CITY OF SISTERS
EST. 1946

CITY COUNCIL **Agenda**

520 E. Cascade Avenue - PO Box 39 - Sisters, Or 97759 | ph.: (541) 549-6022 | www.ci.sisters.or.us

**SPECIAL MEETING**
**Tuesday, September 5, 2023, at 5:00 p.m.**
This City Council meeting is accessible to the public in person in the Council Chambers at 520 E. Cascade Avenue, Sisters, OR 97759

This meeting is open to the public and can be accessed and attended in-person or remotely. Members of the public may view the meeting via Zoom at the link below:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83993249885?pwd=NVZaTnJPaDB5TlBUU0c0OWpWTjhvZz09

- Written communication can be provided by submitting an email by 12:00 p.m. on September 5, 2023, to swoodford@ci.sisters.or.us
- If attending in person, you will need to fill out a request to speak form at the meeting.
- If attending via Zoom, the public can request to speak virtually by submitting your name, address and phone number to kprosser@ci.sisters.or.us by 3:00 p.m., September 5, 2023.

## 5:00 PM CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING

1. **CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

2. **ROLL CALL**

3. **PUBLIC HEARING**

| | |
|---|---|
| **APPLICANT:** | Sisters Cold Weather Shelter |
| **PROPERTY OWNER:** | Desert Wind Holding, LLC. |
| **SITE LOCATION:** | 192 W. Barclay Drive,<br>Map and Tax Lot: 151004CB02800 |
| **REQUEST BY APPLICANT:** | Approval of an emergency shelter (to be operated during times of extreme weather) to accommodate up to 20 sleeping pads or cots and resource center providing services such as showers, laundry and case management and mental health and addiction and housing resources. |
| **APPROVAL CRITERIA**: | Oregon House Bill 2006 (2021 Regular Session) and updated by Oregon House Bill 3395 (2023 Regular Session). |

4. **ADJOURN**

This agenda is also available via the Internet at **www.ci.sisters.or.us**

## PUBLIC HEARING PROCESS

**Conduct of Hearing:**
The public hearing will be conducted as follows:

a. Staff will make a presentation and Councilors may ask questions to staff.
b. Entry of additional correspondence received into the record.
c. Opening the public hearing for testimony in the following order:
    1. Brief applicant presentation
    2. Testimony from others
    3. Rebuttal testimony from applicant
d. Questions of staff, if any, by the City Council.
e. Close the public hearing.
f. Discussion and decision by the City Council. Council's decision on this matter will not be final until reduced to a written decision.

**Testimony:** Testimony will be accepted in-person or remotely via Zoom. If you would like to speak, please provide your testimony after you are called. If you do not wish to provide testimony, please say "no testimony" after you are called. Any questions should be directed to the Mayor and he will decide if, when, and how best a response will be provided. When you testify, please state your name and address for the record, please speak clearly and loudly to ensure testimony is heard as this hearing is being recorded. Callers will be muted after their testimony concludes. At the Mayor's discretion, testimony may be limited to 3 minutes per person. We encourage those wishing to speak to keep testimony concise and relevant to the issue before Council. It is encouraged to simply agree with a point made by another person instead of re-making the point. Please note that all prior testimony pertaining to an emergency shelter on the subject property, whether submitted in writing or made at Council's August 9, 2023, Work Session and Meeting have been included in the record and thus you will not need to refile or remake such comments for them to be considered as part of this hearing.

The applicable approval criteria for the subject application are listed in the staff report. These are the criteria that the City Council must use in making its decision. If you believe there to be additional criteria that apply to the application, cite such additional criteria and explain why it is applicable. All testimony and evidence should be directed toward applicable or potentially applicable approval criteria. Testimony that is not directed towards applicable or potentially applicable approval criteria, even if a strong point, is ultimately not relevant.

Pursuant to ORS 192.640, this agenda includes a list of the principal subjects anticipated to be considered at the above-referenced meeting; however, the agenda does not limit the ability of the Council to consider or discuss additional subjects. This meeting is subject to cancellation without notice.

This meeting is open to the public, and interested citizens are invited to attend. This is an open meeting under Oregon Revised Statutes, not a community forum; audience participation is at the discretion of the Council. The meeting may be recorded. The meeting location is accessible to persons with disabilities. A request for an interpreter for the hearing impaired or for other accommodations for persons with disabilities should be made to the City Recorder at least forty-eighty (48) hours in advance of the meeting.

Executive Sessions are not open to the public; however, members of the press are invited to attend.

**STAFF FINDINGS**

**APPLICANT:** Sisters Cold Weather Shelter

**OWNER:** Desert Wind Holding, LLC

**SITE LOCATION:** 192 W. Barclay Drive, Sisters, OR 97759
Assessor Map and Tax Lot 151004CB02800

**REQUEST:** Approval of an emergency shelter (to be operated only during times of extreme weather) to accommodate up to 20 sleeping pads or cots and resource center providing services such as showers, laundry and case management and mental health and addiction and housing resources.

**APPLICABLE CRITERIA:** Oregon House Bill 2006 (2021 Regular Session) – partially codified as ORS 197.782
Oregon House Bill 3395 (2023 Regular Session) - not yet codified

**HEARING DATE**: September 5, 2023 at 5:00 pm
Sisters City Council

**FINDINGS OF FACT:**

**ZONING:** The subject property is zoned Light Industrial (LI) Zone District and is within the Airport Overlay (AO) District.

**COMPREHENSIVE PLAN DESIGNATION:** The subject property has a Comprehensive Plan designation of Light Industrial (LI).

**LOT OF RECORD:** The legal description of the subject property is Lot 8, Block 1 of the Mountain View Industrial Park subdivision, which was platted on April 18, 1991. Based on this information and pursuant to SDC 4.1.700, the property is recognized as a lot of record.

**SITE DESCRIPTION:** The subject property is approximately 0.53 acres in size. The site is generally rectangular in shape. The topography is generally level throughout. There is no existing vegetation on the site. The property is bound by N. Curtis Street to the west and W. Barclay Drive to the south. The site is currently developed with a 6,000 square foot office/industrial building with a paved parking lot to the south and west of the building. The building is occupied by a manufacturing company and the site also includes a car dealership.

**SURROUNDING LAND USES:** All the surrounding land uses are zoned Light Industrial (LI) and include:

To the West: Bend River Window and Door, Solid Rock Granite and a contractor storage yard owned by Robinson & Owens Investments, LLC
To the East: Knaughty Log Homes (yard and manufacturing and office building) owned by Log Yard, LLC
To the South: 692 N. Aylor Court (owned by Sisters Enclave Properties; 7,252 sq. ft. industrial building) and 251 W. Barclay Dr. (owned by Vito Bartolotta; business: Sani Star, 13,312 sq. ft. industrial/office building)

To the North: Contractor storage yard owned by Robinson & Owen Investments, LLC.


Figure 1. Aerial photo of subject site and surrounding properties

**LEGISLATIVE HISTORY:** In 2021, HB 2006 was signed into law to remove barriers for the siting of emergency shelters. The law requires local governments to approve an application for an emergency shelter, regardless of conflicts with other state or local land use regulations, if the application meets specific approval criteria outlined in the bill. HB 2006 was originally set to sunset on July 1, 2022, but was extended until July 1, 2023 by HB 4051.

