs year-round congregate shelter services. However, it is not all that is needed. And now, what we have is a complete proposal that includes short term low threshold congregate housing and the full array of housing services and options which will lead people forward towards housing stability.

What started in the mayor's office has resulted in an electrified consortia of (city & county officials, social service agencies and community members) who will work together to solve this issue.

Let me say again that it is important to note that this hard work started with the mayor's office. And, as with all complex and good plans, it did not stay there. It has evolved into a plan involving all of our leaders here in Bremerton, our experts within our county agencies, and our consortia of dedicated non-profits.

Kudos to our Bremerton leaders for thinking broadly and in moving towards hope for the unhoused and the well-being of all of Bremerton!

Amy Waterman  
Resident of Bremerton



**From:** barb frey <barblfrey@gmail.com>

**Sent:** Sunday, January 14, 2024 7:25 PM

**To:** Greg Wheeler <Greg.Wheeler@ci.bremerton.wa.us>; City Council  
<City.Council@ci.bremerton.wa.us>

**Subject:** THIS WAS SUPPOSED TO BE SENT FROM MY PERSONAL EMAIL....NOT BUSINESS.

**From:** COMMUNITY FINANCIAL <cfsinc1994@gmail.com>

**Sent:** Sunday, January 14, 2024 2:59 PM

**To:** Greg Wheeler <Greg.Wheeler@ci.bremerton.wa.us>; City Council  
<City.Council@ci.bremerton.wa.us>

**Subject:** City of Bremerton homeless options

I am once again at my keyboard trying to put together my thoughts regarding the homeless situation in City of Bremerton. More specifically, my thoughts after listening to the additional information I learned about during the Zoom Study Session of January 10, 2024.

I listened with interest to the proposal of adding a consultant to coordinate services being offered to homeless individuals.

I also listened to Mayor Wheeler's proposal. I learned some facts I didn't know before:

1. This is temporary structure. Does the Mayor think this is a temporary situation? Why are we spending this much money on a temporary structure when there are MANY large structures already available around town.
2. This a low barrier, congregate shelter. I now understand "low-barrier" to mean little to no restrictions on who is able to be housed there. This is unsafe for folks who are drug/alcohol clean but temporarily unhoused.
3. I was surprised to learn the Salvation Army has stepped up to manage this structure. They have a structure that is working now. Why don't we just pay them to continue what they are doing? We are going to pay them a sizeable amount to manage the Oyster Bay structure anyway. They aren't volunteering their time.

In simple terms, this is a warehouse for the homeless. They will wander the nearby residential neighborhoods during their "out" time.

I then listened to the proposal by Bremerton Housing, St Vincent's, KCR and Pendleton Place. It is the only proposal that is sensible, compassionate, has a look

to moving these folks from tents to walls/roofs. I have had personal professional contact with all these Organizations and the people who represent them. They care about the safety and mental/physical well-being of those in their care.

I also have daily personal contact with the group of people who will (and have) benefited from the knowledge, equity and principles of the leaders and employees of these four organizations.

I am proud and pleased they have presented this proposal.

This week I have gone to the site they are proposing. It is perfect in size, has available open space, is fenced, and very close to the Wheaton Way transfer station. The site is not residential and the safety of families, kids and the elderly is not at risk.

I know there are quite a few in our Community who want to live without rules off the grid and that isn't going to change but what I know of the outreach of the Agencies involved, I'm not sure a consultant to coordinate services will be necessary.

Thank you for considering my points of view and know those points come from many years of experience not critical thoughts.

Barb Frey

From: Joan Hanten <jbhan10@outlook.com>  
Sent: Monday, January 15, 2024 2:23 PM  
To: City Council <City.Council@ci.bremerton.wa.us>  
Subject: Bremerton Homeless need the nonprofit's shelter plan.

> Councilors,

>>

>>> Bremerton City Council must choose a path forward to best shelter its homeless. The Mayor's homeless proposal focuses on fulfilling the Public Works Master Plan, by building out its complicated site on Oyster Bay Avenue & placing a 9,000 square foot commercial building to temporarily warehouse the homeless, until the City can quietly reclaim it for public works purposes. Not only is it a heartless and shortsighted plan, but, arguably, a dishonest one. The local & state funding earmarked to shelter homeless is intended to help municipalities solve their homeless crises; not to provide cover to fund unrelated, long term projects. And, the City is aware that the massive, congregate model it is proposing is failing and being abandoned by other cities, from Portland to San Diego. Meanwhile, the comprehensive, human-centered, flexible plan bought to City Council by a consortium of local non profits is a clearly superior plan that serves the homeless, is supported by Bremerton taxpayers and limits impact on any one neighborhood. Yet, some Council members still struggle to vote for this superior plan, to avoid disappointing or angering the Mayor. Moving the dial on Bremerton's homeless issue is far more important than any one individual's efforts or disappointment. And, with limited resources, we cannot have it both ways. City Council must vote their values and conscience and adopt the plan created by the non profits, that best serves both the unhoused and housed residents of Bremerton.

