

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF OLYMPIA, WASHINGTON, APPROVING A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE CITY OF OLYMPIA AND THURSTON COUNTY RELATING TO JOINT EFFORTS TO ADDRESS THE NEED FOR MANAGED PARKING SITES FOR HOMELESS PERSONS LIVING IN RECREATIONAL AND MOTOR VEHICLES, AND FOR THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE SAID MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

WHEREAS, the City of Olympia (the “City”) and Thurston County (the “County”) desire to create an understanding of their working relationship related to ongoing efforts to address the impacts of homeless persons living in recreational and motor vehicles along right-of-way on Ensign Road and other streets and encampments located throughout the community; and

WHEREAS, the City and County agree that unsheltered and unmanaged homelessness constitutes a public health emergency, and such emergency requires the City and County to coordinate their resources to address the ongoing impacts and needs of homeless persons; and

WHEREAS, there currently is no shelter or sanctioned safe parking areas to address the needs and impacts of persons living in recreational and motor vehicles parked on public right-of-way on Ensign Road and other streets, and that homeless persons living in recreational and motor vehicles along Ensign Road is detrimental to the health and safety of the individuals living in such vehicles, St. Peter’s Hospital, businesses, property owners, and visitors, including negative impacts on emergency medical first responders accessing St. Peter’s Hospital which provides regional medical care for residents of the City and County; and

WHEREAS, the City and County recognize that persons living in recreational and motor vehicles along Ensign Road is also negatively impacting the ability of public transit vehicles to safely navigate Ensign Road and that bicycle lanes and sidewalks along Ensign Road are also being negatively impacted, and that living in recreational and motor vehicles is also negatively impacting surrounding wetland and streams near Ensign Road; and

WHEREAS, the City and County agree that safe parking facilities are needed to address the foregoing concerns; and

WHEREAS, the City and County recognize the need to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding to address these serious and ongoing public health issues by coordinating resources and working together to collaboratively address these regional issues;

NOW, THEREFORE, THE OLYMPIA CITY COUNCIL DOES HEREBY RESOLVE as follows:

1. The Olympia City Council hereby approves the Memorandum of Understanding, attached hereto as Exhibit A, as the first step to achieve the joint goals set forth in the document.
2. The City Manager is directed and authorized to execute the Memorandum of Understanding, attached as Exhibit A, and to present all necessary future interlocal agreements as may be required to the City Council in order to achieve the goals of the City and County as set forth in the Memorandum of Understanding.

3. Further, the City Manager is also authorized to make any amendments or minor modifications consistent with the intent of the Memorandum of Understanding as may be necessary, or to correct any scrivener's errors.

PASSED BY THE OLYMPIA CITY COUNCIL this _____ day of _____ 2021.

MAYOR

ATTEST:

CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Mark Barber

CITY ATTORNEY

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

The City of Olympia and Thurston County desire to create a clear understanding of their working relationship related to ongoing efforts to address the impacts of unsheltered/homeless individuals living along Ensign Road in particular and other streets and encampments located throughout the community.

The City and County, hereinafter the Parties, find the following to be true:

- A. Unsheltered and unmanaged homelessness constitute a public health emergency and require the County and City to coordinate their resources and actions.
- B. Neither the City nor the County have sufficient resources to address the ongoing impacts or needs of unsheltered homelessness.
- C. There currently is no shelter or sanctioned safe parking area to address the needs and impacts of individuals living in vehicles on public streets.
- D. Camping along Ensign Road is detrimental to the health and safety of the individuals living there and surrounding businesses, property owners and visitors.
- E. Camping along Ensign Road is having unacceptable impacts on operations at St. Peter Hospital.
- F. Camping along Ensign Road is having unacceptable negative impacts on emergency medical first responders accessing St. Peter Hospital.
- G. Camping along Ensign Road is negatively impacting the ability of public transit vehicles to safely navigate Ensign Road.
- H. Camping along Ensign Road is impacting the ability of the public to use Ensign Road and the bike lanes and sidewalks in that roadway.
- I. Camping along Ensign Road is having negative impacts on surrounding wetlands and streams.
- J. A safe parking facility is needed to address these concerns.