On June 30, 2023, the Governor signed HB 3395, which extended HB 2006 until the state homeless population falls below certain thresholds. HB 3395 also made several amendments to HB 2006 including:

- Changing the requirement for an emergency shelter operator that is a public benefit corporation to have been recognized as exempt from income tax on or before January 1, 2018, to "at least three years before the date of the application for a shelter";
- Clarifying that approval or denial of an emergency shelter can be made with or without a hearing; and
- Specifying when attorney fees are awarded as part of any "Writ of Review" of a local government decision on an emergency shelter.

**PROCEDURAL HISTORY:** Pursuant to a letter dated August 14, 2023, the applicant withdrew its prior application for an emergency shelter on the same subject property, which was originally submitted on June 27, 2023. Applicant then filed a new application (Exhibit B attached) for an emergency shelter on August 15, 2023. The re-filed application purports to be filed under HB 3395, which staff understands as intending to take advantage of amendments to HB 2006 contained within HB 3395 as HB 3395 did not establish a separate process or separate set of criteria for approval of an emergency shelter.

**DECISION-MAKING PROCESS:** HB 2006 (as amended), makes clear that the criteria contained within the legislation control over any conflicting statewide land use planning goal, rule of the Land Conservation and Development Commission or any local land, use regulation, zoning ordinance, regional framework plan,

functional plan or comprehensive plan. Furthermore, HB 2006 specifies that a decision on an emergency shelter is not a "land use decision" and is therefore not subject to appeal to the Oregon Land Use Board of Appeals ("LUBA"). As noted above, HB 3395 clarified that emergency shelter decisions can be made with or without a hearing. Otherwise, HB 2006 (as amended) does not provide any direction on the procedures for processing an application for an emergency shelter. Given the level of public attention to the application, and that the review of the application requires the exercise of discretion in interpreting and implementing the provisions of HB 2006 (as amended), City Council elected to hold a public hearing. The rules of the public hearing are set forth on the agenda.

The City Council could potentially resolve this matter by approving the application as submitted, denying the application, or approving the application with conditions. HB 2006 (as amended) does not expressly address conditions of approval. If the Council decides to approve the application subject to conditions, staff recommended conditions are provided in Exhibit D.

**NOTICE:** HB 2006 (as amended) does not expressly require any form of public notice concerning an emergency shelter. Nonetheless, staff provided notices to those property owners within 250 feet of the subject property as a courtesy regarding the initial application. The City further established an informational website. Following submission of the present application, City Council announced their intent to hold a public hearing on September 5, 2023, at its August 23, 2023 Council Meeting. A second notice was then sent to property owners within 250 feet of the subject property notifying them of the public hearing with the Sisters City Council to occur on September 5, 2023. Information on the hearing was also posted to the City's website.

**RECORD:** All materials comprising the record to date have been posted to the City's website at (https://www.ci.sisters.or.us/administration/page/emergency-shelter-siting). This includes all application materials, agency comments, and public comments submitted on either the prior emergency shelter application or the present emergency shelter application as well as the recording of the August 9, 2023 Council Work Shop and Meeting. Any additional materials received after the date of this staff report will also be posted to the website.

**EXHIBITS:**

A. Agency Comments
B. Application Materials
C. Public Comment Received
D. Staff recommended conditions of approval (should Council elect to approve the request)
E. Resolutions Declaring Cold Weather Emergency

## APPLICABLE CRITERIA AND STAFF FINDINGS

### HB 2006 AS MODIFIED BY HB 3395 (PARTIALLY CODIFIED AS ORS 197.782)

**197.782 Emergency shelters developed under temporary authorization**

1) **As used in this section, "emergency shelter" means a building or cluster of buildings that provides shelter on a temporary basis for individuals and families who lack permanent housing.**

   ***Staff Analysis:*** According to the application, the applicant proposes to utilize the existing building on the subject property to shelter up to 20 individuals and/or families who lack permanent housing on a temporary basis. Staff finds that the proposal meets the definition of "emergency shelter".

Although not proposed by the applicant, staff notes that the definition of emergency shelter requires a "building" that "provides shelter". Accordingly, an outdoor camping arrangement, overnight parking program, or similar arrangement where individuals are not sheltered within a building, would not qualify as an emergency shelter.

2) **A building or cluster of buildings used as an emergency shelter under an approval granted under section 3 of [HB 2006] or section 11, chapter 12, Oregon Laws 2020 (first special session):**

   a) **May resume its use as an emergency shelter after an interruption or abandonment of that use for two years or less, notwithstanding ORS 215.130 (7).**

   ***Staff Analysis:*** If approved by City Council, the authorization would be voided if the use of the subject property as an emergency shelter is interrupted or abandoned for a period of more than two years.

   b) **May not be used for any purpose other than as an emergency shelter except upon application for a permit demonstrating that the construction of the building and its use could be approved under current land use laws and local land use regulations.**

   ***Staff Analysis:*** According to the application, applicant is proposing to use the existing building on the subject property as an emergency shelter (and specifically a facility for sheltering individuals during periods of extreme weather) to accommodate up to 20 sleeping pads or cots and an associated "resource center" providing services such as showers, laundry, and case management, mental health, addiction, and housing resources (discussed below). Staff finds the foregoing to constitute emergency shelter uses permitted under HB 2006 (as amended) and thus not requiring any separate land use approval or otherwise requiring compliance with land use laws and local land use regulations.

   If City Council approves the shelter, staff recommends a condition of approval that any non-emergency shelter use of the subject property would require approval of a separate application to be reviewed for compliance with applicable land use regulations.

3) **An approval of an emergency shelter under section 3 of [HB 2006] or section 11, chapter 12, Oregon Laws 2020 (first special session) is void unless the shelter is operating within two years following the approval.**

   ***Staff Analysis:*** If City Council approves the shelter, staff recommends a condition of approval stating the proposed emergency shelter must begin operations within two years of the authorization or the approval shall be voided.

**<u>Section 3 of HB 2006 (as modified by HB 3395)</u>**

1) **A local government shall approve an application for the development or use of land for an emergency shelter, as defined in ORS 197.782, on any property, notwithstanding this chapter or ORS chapter 195, 197A, 215 or 227 or any statewide land use planning goal, rule of the Land Conservation and Development Commission or local land use regulation, zoning ordinance, regional framework plan, functional plan or comprehensive plan, if the emergency shelter:**

a) **Includes sleeping and restroom facilities for clients;**
   ***Staff Analysis:*** According to the submitted application, the proposed shelter will include sleeping facilities for clients, in the form of a large, open area on the first floor of the building where sleeping

mats or cots can be laid down. The building already includes restrooms that can be used by shelter clients. The application also states that the facility can be configured to provide separate spaces for families with children, if necessary.

Public commenters have correctly noted that no floor plans were submitted denoting the layout of the emergency shelter or otherwise demonstrating the configuration of the sleeping and restroom facilities. City staff did conduct a site visit and can confirm that the space the application contends is available for sleeping appears to be sufficient in size to fit 20 cots. Restroom facilities do exist within the building.

**b) Will comply with applicable building codes;**

***Staff Analysis:*** Staff notes that that this criterion is phrased in the future tense "will comply". Accordingly, staff interprets this provision, contrary to as suggested by some public commenters, as satisfied as long as the applicant pursues and receives applicable building permits and approvals, and otherwise meets requirements of the Deschutes County Building Department and State Fire Marshal (as administrators of what staff understands to constitute "applicable building codes"). Staff notes that it is atypical, at least in the ordinary process, for such permits and approvals to be procured ahead of the approval authorizing the proposed use.