>>> Respectfully,

>>> Joan Hanten



## Eagle's Wings Coordinated Care

My name is Jim Adrian, and I am writing in support of the Hybrid Shelter Option.

I have had a working relationship with Michelle Fleetwood from Eagle's Wings for over 18 years, and am eager to endorse any plans the city council might approve to provide a hybrid shelter model. We provide over a dozen houses to Eagle's Wings for their current transitional housing, and plan to continue this relationship indefinitely.

Thank you for your time and consideration of the hybrid shelter model.

Jim Adrian  
Adrian Properties



**From:** Greg Wheeler <Greg.Wheeler@ci.bremerton.wa.us>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 17, 2024 3:55 PM  
**To:** Christine Grenier <Christine.Grenier@ci.bremerton.wa.us>; City Council <City.Council@ci.bremerton.wa.us>  
**Cc:** Jennifer Hayes <Jennifer.Hayes@ci.bremerton.wa.us>  
**Subject:** FW: Shelter Discussion Follow Up from Thursday's Meeting

For the record.

**From:** Greg Wheeler  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 17, 2024 3:03 PM  
**To:** Joe Crain <[joe@svdpaul.org](mailto:joe@svdpaul.org)>  
**Cc:** Walters, Katie <[kwalters@kitsap.gov](mailto:kwalters@kitsap.gov)>; Doug Washburn <[dwashburn@kitsap.gov](mailto:dwashburn@kitsap.gov)>; Anthony Ives <[aives@kcr.org](mailto:aives@kcr.org)>; Monica Bernhard <[monicab@kmhs.org](mailto:monicab@kmhs.org)>; Jill Stanton <[JStanton@bremertonhousing.org](mailto:JStanton@bremertonhousing.org)>; Jennifer Chamberlin <[Jennifer.Chamberlin@ci.bremerton.wa.us](mailto:Jennifer.Chamberlin@ci.bremerton.wa.us)>; Anna Mockler <[Anna.Mockler@ci.bremerton.wa.us](mailto:Anna.Mockler@ci.bremerton.wa.us)>; Eric Younger <[eric.younger@ci.bremerton.wa.us](mailto:eric.younger@ci.bremerton.wa.us)>; Denise Frey <[Denise.Frey@ci.bremerton.wa.us](mailto:Denise.Frey@ci.bremerton.wa.us)>; Michael Goodnow <[Michael.Goodnow@ci.bremerton.wa.us](mailto:Michael.Goodnow@ci.bremerton.wa.us)>; Jeff Coughlin <[Jeff.Coughlin@ci.bremerton.wa.us](mailto:Jeff.Coughlin@ci.bremerton.wa.us)>; jane Rebelowski <[janerebelowski@yahoo.com](mailto:janerebelowski@yahoo.com)>; Jennifer Hayes <[Jennifer.Hayes@ci.bremerton.wa.us](mailto:Jennifer.Hayes@ci.bremerton.wa.us)>  
**Subject:** RE: Shelter Discussion Follow Up from Thursday's Meeting

Dear Joe,

I am not against any of your organizations working to increase shelter options in Bremerton and throughout Kitsap County. I never have been. The City's proposal does not prevent your proposal as presented to the City Council or any other proposal from going forward. The Salvation Army has proven a low barrier congregate shelter is an important part of the continuum of care and provides needed shelter to individuals without other options. The proposal for Oyster Bay anticipates building on this proven track record with a more thoughtfully designed shelter facility.

While the Bremerton Housing Authority determines whether it is able to provide shelter, the City can continue with next steps on the Oyster Bay site that is compatible with a low barrier walk up congregate shelter and a public works facility. We can all move forward. However, if BHA's board does not approve this work or their legal counsel advises it is outside their mission, then as a community, at least there would be a viable option still moving forward.