Therefore, the Parties agree:

Phase I – Carpenter Road and Martin Way Site

- K. Continue to support the Scattered Site Support Program with shared technical support and financial resources as currently exists through June 30, 2022.
 - a. \$50,000 of financial support from Providence will be used by City of Olympia to support activities similar to those provided under the current Scattered Site program and otherwise necessary to carry out this agreement.
 - b. \$50,000 of financial support from Providence will be used by Thurston County to support the Case Management Sub-contract.

- c. Thurston County will provide the necessary resources to fully fund the Case Management Support sub-contract, to include funding for 24 hour support to the Martin Way and Carpenter Road property.
- L. Work collaboratively to create a short-term safe parking facility on the County's Carpenter Road Public Works site, no more than 6-7 months.
- M. The purpose of this facility will be to provide an interim location for 15 to 20 vehicles currently residing along Ensign Road closest to St. Peter Hospital while a more permanent facility is developed. The city and county will coordinate this process, and the county reserves the right to approve what vehicles will be moved to this temporary location.
- N. The County will be the lead entity to develop and operate this Martin Way and Carpenter Road facility.
 - a. The County is responsible for prohibiting unauthorized vehicles from parking at the Martin Way and Carpenter Road County-owned site and securing the site.
- O. The City is responsible for management of adjacent City-owned property.
- P. The City will continue to manage contracts for portable restrooms, and garbage service at the site.
- Q. The City will provide technical support through its Homeless Response Resources.
- R. The City will enforce parking restrictions along Ensign Road to prevent a return or increase in vehicles parking on Ensign Road closest to St. Peter Hospital.

Phase II Franz Anderson Road Site

- S. To jointly and equally share in the costs of purchase, development and management of the Franz Anderson property (hereinafter "the Property") with the Regional Housing Council (RHC) partners, with the intention of creating a temporary Safe Parking Site for individuals residing along Ensign Road, the County's Carpenter Road Property and other places in the County.
- T. No more than fifty recreational vehicles shall be accommodated on the Property.
- U. To jointly and equally share the costs for the acquisition and preparation of the Property, including but not limited to plans and reports necessary to support acquisition and development of the property into a safe parking facility.
- V. For both the County and City to provide and coordinate funding support through the Regional Housing Council (RHC) for ongoing management of the facility for three years, including 24 hour per day staffing, social service support, hygiene, utilities, trash removal, community and neighborhood relations, and other services and support to effectively manage the facility. County and City participation in this project is contingent on this funding support by the RHC.
- W. For the County and City to negotiate and execute an Interlocal Agreement for the acquisition and operation of the Property.

- X. The long term purpose of the Property is for a permanent supportive housing facility or an affordable housing development.
- Y. The safe parking facility will be operated on the Property for no more than three years.
- Z. The City of Olympia agrees to take the lead in developing and managing this facility and that all expenses will be shared among all the Parties as described in this agreement.
- AA. Each jurisdiction is responsible for paying the full cost of its staff members to support this project.
- BB. To support one another with technical assistance and support for grant funding through state and federal sources.
- CC. Funds under the purview of the RHC will be requested and used to offset the cost of development and management of the Property as described in this agreement.
- DD. Other members of the RHC may participate in this program by contributing a proportionate share of the acquisition, development and operations costs.
- EE. The parties will jointly and annually prepare a report to their respective governing bodies detailing the costs of operations and key program metrics as identified by the parties as part of the operating agreement.
- FF. To jointly participate in any neighborhood or site councils to facilitate open communications between the site operator, residents and surrounding businesses, neighbors and property owners.

Now Therefore:

The Parties agree to jointly prepare all necessary agreements to achieve the goals of this Memorandum of Understanding, direct their respective staff to work collaboratively towards this end and present said agreements to their respective governing bodies for their consideration without delay.

Signed and agreed this _____, day of _____, 2021:

 Steven J. Burney, City Manager
 City of Olympia

 Ramiro Chavez, County Manager
 Thurston County

Approved as to Form:

Approved as to Form:

 City Attorney

 Deputy Prosecuting Attorney