As alluded to above, the City contracts with the Deschutes County Building Department for its building permit review. The applicant has coordinated with the County and State Fire Marsal to determine the applicable building codes and improvements necessary to bring the building up to code for the proposed use of the building as documented in Exhibit A. Based on those communications, a variety of building/fire code related alterations and approvals appear to be required for the various aspects of the proposed use. Applicable building code administrators have identified applicable review and approval processes. Nothing from the various building code administrators otherwise indicates that the proposal could not comply with applicable codes.

Should City Council approve the emergency shelter, staff recommends a condition of approval that the applicant obtain all applicable building permits, authorizations, and inspections, and meet any other requirements of applicable building codes, prior to commencing the specific aspect of the emergency shelter use that necessitates such permit, authorization, or inspection.

**c) Is located inside the urban growth boundary or in an area zoned for rural residential use as defined in ORS 215.501;**

***Staff Analysis:*** According to the Sisters Zoning Map, the subject property is located within the City's Urban Growth Boundary.

**d) Will not result in the development of a new building that is sited within an area designated under a statewide planning goal relating to natural disasters and hazards, including flood plains or mapped environmental health hazards, unless the development complies with regulations directly related to the hazard;**

***Staff Analysis:*** No new building is proposed. In any event, the subject property is not located with a floodplain and is not otherwise designated under the City's comprehensive plan, which implements the statewide planning goals, as mapped for a natural disaster or environmental health hazard.

**e) Has adequate transportation access to commercial and medical services; and**

***Staff Analysis:*** While many public comments have argued that existing commercial and medical services are insufficient to support the use, staff notes that the criterion speaks to adequacy of transportation access *to* commercial and medical services - not whether the commercial and medical services themselves are adequate. However, HB 2006 does not provide any guidance as to what constitutes "adequate transportation access". Staff assumes that this provision requires at least some consideration of the various modes of transportation (while noting that it could plausibly be interpreted at allowing for some overall assessment of adequacy rather than adequacy of individual modes) and thus provides the following analysis.

The subject site is located within one mile of at least some form of commercial and medical services, all of which can plausibly be accessed via walking, bicycling, or driving. The nearest commercial areas are the Ray's Supermarket complex to the west (which is approximately .55 miles away when traveling along W. Barclay Dr. to N. Arrowleaf Trail) and Cascade Avenue to the south (which is approximately .53 miles away when traveling along W. Barclay Dr. to N. Pine St.). Public commenters have correctly noted that there is no emergency department or urgent care facility within the City, but such medical services are not expressly required under this criterion. Proximate medical services include St. Charles Family Care Clinic (which is approximately .55 miles away when traveling along Barclay Drive to N. Arrowleaf Trail) and emergency medical technicians at the Sisters-Camp Sherman Fire Department (which is approximately .8 miles away when traveling along W. Barclay Dr. to N. Pine St. to W. Washington Ave.).

Commenters have correctly noted that sidewalks do not currently exist on Barclay Drive between the subject property and the intersection of Barclay Drive and N. Pine Street going west or between the facility and the intersection of Barclay Drive and N. Larch Street going east, nor is there any street lighting. From those intersections, there are sidewalks connecting to commercial areas to the west and downtown to the south. Additionally, the city has plans to add multi-use paths on both sides of Barclay Drive, as part of a package of larger improvements to the street. The start date for that has not yet been determined.

A public transit stop operated by Cascade East Transit is located approximately ½ mile from the subject at the intersection of N. Oak Street and W. Main Avenue. Cascade East Transit provides regular service from Sisters to Bend, Redmond and other Central Oregon communities, in addition to Dial-A-Ride services. This plausibly provides access to additional commercial and medical services at destinations within the service area.

Commenters have correctly noted that W. Barclay Drive does not provide for on-street parking. There is off-street parking available on the subject property. There are no marked spaces, but it appears that there is space for at least 20-25 vehicles on the subject property that could be used by employees, volunteers, and clients that will drive to the subject property. However, staff is not entirely clear what spaces would be available for the emergency shelter use as the applicant has made reference to potential concurrent use by the existing car dealership.

The subject property is presently served with existing paved roads. Commenters have argued that the increased traffic from the facility will impact the City's transportation network (and particularly the heavy
equipment operators located on adjacent properties). Staff acknowledges that the proposed facility will have at least some vehicular traffic impacts, although staff notes that the facility is presently used

for other uses that may no longer be impacting the transportation network if the emergency shelter were to operate from the subject property.

City Council will have to resolve (a) how this standard is evaluated and (b) whether evidence in the record demonstrates that the standard is met.

**f) Will not pose any unreasonable risk to public health or safety.**

***Staff Analysis:*** The criterion does not set the bar at *any* risk to public health and safety. Rather, the standard is whether any risk to public health and safety presented by the proposed emergency facility is "unreasonable". HB 2006 (as amended) does not set out any further guidance as to what constitutes an "unreasonable risk".

Public comments have identified a number of potential risks to public health and safety that are asserted to be unreasonable, including:

- Proximity to businesses and homes (approximately 500 feet to the nearest house in the Clear Pine neighborhood with easy pedestrian access)
- Proximity to where children play and along routes they take to schools
- Insufficient law enforcement staffing and availability to serve the shelter or its clients
- Unstable shelter guests who may be under the influence of drugs and/or alcohol and who may have violent tendencies.
- Lack of sidewalks and lighting along Barclay and the risk posed to pedestrians/bicyclists attempting to get to and from the shelter.
- Concern about vandalism to neighboring businesses where expensive equipment is stored – do they have to build fences to protect their properties?
- Inadequate planning or resources to accommodate an emergency facility of this scale.
- Inadequate staffing (either numbers or experience).
- Lack of monitoring of emergency shelter guests outside of shelter operational hours
- Concern that the facility will morph into a full-time shelter with services, facilities, and accessory uses not disclosed by the applicant.
- That opening of the emergency shelter will attract new houseless people from other communities that will exacerbate all of the foregoing and/or otherwise overwhelm the community's ability to support this population.

The applicant contends that the proposed emergency shelter will not pose any unreasonable risk to public health or safety because of its staffing, its code of conduct, and its prior performance. Proponents have further suggested that some of the opponent comments are based more on fear than evidence.

The applicant states that there will be paid staff on site from 10 pm to 7 am to monitor the guests and that volunteers will be on site from 6 pm to 10 pm. The applicant has not specifically commented on staffing ratios or experience of staff. Guests will be required to adhere to the Applicant's code of conduct and includes behaving in a respectful manner, prohibiting the use of drug and alcohol use on premises, not loitering near the building or in the neighborhood before and after open hours, and not being allowed to re-enter the emergency shelter once they arrive for the evening. The applicant asserts that there have been few incidents during its prior emergency shelter operations.

The subject property, and the rest of the community, is served by the Deschutes County Sheriff's Office (law enforcement services are provided through an agreement with the City) whose offices are located nearby at 703 N. Larch Street, less than a ¼ mile away from the proposed shelter. The force currently consists of a lieutenant and three deputies with a fourth deputy to start in January of 2024. The office is open Monday through Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., but deputies work beyond 5:00 p.m. and there is 24-hour coverage for west Deschutes County (including the city of Sisters) with the west Deschutes County officer. In comments made during the public meeting on the shelter with City Council on August 9, 2023, the lieutenant indicated there were only a few calls or issues per season when the SCWS operated as an emergency shelter at local churches. The lieutenant expressed a desire for more resources but did not state the Sheriff's Office is unable to serve the proposed emergency shelter.