To the contrary, Resolution No. 3375 ends the opportunity for a shelter at the Oyster Bay site with a lot of open questions as to whether there is a viable alternative, and that is not in the best interest of the City. Resolution No. 3375 is the only option before the City Council tonight that limits opportunities.

Again, I welcome the development of additional shelter options. I do not see this as a competition, and I am not concerned about being credited as the key orchestrator of any plan. I care about the City of Bremerton and I am moving forward the option that is best for the City in balancing the needs of our community members experiencing homelessness, with our obligations and duty to ensure public safety, community livability, viability of the business community, and maintenance of public spaces.

Sincerely,

Greg Wheeler  
Mayor  
City of Bremerton  
(360) 473-5266

**From:** Joe Crain <[joe@svdpaul.org](mailto:joe@svdpaul.org)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 16, 2024 4:09 PM  
**To:** Greg Wheeler <[Greg.Wheeler@ci.bremerton.wa.us](mailto:Greg.Wheeler@ci.bremerton.wa.us)>  
**Cc:** Walters, Katie <[kwalters@kitsap.gov](mailto:kwalters@kitsap.gov)>; Doug Washburn <[dwashburn@kitsap.gov](mailto:dwashburn@kitsap.gov)>; Anthony Ives <[aives@kcr.org](mailto:aives@kcr.org)>; Monica Bernhard <[monicab@kmhs.org](mailto:monicab@kmhs.org)>; Jill Stanton <[JStanton@bremertonhousing.org](mailto:JStanton@bremertonhousing.org)>  
**Subject:** Shelter Discussion Follow Up from Thursday's Meeting  
**Importance:** High

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Mayor Wheeler,

We have the highest respect for your role and understand the gravity of the situation before us as it relates to the homelessness crisis facing our city. We are committed to you, our city, and our county, in finding a sustainable solution that keeps our streets safe. We propose a solution that could provide a win-win for all parties working together to make this happen.

We would like to explore a partnership between the City of Bremerton and the Bremerton Housing Authority to add a low-barrier shelter navigation center and pallet shelter to BHA's portfolio of housing in order to present a more comprehensive approach to the overall housing continuum in which they already operate. Of course, the BHA Board would have to approve any shelter plan and BHA would need to get legal advice on their ability to enter into the provision of shelter housing. But they are willing to pursue this with the City of Bremerton as mentioned by Council Member Younger. This innovative approach would open a door for the administration to work with BHA, KCR, KMHS, St. Vincent de Paul, and other service/shelter providers on a comprehensive strategy that works for our city. In addition, we hope to provide a model of shelter housing that can be replicated in other jurisdictions in Kitsap County so that people who are unhoused in other areas of the county can have options where they reside.

KCR, KMHS, St. Vincent de Paul, and BHA will take the lead and work with the city and county to increase coordination options and services within the current shelter system and to utilize housing choice vouchers. We will also strategize with the city and county on funding opportunities and a budget for the navigation center and pallet village that includes 24/7 security.

**We are refining our proposal to show a timeline of implementation that would meet the city's current deadline.** Given the Salvation Army is staying open until April 2025, we believe we can achieve the deadline. We are also preparing an outreach/communication plan that would mitigate opposition and increase public opinion around this currently contentious issue and place you as a key orchestrator of this plan. Overall, this proposal has the potential to completely turn this from a win/lose situation to a win/win situation overnight. We appreciate you and are excited to share this plan in more detail at your earliest convenience.

Respectfully,  
Joseph Crain  
Executive Director, SVdP Bremerton

Monica Bernhard  
Chief Executive Officer, Kitsap Mental Health

Jill Stanton  
Executive Director, Bremerton Housing Authority

Tony Ives  
Executive Director, Kitsap Community Resources

**From:** Ariana Miller <Ariana@eagleswingscc.net>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 17, 2024 3:16 PM  
**To:** City Council <City.Council@ci.bremerton.wa.us>  
**Subject:** Adrian Properties Support of Hybrid Shelter Model

Hello again,  
We also had one of our property partners submit a letter, and I am attaching it here.

Thank you again,

*Ariana K. Miller*  
Quality Assurance Manager  
360-643-4197





## Eagle's Wings Coordinated Care

Eagle's Wings Coordinated Care is writing to support the hybrid shelter option.

