

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF OLYMPIA, WASHINGTON, APPROVING A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE CITIES OF OLYMPIA, LACEY, AND TUMWATER, WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENTS OF COMMERCE AND TRANSPORTATION, WASHINGTON STATE PATROL, AND THURSTON COUNTY FOR TRANSITIONING PEOPLE OUT OF STATE RIGHTS OF WAY IN THURSTON COUNTY

WHEREAS, RCW 39.34.010 permits local governmental units to make the most efficient use of their powers by enabling them to cooperate with other localities on a basis of mutual advantage and thereby to provide services and facilities in a manner and pursuant to forms of governmental organization that will accord best with geographic, economic, population and other factors influencing the needs and development of local communities; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to RCW 39.34.080, each party is authorized to contract with any one or more other public agencies to perform any governmental service, activity, or undertaking which each public agency entering into the contract is authorized by law to perform: provided, that such contract shall be authorized by the governing body of each party to the contract and shall set forth its purposes, powers, rights, objectives and responsibilities of the contracting parties; and

WHEREAS, the State of Washington, through the Department of Commerce, the Department of Transportation, and the Washington State Patrol, is embarking on an effort to transition unhoused individuals currently on certain state-owned rights-of-way off those rights-of-way and into housing; and

WHEREAS, the City of Olympia, along with the cities of Lacey and Tumwater and Thurston County, wish to cooperate and assist the State with the effort to transition unhoused individuals from those state-owned rights-of-way into housing; and

WHEREAS, in order to facilitate this cooperation and assistance, the State, through the Department of Commerce, the Department of Transportation, and the Washington State Patrol, and The Cities of Olympia, Tumwater, and Lacey, and Thurston County, seek to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding, in order to achieve the following goals and objectives:

- Promptly identifying existing emergency and other housing that people living in rights of way can be referred to.
- Engaging people living in rights of way to assess their needs through coordinated entry or other assessments and refer them to identified emergency and other housing and other available services.
- Immediately begin to create additional emergency and other housing dedicated to people living in rights of way.
- Identify and implement strategies to keep cleared sites uninhabited.
- Identify strengths and weaknesses in the short-term strategy to implement a more comprehensive long-term approach to individuals and families living in public places.

WHEREAS, entering into such a Memorandum of Understanding is to the benefit of the City of Olympia and consistent with the City's goals and strategies for addressing homelessness in the community; and

WHEREAS, specifically, the Memorandum of Understanding will provide an overarching framework for the City's cooperation and assistance with the State, which includes entering into an Interlocal Agreement with the Department of Commerce, by which the City will receive funding from the Department of Commerce for the City's planned tiny home community at the Franz Anderson site (the Council approved the form of this Interlocal Agreement at its June 21, 2022 meeting in Resolution No. M-2347 and authorized the City Manager to execute that Interlocal Agreement on behalf of the City);

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

1. The Olympia City Council hereby approves the form of Memorandum of Understanding between the Cities of Olympia, Lacey, and Tumwater, Washington State Departments of Commerce and Transportation, Washington State Patrol, and Thurston County for transitioning people out of State rights of way in Thurston County and the terms and conditions contained therein.
2. The City Manager is authorized and directed to execute on behalf of the City of Olympia the Memorandum of Understanding, and any other documents necessary to execute said Agreement, and to make any amendments or minor modifications as may be required and are consistent with the intent of the Agreement, or to correct any scrivener's errors.

PASSED BY THE OLYMPIA CITY COUNCIL this _____ day of _____ 2022.

MAYOR

ATTEST:

CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Michael M. Young

DEPUTY CITY ATTORNEY