As noted above, the Sisters-Camp Sherman Fire District Fire headquarters is also located within a mile of this facility. The Fire District has commented on the application but only relative to compliance with fire codes (see Exhibit A).

Similar to the previous criterion, HB 2006 does not provide any guidance as to what constitutes "unreasonable risk". City Council will have to resolve whether (a) any of the identified risks are "unreasonable" in nature given conflicting arguments/evidence in the record, and (b) whether the mitigation proposed by the applicant is sufficient to reduce any "unreasonable risks" to the realm of "reasonable".

**2) An emergency shelter allowed under this section must be operated by:**

**a) A local government as defined in ORS 174.116;**

**b) An organization with at least two years' experience operating an emergency shelter using best practices that is:**

**A. A local housing authority as defined in ORS 456.375;**

**B. A religious corporation as defined in ORS 65.001; or**

**C. A public benefit corporation, as defined in ORS 65.001, whose charitable purpose includes the support of homeless individuals, that has been recognized as exempt from income tax under 501(a) of the Internal Revenue Code for at least three years before the date of the application for a shelter; or**

**c) A nonprofit corporation partnering with any other entity described in this subsection.**

***Staff Analysis:*** HB 2006, as amended by HB 3395, provides for three categories of operators:

(a) a local government,
(b) a specified "organization" with at least two years' experience operating an emergency shelter using best practices, or
(c) a nonprofit corporation partnering with an organization that qualifies under either Section 2(a) or (b).

Under Category (b), the "organization" with two years of experience must be either a:

(A) a local housing authority,
(B) a religious corporation, or

(C) a "public benefit corporation, as defined in ORS 65.001[1], whose charitable purpose includes the support of homeless individuals, that has been recognized as exempt from income tax under section 501(a) of the Internal Revenue Code for at least three years before the date of the application for a shelter."

Accordingly, if the operator is a public benefit corporation under Section 2(b)(C), as applicant asserts, then applicant must have both two years of operating experience *and* have been recognized as tax exempt for the requisite amount of time. However, it is unclear whether this criterion requires at least 730 days of operation in the aggregate (365 days/year x 2 years) or operation for part of at least two calendar years. Furthermore, there is nothing in HB 2006 addressing what constitutes "best practices". Finally, there is ambiguity as to how to measure the duration of tax exemption (as discussed below).

***Operational Experience***: The applicant asserts that it has six "seasons" of experience operating a cold weather shelter starting in 2017. The applicant has not provided further details on this experience such as the duration of the various seasons, days of operation in each season, location of operations, or whether "best practices" were implemented.

Staff notes that City's local regulations, and specifically Ordinance No. 483, provides that if City Council declares a state of emergency (including severe weather conditions) by resolution, City Council may authorize specified properties to operate an emergency shelter for the duration of the emergency. Below is a summary of all cold weather emergency resolutions adopted by City Council (See Exhibit E):

| Resolution # | Date Adopted | Approved Locations | Emergency Period |
|---|---|---|---|
| 2018-16 | 10/24/2018 | Sisters Community Church, Sisters Episcopal Church, and Westside Sisters Church | November 1, 2018, and ending March 31, 2019 |
| 2019-17 | 10/09/2019 | Sisters Lutheran Church, Sisters Community Church, Westside Sisters Church, and Sisters Episcopal Church | November 1, 2019, and ending on March 15, 2020 |
| 2021-20 | 11/17/2021 | Sisters Community Church, Sisters Wellhouse Church, and Sisters Episcopal Church | December 1, 2021, and ending on February 28, 2022 |
| 2022-03 | 01/26/2022 | 141 W. Main Avenue | February 1, 2022, and ending on March 31, 2022 |

[1] ORS 65.001 defines "public benefit corporation" as a domestic corporation that:

(a) Is formed as a public benefit corporation under ORS 65.044 to 65.067, is designated as a public benefit corporation by a statute, is recognized as tax exempt under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code or is otherwise organized for a public or charitable purpose;

(b) Is restricted so that on dissolution the corporation must distribute the corporation's assets to an organization that is organized for a public or charitable purpose, a religious corporation, the United States, a state or a person that is recognized as exempt under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986; and

(c) Is not a religious corporation.

***Tax Exemption*:** According to Oregon Secretary of State records, the applicant registered with the state as a domestic public benefit corporation on August 12, 2020, the date the state received applicant's articles of incorporation. The Applicant has asserted that its charitable purpose is to support homeless persons and specifically by providing shelter during periods of extreme weather. The applicant supplied a letter from the IRS dated 1/22/21 that indicates that applicant is "exempt from federal income tax under Internal Revenue Code (IRC) Section 501(c)(3)" as a "public charity". IRC 501(a) referenced in HB 2006, is the provision establishing tax exempt status for various types of organization including those types of organizations listed under IRC 501(c). 501(c)(3) is a specific category of organizations eligible for tax exemption and includes organizations formed for charitable purposes.

As alluded to above, the requirement of three years of "recognized" tax exemption status required under HB 3395 could refer to either the 01/22/2021 date of the IRS letter or the "effective date of exemption" of August 12, 2020 referenced in the IRS letter (i.e. the date the IRS is, arguably, willing to back date the recognition to). The effective date of the exemption corresponds to the date applicant was incorporated in the State of Oregon, which staff understands to be the typical practice of the IRS. Because the current application was submitted on August 15, 2023, applicant would meet the 3 years of tax-exempt status required under HB 3395 if measured from the "effective date of exemption" stated in the IRS letter but would not satisfy the standard if measured from the date of the letter. Staff has not found anything definitive as to legislative intent behind the language of HB 3395, but is inclined to believe that it refers to the "effective date" as the apparent purpose of this provision is to establish the tenure of the organization rather than the seemingly arbitrary date on which the IRS issued a letter confirming tax exempt status (particularly if, to staff's understanding, the common practice is for the IRS to recognize tax exempt status as of the date of formation).

***Partner*:** Even if the applicant does not independently meet both the two years of operating experience and requisite amount of time for tax exempt status, this criterion can nonetheless be met if the applicant is "partnering" with another organization that qualifies. HB 2006 provides no guidance as to what constitutes "partnering" with another qualified entity. Applicant has made reference to "operating under the umbrella", receiving "technical assistance", and even an intent to "partner" in the provision of certain emergency shelter related services from third parties. Staff is unclear whether the applicant made these statements for purposes of demonstrating "partnering" under this criterion but notes that the applicant has not provided any evidence demonstrating that third parties acknowledge any partnership arrangement or that such third parties would independently qualify.

City Council will have to resolve whether (a) applicant has "two years" of experience operating an emergency shelter using "best practices", (b) whether the applicant has been "recognized" as tax exempt for the requisite period, and (c) if the intent is to establish partnership, whether there is sufficient evidence to establish a partnership and whether the partner would independently qualify.