Eagle's Wings is a non-profit organization that works with Kitsap's most vulnerable and hard to serve population by providing clients with transitional housing, along with holistic medical and behavioral health services. We have a comprehensive team including case managers, Substance Use Disorder Professionals, Mental Health Professionals, nurses, peers, and in-house resident aides. We recently received DOH licensure for medical respite beds as well as licensure to bill for select behavioral health services. We offer in-house transportation and advocacy to navigate social service agencies along the Continuum of Care towards permanent, stable, housing. We also run a clubhouse that hosts activities for community engagement and reintroduction to recovering communities, including NA meetings open to the public.

### How we can help.

I am the current Director of Eagle's Wings and have been a social service provider in Kitsap County for over 17 years. I am very familiar with the needs of this targeted population and have over 4 years of hands-on shelter management experience, including previous experience overseeing the winter shelter at the Salvation Army. Eagle's Wings has been working in conjunction with the Affordable Housing Task Force bringing the hybrid model forward to provide a better alternative for the hard to serve and most vulnerable population. We currently house over 125 Individuals in over 15 houses across the county.

Regardless of the shelter site, we are open to providing shelter operations. We also have access to an 8,000 sq ft facility that would fit the need for a new low-barrier, walk up shelter and even previously submitted this option to the City and County when Salvation Army closed to assist in this homeless housing crisis. However, at the time, we were told the timeline was too tight and we did not have any secured funding for the short turnaround time. We have updated our proposal, the building has undergone additional upgrades, and the hybrid model team, along with a county commissioner, have viewed this option. We have also confirmed that a shelter is an allowable use under current zoning with the county DCD through an ACUP permit, and possibly a shorter-term, but faster, temporary permit for transitional housing. We believe that, with sufficient funding, the shelter could be operational by Oct/Nov 2023 at the latest.

We are extremely experienced and successful at meeting this specific need of the hardest to serve, most vulnerable groups in our county. Because of our long standing, unique positive landlord relationships we have houses being offered to us regularly and can help place individuals into permanent units with the BHA voucher program outlined in last week's study session to support the transition from homelessness to permanent housing. We would set up and utilize proven systems that will allow us to work more fluidly with this community to help get them transitional or permanent housing ready in an environment that doesn't affect our current clean and sober community in our transitional housing. We were one of the first agencies contracted with Medicaid's Foundational Community Support (FCS) program in 2019



## Eagle's Wings Coordinated Care

that allows us to bill eligible clients for housing and employment services. Therefore, we are confident a large portion of operations for these services can be covered through FCS funding.

Eagle's Wings has a strong command of dealing with this locally and are eager to add this new system with the low barrier shelter. We are ready and willing to assist where we're need in order to support city council, Mayor Wheeler, and county officials.

Thank you for your time,

Michelle Fleetwood

EWCC Teams Director

360-801-7039

**From:** Kate Breslin Author <kate@katebreslin.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 17, 2024 3:40 PM  
**To:** City Council <City.Council@ci.bremerton.wa.us>  
**Subject:** Homeless Housing Issue for 1/17/24 vote  
**Importance:** High

Hello, I'm Kate Breslin and my husband John and I live within the city of Bremerton. I attended the Zoom meeting last Wednesday the 10th during the study conducted for various solutions to aid our houseless citizens and also serve our community at large. I first want to applaud the council's diligence and hard work in addressing the issues on the agenda; I appreciate that you stayed very late into the night to get all issues discussed and though exhausted, I'm sure, you were all determined to serve your constituents in their concerns, so thank you!

I'm sorry to post this late on Wednesday the 17th, I've been away more than at home this past week, but I want to express my thoughts regarding the plans offered up to vote tonight. While the Common Street plan was impressive, and I appreciate the time and effort our mayor put into his suggestion for a very nice collective first step facility, I have to support Plan B, offered by the coalition of non-profit community agencies we already have in place in our county. Their proposed idea of refurbishing a warehouse in East Bremerton as a collective first step homeless shelter, but also augmenting that with several POD homes, will indeed help to stabilize and acclimate with dignity our houseless citizens, so that they can eventually move into low income housing of their own. In my view, this is using the resources we already have and making them work, and hopefully one day ending homelessness in our community.

Thank you for your time,

John & Kate Breslin

From: Kelsey Stedman <kelsey.e.stedman@gmail.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, January 17, 2024 11:01 AM  
To: City Council <City.Council@ci.bremerton.wa.us>  
Subject: Support for hybrid model

Hi City Council,

As you prepare to settle in for a very challenging yet important meeting tonight, I wanted to express my support for the hybrid shelter model as a lifelong Kitsap resident, a nurse with a Masters of Nursing in Program Development and Implementation for Vulnerable Population from Seattle University, and a 10 year history of providing nursing care in Kitsap to older adults in dementia care, patients with complex medical wounds, people experiencing homelessness, and complex "tri-morbidity" (mental health, physical health and substance use issues).