**3) An emergency shelter approved under this section:**

**a) May provide on-site for its clients and at no cost to the clients:**

**(A) Showering or bathing;**

**(B) Storage for personal property;**

**(C) Laundry facilities;**

**(D) Service of food prepared on-site or off-site;**

**(E) Recreation areas for children or pets;**

**(F) Case management services for housing, financial, vocational, educational or physical or behavioral health care service; or**
**(G) Any other services incidental to shelter.**

**b) May include youth shelters, winter or warming shelters, day shelters and family violence shelter homes as defined in ORS 409.290.**

**4) An emergency shelter approved under this section may also provide additional services not described in subsection (3) of this section to individuals who are transitioning from unsheltered homeless status. An organization providing services under this subsection may charge a fee of no more than $300 per month per client and only to clients who are financially able to pay the fee and who request the services.**

***Staff Analysis:*** The applicant states that the proposed emergency shelter is primarily aimed as a warming shelter (but may be used for other extreme weather events including heat and smoke) and will include showers, storage for personal items, laundry facilities, meals, case management (i.e. mental health, addiction, and housing resources), which staff finds to be permitted under HB 2006. The applicant states that they don't anticipate charging any client fees for any services and that, if that were to charge in the future, they would charge in a manner consistent with HB 2006. The criteria described above in subsection (3) and (4) are not prescriptive, therefore, they do not prohibit nor require the administration of such services for operation of the proposed emergency shelter.

If City Council approves the emergency shelter, staff recommends a condition of approval requiring compliance with the limitations on charging clients contained within HB 2006.

**5) (a) The approval or denial of an emergency shelter under this section may be made without a hearing. Whether or not a hearing is held, the approval or denial is not a land use decision and is subject to review only under ORS 34.010 to 34.100.**

**(b) A reviewing court shall award attorney fees to:**

**(A) A local government, and any intervening applicant, that prevails on the appeal of a local government's approval; and**
**(B) An applicant that prevails on an appeal of a local government's denial.**

***Staff Analysis:*** As stated above, HB 3395 clarified that a decision on an emergency shelter application may be made with or without a hearing. City Council elected to conduct a hearing, which is consistent with the authority provided under HB 3395.

Regardless of whether or not a hearing is held, HB 2006 makes clear that the resulting decision is not a land use decision, which precludes any appeal to the Land Use Board of Appeals (LUBA). Rather, any decision is subject to ORS 34.010 to 34.100, which are the statues for a "Writ of Review". HB 3395 also specifies when attorney fees will be awarded on any court decision on a Writ of Review.

**6) An application for an emergency shelter is not subject to approval under this section if, at the time of filing, the most recently completed point-in-time count, as reported to the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development under 24 C.F.R. part 578, indicated that the total sheltered and unsheltered homeless population was less than 0.18 percent of the state population, based on the latest estimate from the Portland State University Population Research Center.**

***Staff Analysis:*** In lieu of having a fixed sunset date, HB 3395 provides that approval of an emergency shelter under HB 2006 (as amended) is only permitted as long as the homeless population exceeds the threshold specified above. The 2022 Continuum of Care Homeless Assistance Programs Homeless Populations and Subpopulations report for Oregon produced by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development, which staff understands to be the most recent data as of the time the subject application was filed, describes a total statewide homeless person population (sheltered and unsheltered) of 17,959. The latest population estimate from Portland State University Population Research Center, issued December 15, 2022, indicates a state population of 4,281,851 as of July 1, 2022 (the 2023 estimates will be released in December of 2023). This results in an unsheltered homeless population of 0.42% of the state population, meaning HB 2006 as amended by HB 3395 is in effect.

----------*End of Conclusionary Findings*----------

## EXHIBIT A: AGENCY COMMENTS

**From:** Jeff Puller
**To:** Scott Woodford; Krista Appleby; BUTLER Clara * OSFM
**Subject:** RE: Sisters Shelter - 192 W. Barclay Avenue
**Date:** Monday, July 17, 2023 4:44:02 PM
**Attachments:** image002.png
image003.png

---

Hi Scott,

I am adding Deputy State Fire Marshal Clara Butler to the email as she will have the lead for Sisters-Camp Sherman Fire District for comments. Thank you.

Jeff Puller
Division Chief
Fire Safety Manager

Office Hours: Monday & Tuesday 8am-5pm, Wed. 8am -12pm
Office: 541.549.0771 | Cell: 541.410.8149
Email: Jpuller@sistersfire.com | Web: www.sistersfire.com
Address: 301 S Elm Street, Sisters, OR 97759

---

**From:** Scott Woodford <swoodford@ci.sisters.or.us>
**Sent:** Monday, July 17, 2023 11:54 AM
**To:** Krista Appleby <Krista.Appleby@deschutes.org>; Jeff Puller <JPuller@sistersfire.com>
**Subject:** Sisters Shelter - 192 W. Barclay Avenue

Krista and Jeff,

We received an application from the Sisters Cold Weather Shelter for approval of an emergency shelter at an existing building located at 192 W. Barclay Avenue under HB 2006 (see attached). I understand from the applicants that they've been in contact with both of your organizations and have received preliminary feedback. It would be helpful if you can provide me with any formal comments on the proposal that I can take into consideration as I review this and, if necessary, add conditions of approval that outline required steps that are required prior to operation. If you could, please provide that by **July 28th**.

Thanks for your assistance and please let me know if you have any questions.

**Scott Woodford**
Community Development Director
City of Sisters | Community Development Dept.
PO Box 39 | 520 E. Cascade Ave., Sisters, OR 97759
Direct: 541-323-5211 | City Hall: 541-549-6022
swoodford@ci.sisters.or.us | www.ci.sisters.or.us

-

**From:** BUTLER Clara * OSFM
**To:** Jeff Puller; Scott Woodford; Krista Appleby
**Subject:** RE: Sisters Shelter - 192 W. Barclay Avenue
**Date:** Tuesday, July 18, 2023 8:11:17 AM
**Attachments:** image001.png
image004.png
image005.png
image006.png
image007.png
image008.png

---

Good morning,

At this time I do not have any comments. They will need to meet fire extinguisher requirements and any life safety requirements from Krista.

Thank you!

**Clara Butler**
Deputy State Fire Marshal
Oregon State Fire Marshal
Deschutes and Harney Counties
541-233-9938
clara.butler@osfm.oregon.gov


---

**From:** Jeff Puller <JPuller@sistersfire.com>
**Sent:** Monday, July 17, 2023 4:44 PM
**To:** Scott Woodford <swoodford@ci.sisters.or.us>; Krista Appleby <Krista.Appleby@deschutes.org>; BUTLER Clara * OSFM <Clara.BUTLER@osfm.oregon.gov>
**Subject:** RE: Sisters Shelter - 192 W. Barclay Avenue

Hi Scott,

I am adding Deputy State Fire Marshal Clara Butler to the email as she will have the lead for Sisters-Camp Sherman Fire District for comments. Thank you.

Jeff Puller
Division Chief
Fire Safety Manager

Office Hours: Monday & Tuesday 8am-5pm, Wed. 8am -12pm
Office: 541.549.0771 | Cell: 541.410.8149
Email: Jpuller@sistersfire.com | Web: www.sistersfire.com
Address: 301 S Elm Street, Sisters, OR 97759

---

**From:** Scott Woodford <swoodford@ci.sisters.or.us>
**Sent:** Monday, July 17, 2023 11:54 AM
**To:** Krista Appleby <Krista.Appleby@deschutes.org>; Jeff Puller <JPuller@sistersfire.com>
**Subject:** Sisters Shelter - 192 W. Barclay Avenue

Krista and Jeff,

We received an application from the Sisters Cold Weather Shelter for approval of an emergency shelter at an existing building located at 192 W. Barclay Avenue under HB 2006 (see attached). I understand from the applicants that they've been in contact with both of your organizations and have received preliminary feedback. It would be helpful if you can provide me with any formal comments on the proposal that I can take into consideration as I review this and, if necessary, add conditions of approval that outline required steps that are required prior to operation. If you could, please provide that by **July 28th**.

Thanks for your assistance and please let me know if you have any questions.

**Scott Woodford**
Community Development Director
City of Sisters | Community Development Dept.
PO Box 39 | 520 E. Cascade Ave., Sisters, OR 97759
Direct: 541-323-5211 | City Hall: 541-549-6022
swoodford@ci.sisters.or.us | www.ci.sisters.or.us

**From:** Krista Appleby
**To:** "sharlene weed"; lblanchardw@msn.com
**Cc:** Scott Woodford; Butler, Clara; Jeff Puller
**Subject:** RE: Cold Weather Shelter proposal
**Date:** Monday, June 26, 2023 10:59:50 AM
**Attachments:** image001.png
image002.png
image003.png
image004.png
image005.png
TA22-12.pdf

---

Sharlene & Luis,
I apologize for the delay.

This building is currently classified as the following:
Construction Type: VB; 2-story; non-sprinklered structure
Occupancy Class: Group B – office type uses
Total Building Area: ~6,000sf

Based on the description below of creating a Homeless Resource Center in an existing building, you'll likely need some areas to change from the B-occupancy to an A-occupancy (assembly occupancy for food service and meeting area) and perhaps some area change to S-occupancy for storage. You'll need several building department permits: STR (structural), Mechanical, Electrical & Plumbing permits. The STR permit covers the change of use and remodel scope of work. An Oregon licensed design professional will be required to prepare the documents. The licensed design professional will determine what specific code items need to be addressed based on the various uses & operations you propose.

Couple of items to consider:

- Plumbing fixture requirements are based on the occupant load. The occupant load will increase based on the change of use and likely trigger additional restrooms.
- The 2nd story area cannot be used for A-occupancy uses without fire sprinklers per requirements of Chapter 5.
- Will likely require 1-hr fire separation between floors due to the fire-separation requirements of mixed-use Table 508.4.
- If there are plans for transient housing as a permanent use (vs the temporary emergency use noted below), fire separation & fire protection systems will be required.
- Contact Deschutes County Environmental Health for food service requirements: 541-317-3114.

Temporary Emergency Shelter use during weather events is governed by the Fire Marshal. I've copied Deputy State Fire Marshal, Clara Butler, and Sisters/Camp Sherman Fire District's Fire Safety Manager, Chief Jeff Puller, on this email. They can speak to you about specific items that would need to be addressed for the building to be used as a Temporary Emergency Shelter. . I've attached a Technical Bulletin with some information about these requirements.

Let us know if you have any additional questions.

Thanks,
Krista

**Krista Appleby | Assistant Building Official**
DESCHUTES COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPT.
117 NW Lafayette Avenue | Bend, Oregon 97703
Tel: (541) 385-1701 Cell: (541) 480-0591

Let us know how we're doing: **Customer Feedback Survey**

---

**From:** sharlene weed <sharleneweed@gmail.com>
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 14, 2023 12:30 PM
**To:** Krista Appleby <Krista.Appleby@deschutes.org>
**Cc:** Scott Woodford <swoodford@ci.sisters.or.us>; lblanchardw@msn.com
**Subject:** Re: Cold Weather Shelter proposal

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

---

Scott, Thank you for meeting with us this morning and for this introduction to Krista.
Krista,

The address is 192 W BARCLAY DR. We are available to meet at your earliest convenience.
Thank you for your help!
Sharlene

On Wed, Jun 14, 2023 at 12:10 PM Krista Appleby <Krista.Appleby@deschutes.org> wrote:

> Thank you, Scott, and Hello, Sharlene & Luis.
>
> I think for starters, let me look into the property under consideration and a few codes, statutes and rules. Once I have a general idea of what we're starting with, a meeting may be the most efficient way to discuss things. What's the address you are looking at?
>
> **Krista Appleby | Assistant Building Official**
> DESCHUTES COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPT.
> 117 NW Lafayette Avenue | Bend, Oregon 97703
> Tel: (541) 385-1701 Cell: (541) 480-0591
>
> Let us know how we're doing: **Customer Feedback Survey**
>
> ---
>
> **From:** Scott Woodford <swoodford@ci.sisters.or.us>
> **Sent:** Wednesday, June 14, 2023 11:17 AM
> **To:** Krista Appleby <Krista.Appleby@deschutes.org>
> **Cc:** sharleneweed@gmail.com; lblanchardw@msn.com

**Subject:** Cold Weather Shelter proposal

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

---

Hi Krista,

The Sisters Cold Weather Shelter group is looking at purchasing a building in an industrial zone here in Sisters and looking to use it primarily as a resource center for those experiencing homelessness, such as providing basic services (meeting spot, showers, laundry, etc.), along with a kitchen facility to serve meals and storage of good that service this effort. They are also hoping to use it as an emergency shelter during extreme weather events (they anticipate this being 10-15 times/year). We are looking into the zoning side of the proposal, but I recommended they connect with the Building Department too, so that they are aware of any code issues or upgrades they would need to be aware of.

The purpose of this email is to connect them with the Building Department so that you can instruct them on how to go about understanding those issues better – whether a meeting should be set up in Bend or if they can correspond via email. I've coped both Sharlene Weed and Luis Blanchard – who represent the SCWS group - on this email.

Thanks for your assistance.

**Scott Woodford**
Community Development Director
City of Sisters | Community Development Dept.
PO Box 39 | 520 E. Cascade Ave., Sisters, OR 97759
Direct: 541-323-5211 | City Hall: 541-549-6022
swoodford@ci.sisters.or.us | www.ci.sisters.or.us

# OREGON FIRE CODE
## Interpretations and Technical Advisories

A collaborative service to provide
consistent and concise application of Oregon's
fire prevention and life safety regulations.

**Date:** December 19, 2022

**Ruling:** Technical Advisory No. 22-12 (Revised TA# 09-03, TA# 11-14 and TA# 14-12)

**Subject:** Temporary Shelters

**Code Reference: Oregon Fire Code, Section 102.3 Change of use or occupancy**

**Content:** This technical advisory contains minimal guidelines to allow a building not normally designated as a Group R Occupancy (use of a building or structure, or a portion thereof, for sleeping purposes) to be used as a temporary shelter **with the approval of the local jurisdiction.** This often includes collaboration between your local building**,** zoning and fire official code officials.

**Note: Local jurisdictions may have more stringent requirements than are provided here or they may not allow temporary shelters.**

**Time Limits:** To meet the allowances of this advisory, a building may be used as a temporary shelter for a maximum of ninety days (90) within any twelve (12) month period of time beginning on the first (1st) day of occupancy or as approved by the local authority having jurisdiction.

**Maximum Number of Occupants Allowed:** The maximum number of allowable temporary shelter occupants shall be calculated using an occupant load factor of one (1) individual for every thirty-five (35) square feet of room area. For example, a room with 980 square feet would be allowed to provide temporary shelter for up to 28 occupants. 980 divided by 35 = 28.

**Life-Safety Requirements:** The following life-safety requirements apply to buildings being used as a temporary shelter:

**1. Fire sprinklers.** It is not necessary for a building to have fire sprinklers installed to allow it to be used as a temporary shelter. However, buildings with approved fire sprinklers installed may be granted more flexibility as follows.

- When a building has approved fire sprinklers installed throughout, temporary shelter sleeping areas may be located on any building floor level.