I also write as the volunteer nurse with Rock the Block and the Grants Coordinator for Eagle's Wings Coordinated Care, which currently houses over 125 people in supportive, transitional housing, as well as some people who have successfully gone through the Continuum of Care and reside in permanent voucher-based housing.

The hybrid model contains all the integral pieces to support people actually exiting homelessness, as outlined in last week's study session. With buy-in and leadership from our county's most influential agencies, we have the highest chance of keeping homelessness rare, brief, and one time.

Homelessness is a housing problem (for overwhelming evidence that homelessness is caused by market housing conditions, NOT rates of addiction, mental health, or local political climate, see the amazing recent book called Homelessness is a Housing Problem, written by local UW researchers who looked at correlation and causation for all of the common assumptions on the root and perpetuation of homelessness).

Please vote in support of the hybrid model. If you have concerns about Bremerton losing control over the specifics of the model, I implore you to consider adding specifics into any contracts with funding, for example, that the funding can only be used towards a model that includes at least 90 beds through some combination of 24/7 and transitional housing (e.g. pallet shelters or congregate living), with a minimum of 40 low barrier 24/7 beds.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration.

Best,

Kelsey Stedman, RN, MSN, CWCN  
360.908.6751



**Published for  
January 17  
Council Meeting**

**Item 3 – Mayor's Report**



# MAYOR'S REPORT

*January 17, 2024*

**BREMERTON**

WASHINGTON







# WASHINGTON AVE & 11<sup>TH</sup> ST IMPROVEMENTS

## TEMPORARY CONSTRUCTION ROAD CLOSURE

Pacific Ave to the Manette Bridge

FEBRUARY – MAY \*

2024

- THRU TRAFFIC DETOUR VIA PACIFIC AVE & 6<sup>TH</sup> ST
- LOCAL ACCESS TO BE PROVIDED
- ON-STREET PARKING RESTRICTED IN CLOSURE
- MANETTE BRIDGE ACCESS MAINTAINED
- EXPECT MINOR DELAYS