- When a building is not fully fire sprinklered, temporary shelter sleeping areas may only be located on the first (ground) or second floor. Sleeping areas are not permitted in basement areas of a non-fire sprinklered building.

**2. Smoke alarms and detection.**

- All temporary shelter sleeping areas shall be provided with approved smoke alarms or a complete approved smoke detection system.
- All other areas of the building used for temporary shelter operations shall be equipped with smoke alarms or a smoke detection system as required by the local fire code official.
- Smoke alarms may be battery operated.

**3. Carbon monoxide (CO) alarms and detection.**

- All temporary shelter sleeping areas shall be provided with approved carbon monoxide alarms or a complete approved detection system in buildings that have a carbon monoxide source such as a heater, fireplace, furnace, appliance or cooking source that uses coal, wood, petroleum products and other fuels that emit carbon monoxide as a by-product of combustion. This would include buildings with an attached garage with a door, ductwork or ventilation shaft that communicates with the rooms intended for sleeping.
- Carbon monoxide alarms may be battery powered.

**4. Means of egress (Exits).** All floor levels with temporary shelter areas shall have a minimum of two means of egress (exits) from each floor level. All means of egress (exit) paths shall be maintained free of obstructions at all times. Exits from sleeping areas shall be as follows;

- Sleeping areas located on the ground floor of a temporary shelter with an occupant load of 49 or less shall have a least one (1) exit and at least one (1) window qualifying as an escape or rescue window as defined by the building code.
- All other floor levels used as temporary shelter sleeping areas that have an occupant load of 10 or more shall have two (2) exits from the area. The exits serving the areas shall be separated by a distance equal to at least 1/2 of the longest diagonal distance of the area.

**5. Exit signs.** Exit signs shall be installed throughout.

**6. No Smoking signs.** No smoking signs shall be posted throughout the occupancy. Locations of signage shall be approved.

**7. Open flame devices. The use of o**pen flame devices is prohibited.

**8. Portable fire extinguishers.** Temporary shelters shall be equipped portable fire extinguishers. The number and location shall be approved by the fire code official.

**9. Emergency evacuation plan.** All temporary shelters shall create and maintain an approved emergency evacuation plan addressing the evacuation of all occupants in an emergency event. At a minimum, the emergency evacuation plan shall contain the following:

- Building floor plans. Building floor plans for each floor of the temporary shelter with sleeping areas clearly identified.
- Room size. The square footage of all rooms of the temporary shelter.
- Egress (exit) path. Building floor plans shall clearing show the egress (exit) paths from all areas of the temporary shelter. Egress (exit) path floor plans shall be posted throughout the temporary shelter.
- Life-safety systems. The emergency evacuation plan shall also include information about the fire sprinkler system, fire alarm system or the smoke alarms.
- Occupant list. A list of all occupants each night must be made maintained and made available to the emergency personnel in the event of a fire or incident.

**10. Fire watch.** During sleeping hours, a fire watch shall be maintained continuously. This means at least one responsible person shall be awake and assigned this responsibility. This duty may be rotated among a number of responsible adults during the sleeping hours. The fire watch person shall be equipped with a working flashlight and have access to a phone or carry a cell phone on their person.

**11. Documentation.** Documentation of all fire safety requirements including copies of the temporary shelter evacuation plan shall be maintained on site and shall be available for review at the request of the local fire code official.

**12. Notification.** The local fire code official shall be notified prior to the temporary shelter being used. Notification shall include the number of occupants being temporarily sheltered and the expected days and times that the temporary shelter will be used. The local fire code official may require an inspection prior to the shelter being occupied.

**Other References:**

## EXHIBIT B: APPLICATION MATERIALS

All materials submitted by the applicant are found at the following link: **APPLICATION MATERIALS**

# Emergency Shelter Site Application - HB3395

520 E. Cascade Ave. Sisters, OR 97759 Phone: 541-541-6022 www.ci.sisters.or

**File #:** _____

## PROJECT INFORMATION

| |
|---|
| Project Name: Sisters Shelter |
| Brief Description (narrative to be attached as **Attachment A**):<br>The Sisters Shelter will provide shelter and resources for people experiencing homelessness in the Sisters Community. See attachment for a more detailed description of services to be provided. |

## PROPERTY DESCRIPTION & OWNER INFORMATION

Tax Map/Parcel # 15004-CB-02800
(REQUIRED – 13 characters, ex. 151320BA00100; provide separate sheet for multiple)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Property Address: 192 W. Barclay Dr. | | | No Address (describe general area): |
| City: Sisters | State: OR | Zip:97759 | |
| Property Owner Name: Desert Wind Holdings LLC | | | |
| Mailing Address: PO Box 2418 | | | |
| City: Sisters | State: OR | Zip: 97759 | Phone: 253-861-7199 |
| E-mail Address: Kelly@velocityrigs.com | | | |

RECEIVED
AUG 15 2023
CITY OF SISTERS

## APPLICANT AND AGENT INFORMATION

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Organization Name: Sisters Cold Weather Shelter | | | |
| Mailing Address: PO Box 1782 | | | |
| City: Sisters | State: OR | Zip: 97759 | Phone: 503-703-2614 |
| Email Address: Sisterscoldweathershelter@gmail.com | | | Fax: NA |
| **Additional Contact Information** | | | |
| Agent for Applicant Name: Luis Blanchard, Board President | | | Primary Contact |
| Organization Name: Sisters Cold Weather Shelter | | | |
| Mailing Address: PO Box 1782 | | | |
| City: Sisters | State: OR | Zip: 97759 | Phone: 503-703-2614 |
| Email Address: LBlanchard@msn.com | | | |

## REQUIRED NARRATIVE – ATTACHMENT

Pursuant to Oregon House Bill 2006, "emergency shelter" means a building or cluster of buildings that provides shelter on a temporary basis for individuals and families who lack permanent housing.

A local government shall approve an application for the development or use of land for an emergency shelter, as defined in section 2 of HB 2006, if the emergency shelter meets the criteria outlined in section 3. Please refer to HB 2006 section 3 when completing the narrative portion of this application.

**Include as Attachment B,** a narrative addressing how the proposed emergency shelter meets or exceeds the criteria outlined in HB 2006, using each of the items below as section subheadings:

HB 2006, Section 3:

(1) - Sleeping and Restroom Facilities
- Compliance with Applicable Building Codes
- Located inside Urban Growth Boundary
- Statewide Land Use Compliance Natural Hazards or Disasters
- Transportation Access to Medical and Commercial Services
- No Unreasonable Risk to Public Health or Safety

(2) Emergency Shelter Operations
- *(If entering into a partnership with an entity as described in Section 3(2)(c), please include any related agreements as Attachment F.)*

(3) Other provisions provided at no cost to clients

(4) Services provided for a fee of no more than $300 per month per client

*Example Narrative section with subheading:*

***SLEEPING AND RESTROOM FACILITIES***
*Shelter XX will initially include 20 Pallet Shelters and Conestoga Huts, supported by temporary and/or mobile restrooms. Permanent restrooms facilities will be developed 6-18 months after operations begin, with an anticipated 20 additional shelter units within 36 months.*

## SUBMIT THE FOLLOWING WITH THIS APPLICATION

The following information and material must be submitted by the applicant. *Please note: additional information may be required.* **Submit all required documentation and application to the City of Sisters**

**Application.** The application must be signed by the owner(s) and shall include the information requested on this form. If the owner does not sign the application, then a letter of authorization must be signed by the owner for the agent.