STAY INFORMED

Visit the Project Website

\* Duration of temporary closure estimated and subject to change





**Published for  
January 17  
Council Meeting**

**Item 7 – Council Reports**



**RETHINKING  
SHELTER**



## **Bremerton District 2 Community Meeting**

**To discuss shelter plans for  
East Bremerton**

**Saturday, January 20, 2024**

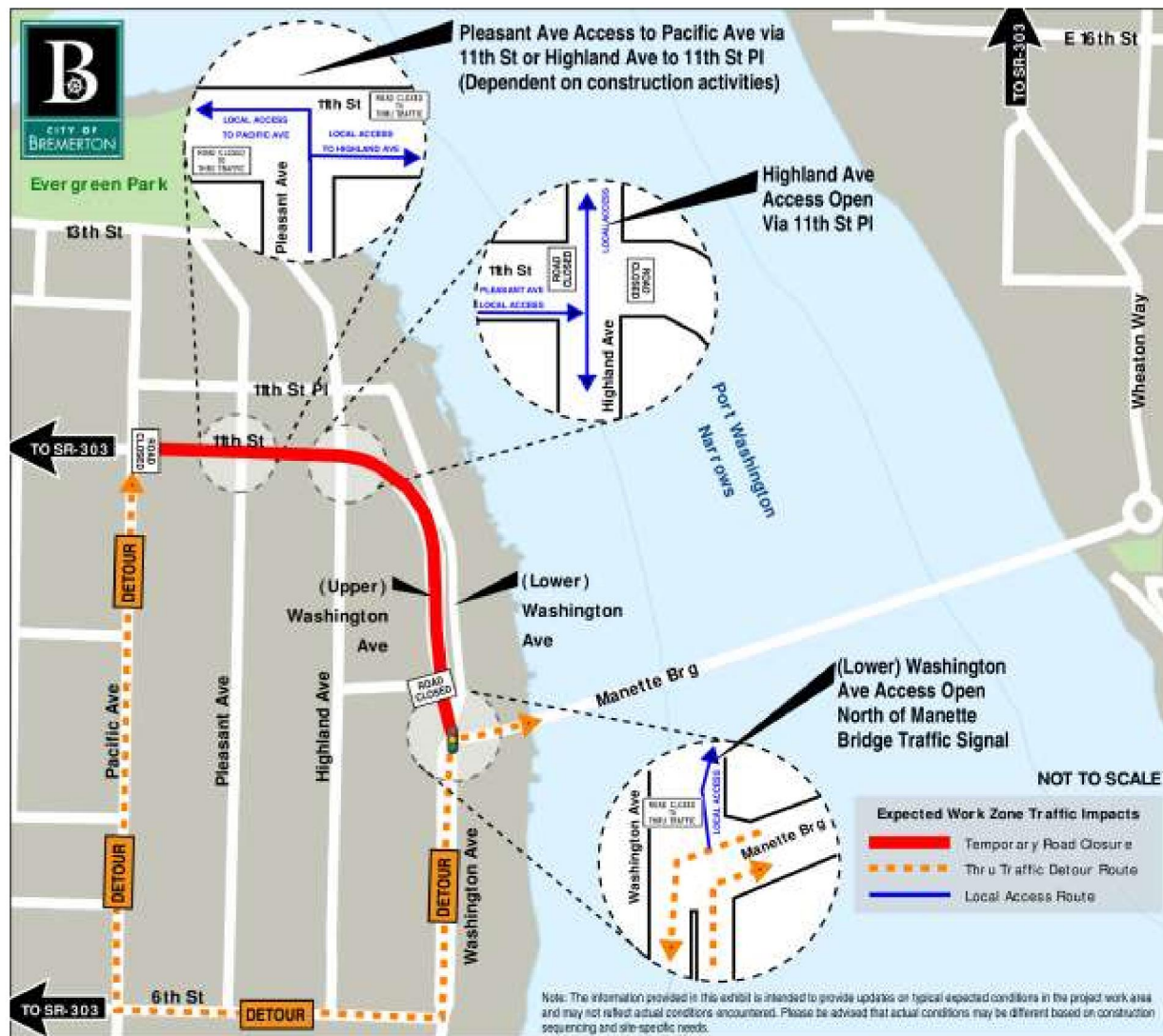
**11 AM – 1 PM**

**Swing Set Mall  
(near Goodwill Store)  
4173 Wheaton Way**



**January 17, 2024**





## WASHINGTON AVENUE & 11TH STREET IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

### TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURE NOTICE

Beginning on or around **February 12, 2024** a temporary closure of 11th St and Washington Ave (between Pacific Ave and the Manette Bridge) will occur for approximately 3 months to allow for a full reconstruction of the roadway.

**THRU TRAFFIC:** A detour will be provided along Pacific Ave and 6th St. Access to and from the Manette Bridge will remain open, however no thru traffic will be permitted on Washington Ave north of the Manette Bridge.

# WASHINGTON AVE & 11<sup>TH</sup> ST IMPROVEMENTS

## TEMPORARY CONSTRUCTION ROAD CLOSURE

### Pacific Ave to the Manette Bridge

## FEBRUARY – MAY \* 2024

### STAY INFORMED

Visit the Project Website

\* Duration of temporary closure estimated and subject to change

- THRU TRAFFIC DETOUR VIA PACIFIC AVE & 6<sup>TH</sup> ST
- LOCAL ACCESS TO BE PROVIDED
- ON-STREET PARKING RESTRICTED IN CLOSURE
- MANETTE BRIDGE ACCESS MAINTAINED
- EXPECT MINOR DELAYS

## WASHINGTON AVENUE & 11TH STREET IMPROVEMENTS

### Road Construction Report

## JANUARY & FEBRUARY 2024

Construction for the Washington Ave & 11th St Improvements has been in a temporary construction work suspension since November 2023 to avoid challenging winter weather work conditions and due to manufacturing delays for critical construction materials. It is currently anticipated that this work suspension will occur through early February 2024.

Beginning on or around February 12, 2024, a temporary road closure and detour will be implemented for approximately 3 months restricting thru access along 11th St and Washington Ave from Pacific Ave to the Manette Bridge. This closure is necessary to fully reconstruct the roadway, ensure the safety of the traveling public and workers, maintain local residential access, and support the goal of project completion in Summer 2024. Detour routes will be signed for thru traffic along 6th St and Pacific Ave and access to and from the Manette Bridge at Washington Ave will remain open. Local residential traffic around the temporary closure will maintain access through the work area with detours and impacts minimized as much as possible. Minor delays should be expected during this time especially during morning and afternoon peak commute hours.

ANTICIPATED CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULE





# 6th Street Active Transportation Improvements Project

## Project Status and News

Project Status: Pre-Design Phase (Currently pending selection of consultant for preliminary engineering)

## Project Overview

The 6th Street Active Transportation Improvements Project has been identified as a priority improvement supporting safety and multimodal connectivity through a re-channelization ("road diet") of the 6th Street corridor. 6th Street has been identified as the recommended east-west corridor for a re-channelization based on vehicle demand, topography, and availability of alternate parallel corridors including 11th Street and Burwell Street (SR 304). The proposed re-channelization for 6th Street generally includes conversion of the roadway from 4-lanes to 3-lanes with continuous on-street bike lanes. These improvements are planned to extend previously constructed on-street bike lanes on Kitsap Way (completed in 2022) to Washington Avenue providing improved east-west active transportation connectivity.



Project Location Map

## Project Need and Purpose

Originally recommended in the [2007 Bremerton Non-Motorized Transportation Plan](#), a re-channelization of 6th Street was identified as an opportunity to take advantage of lower vehicle volumes through a conversion of the corridor from a 4-lane undivided roadway to a 3-lane roadway with a center two-way left-turn lane and bike lanes. The project has continued to be evaluated and highlighted as a recommended improvement as travel and development patterns have evolved including, most recently, through the adoption of the [Joint Compatibility Transportation Plan](#).



## Urban Street Design Guide

[PURCHASE GUIDE](#)

[GUIDE NAVIGATION](#)

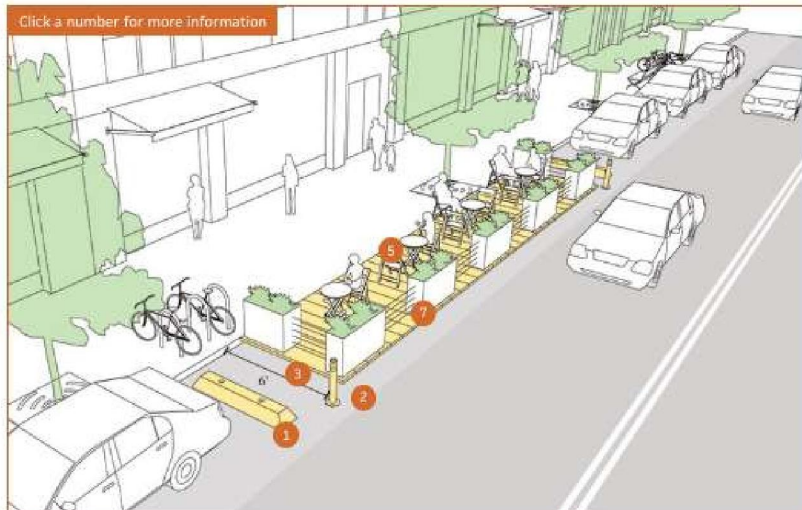


### Parklets

Parklets are public seating platforms that convert curbside parking spaces into vibrant community spaces. Also known as street seats or curbside seating, parklets are the product of a partnership between the city and local businesses, residents, or neighborhood associations.

Most parklets have a distinctive design that incorporates seating, greenery, and/or bike racks and accommodate unmet demand for public space on thriving neighborhood retail streets or commercial areas.

[Click a number for more information](#)



### PARKLET





Department of Human Services  
Housing and Homelessness Division



Kitsap Housing and  
Homelessness Coalition

## 2024 POINT-IN-TIME COUNT

### Volunteers Needed in YOUR Community

**What:** Volunteer in the "Point-In-Time Count" (PIT) to help gather information about homelessness in your community.

- Help survey individuals at centralized social service locations
- Help survey individuals where they live/spend time/receive services

**When and Where:**

TUESDAY JAN 23 <sup>rd</sup>	WEDNESDAY JAN 24 <sup>th</sup>	THURSDAY JAN 25 <sup>th</sup>	FRIDAY JAN 26 <sup>th</sup>
9am-2pm	9am-2pm	10am-2pm	10am-3pm – Food Banks
Poulsbo Project Connect	Bremerton Project Connect	Port Orchard Project Connect	
10am-5pm – Food Banks	10am-6pm – Food Banks	10am-5pm – Food Banks	
	5pm-6pm - Evening Meals	5pm-6pm – Evening Meals	

**Who:** Adult volunteers are needed from every community and from all walks of life including:

- College Students
- Civic/Nonprofit Organizations
- Service Providers
- Faith Based Institutions
- Veterans
- Business & Neighborhood Groups
- Current/Formerly Homeless
- Anyone Who Would Like to Help Alleviate Homelessness
- Bilingual Individuals



**Why?:** Basic data collected during this annual count informs local, state, and federal funders about the scope of homelessness in our county, and helps channel funding and other resources to local communities to help people exit life on the streets and prevent homelessness. **YOU can make a difference in your neighborhood by volunteering a few hours of your time!**

No experience necessary! Learn more at <http://kcowa.us/kitsap-pit>

**Sign Up ▶ Please Sign Up Online at <http://kcowa.us/PIT2024>**  
or Contact:

Cory Derenburger  
Housing & Homelessness Division Specialist  
Kitsap County Human Services  
[cderenbu@kitsap.gov](mailto:cderenbu@kitsap.gov) or (360) 362-0404



One-Stop **FREE** Event  
Helping Individuals &  
Families in Need



In Coordination with the  
Kitsap County  
Point-In-Time (PIT) Count

## KITSAP PROJECT CONNECT

# SERVICES & INFORMATION RESOURCE FAIRS

## 3 LOCATIONS • LAST WEEK IN JANUARY 2024

*This program is made possible in part by a grant from the Suquamish Tribe and Suquamish Foundation.*

**POULSBO**  
JANUARY 23, 2024  
10AM - 2PM

Gateway Fellowship  
Church  
18901 8th Ave NE  
Poulsbo, WA 98370

**BREMERTON**  
JANUARY 24, 2024  
10AM - 2PM

The Salvation Army  
832 6th Street  
Bremerton, WA 98337

**PORT ORCHARD**  
JANUARY 25, 2024  
10AM - 2PM

Port Orchard United  
Methodist Church  
725 Kitsap Street  
Port Orchard, WA 98366

[www.kitsaphhc.org](http://www.kitsaphhc.org)

FREE Lunch • Housing Information • DSHS/Foodstamps • Employment Info  
Food Bank Info • Mental Health Info • Child Support • Homeless Resources  
Hygiene Kits • Medical Insurance • Head Start • WIC • Pet Food • Legal Services  
Transportation Info • Veterans Info • Vaccinations • and MORE!

*\*Service offerings will vary by location\**



Department of  
Human Services



Kitsap Housing and  
Homelessness Coalition



For more information contact: [admin@kitsaphhc.org](mailto:admin@kitsaphhc.org)











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\(Bremerton1\)](#)[Tax & Licensing](#)[Utility Billing](#)[Watch City Council Live](#)[Home](#) » [Form Center](#)

## Form Center

### Search Forms:

[Select a Category](#) ▼

By [signing in or creating an account](#), some fields will auto-populate with your information.

### Application for City Boards / Commissions / Committee

[Sign in to Save Progress](#)**Date****First Name****Middle Name****Last Name**

**I am interested in serving:**

*Please check one or more*

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> ADA Committee                                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Ferry Advisory Committee                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Arts Commission                                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Lodging Tax Advisory Committee            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Audit Committee                                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Parks and Recreation Commission           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bremerton Housing Authority                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Planning Commission (18 years or older)   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Citizen's Commission on Council Salaries         | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Access Citizens Advisory Committee |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Civil Service Commission (18 years or older)     | <input type="checkbox"/> Race Equity Advisory Commission (REAC)    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community Development Block Grant Advisory Board | <input type="checkbox"/> Tree Committee                            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Complete Streets Committee                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Other                                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Design Review Board                              |  |

**If other, please explain**

## *District Six Council Report*







# DISTRICT SIX TOWNHALL

*Presented by Anna Mockler  
Bremerton City Councilor, District Six*

**What are your hopes and concerns?  
Talk to your City Councilor**

**What Council did last month  
and  
What they'll look at soon**

**Every Second Monday, 4-6pm**  
Bremerton Public Works Conference Room  
at 100 Oyster Bay Ave N

Questions? Email [Anna.Mockler@ci.bremerton.wa.us](mailto:Anna.Mockler@ci.bremerton.wa.us)

## **2024 Dates**

January 8, February 12, March 11  
April 8, May 13, June 10  
July 8, August 12, September 9  
October 14, November 11, December 9