**Attachment A.** Project Description

**Attachment B.** Narrative outlining adherence to HB 3395 requirements.

**Attachment C.** Title Report or Proof of Ownership, including legal description of property.

**Attachment D.** Map showing site location and surrounding properties.

**Attachment E.** Site Plan showing existing and planned buildings, roads, parking, landscaped areas, curbs, utilities, and property boundaries.

**Attachment F.** IRS determination letter or other proof of status as it relates to Section3(2).

**Attachment G.** Emergency Shelter Operations agreement (as needed).

**By signing this application, the undersigned certifies that they have read and understand this permit can be revoked at any time by the City's Community Development Department.**

| Kelly Farrington | | 8/15/23 |
|---|---|---|
| Property Owner Printed Name | Property Owner Signature | Date |
| LUIS BLANCHARD | | 8/15/2023 |
| Applicant/Agent Printed Name | Applicant/Agent Signature | Date |

**If, this application and accompanying documentation signed by the Community Development Department will serve as land use authorization.** Questions, call 541-523-5211.

**CDD Use Only:**

**Approved**

**Denied**

Community Development Department / Title Date

The Sisters Cold Weather Shelter intends to operate an emergency shelter and resource center that will provide essential and lifesaving services for our unhoused neighbors. The facility will be run in a manner that is safe and respectful of all guests, neighbors, and community members.

Emergency Shelter:

- **Winter operations** are envisioned as in previous years November through March, 6 pm to 7am.
- Volunteers will provide a warm meal and monitor from 6pm to 10pm.
- Paid staff will monitor from 10pm to 7am.
- Guests will be required to adhere to a strict code of conduct that includes behaving in a respectful manner, refraining from drug and alcohol use while on the premises and not loitering near the building or in the neighborhood before and after open hours. They will also not be allowed to leave the premises and re-enter once they arrive for the evening.
- Separate sleeping areas will be provided for men, women, and families.
- Smoking will be allowed in a designated outdoor area only.
- **Summer operations** are envisioned on an as-needed basis. The shelter will be open during the day for any community member who needs respite from extreme heat or smoke. The shelter will also operate overnight when dangerous levels of smoke are present.

Resource Center:

- The center will provide essential services such as showers and laundry. It will also partner with county and other agencies to provide mental health, addiction and housing resources.
- Paid staff and volunteers will operate the center for limited hours each week. Specific times have not yet been decided.
- All guests will be required to adhere to a code of conduct similar to the winter shelter.

Any changes to operations will be communicated on the Sisters Cold Weather Shelter website and Facebook page. An email newsletter is also being planned for future communications. To be included on the distribution list please email sisterscoldweathershleter@gmail.com

The Sisters Cold Weather Shelter is a 501c3 nonprofit organization EIN # 32-0635347;
PO Box 1782, Sisters, OR 97759

The proposed Sisters Shelter at 192 W Barclay Drive meets the criteria for an emergency shelter as outlined in HB 3395:

**(1)**

a. **Sleeping and Restroom Facilities**
The proposed shelter location has ample room for up to 20 sleeping pads or cots. There is also separate space to accommodate families with children if needed. There are two restroom facilities and one shower. The Sisters Cold Weather Shelter (SCWS) intends to construct at least one additional ADA shower and bathroom in the future.

b. **Compliance with Applicable Building Codes**
SCWS is working with the Deschutes County Building Department and the State Fire Marshal to ensure that all essential codes are met for shelter operations.

c. **Located inside Urban Growth Boundary**
The site is located inside the city limits of Sisters.

d. **Statewide Land Use Compliance Natural Hazards or Disasters**
192 N. Barclay Drive is not in an area designated under the statewide land use planning goal related to natural hazards or disasters.

e. **Transportation Access to Medical and Commercial Services**
192 N. Barclay Drive is located within one mile of medical and commercial services. This includes EMTs located at the Sisters-Camp Serman Fire Department.

f. **No Unreasonable Risk to Public Health or Safety**
SCWS will not pose any unreasonable risk to public health and safety. Community members who access the shelter resources will be required to agree to established rules for ensuring a safe and sanitary site for guests, staff, and the surrounding neighborhood. SCWS staff and volunteers will ensure that rules are upheld, and a safe and sanitary site is maintained. In many years of shelter operations there has never been an incident that posed a threat to public health or safety. We expect this to be the case moving forward.

**(2) Emergency Shelter Operations**
The facility will be operated by SCWS which has six seasons of experience operating a winter shelter. The shelter started in 2017 under the umbrella of Shepherd's House Ministries (SHM) (**Attachment G**). On August 12, 2020 SCWS received its own 501c3 designation (**Attachment F**). SCWS continues to enjoy technical assistance and support from SHM as well as NeighborImpact. We expect additional technical assistance from the Central Oregon Intergovernmental Council to execute the terms of the Executive Order grant award.

**(3) Other Provisions Provide at No Cost to Clients**
In addition to shelter, SCWS intends to offer access to showers, laundry, meals, and personal storage at no cost. Case management, housing navigation service, mental health and addiction treatment resources will also be offered. Referrals will be made when appropriate.

**(4) Services provide for a fee of no more than $300 per Month per Client**
Currently SCWS does not anticipate any fee for services. If this changes in the future, SCWS will abide by the $300 / month limit as described in HB 2006.

Attachment C

# REAL PROPERTY TAX STATEMENT

JULY 1, 2022 TO JUNE 30, 2023

DESCHUTES COUNTY, OREGON - 1300 NW WALL ST STE 203, BEND, OR 97703

**TAX ACCOUNT: 179566**

DESERT WIND HOLDINGS LLC
PO BOX 2418
SISTERS OR 97759

**PROPERTY DESCRIPTION**

**CODE:** 6001 **MAP:** 151004-CB-02800 **CLASS:** 301

**SITUS ADDRESS:** 192 W BARCLAY DR SISTERS

**LEGAL:** MOUNTAIN VIEW INDUSTRIAL PARK 1 8

| VALUES: | LAST YEAR | THIS YEAR |
|---|---|---|
| REAL MARKET (RMV) | | |
| LAND | 306,410 | 306,410 |
| STRUCTURES | 401,780 | 401,780 |
| TOTAL RMV | 708,190 | 708,190 |
| MAXIMUM ASSESSED VALUE | 418,260 | 430,800 |
| TOTAL ASSESSED VALUE | 418,260 | 430,800 |
| VETERAN'S EXEMPTION | 0 | 0 |
| NET TAXABLE: | 418,260 | 430,800 |
| TOTAL PROPERTY TAX: | 6,905.77 | 7,044.89 |

## TAX BY DISTRICT

| | |
|---|---|
| SCHOOL DISTRICT #6 | 1,663.32 |
| SCHOOL #6 LOCAL OPTION | 323.10 |
| C O C C | 251.72 |
| HIGH DESERT ESD | 39.12 |
| EDUCATION TOTAL: | 2,277.26 |
| DESCHUTES COUNTY | 494.30 |
| COUNTY LIBRARY | 223.15 |
| COUNTYWIDE LAW ENFORCEMENT | 426.02 |
| COUNTY EXTENSION/4H | 9.09 |
| 9-1-1 | 146.82 |
| CITY OF SISTERS | 1,071.79 |
| SISTERS DOWNTOWN URBAN RENEWAL | 324.31 |
| SISTERS/CAMP SHERMAN FIRE DIST | 1,125.34 |
| SISTERS PARK & RECREATION DIST | 89.26 |
| SISTERS PARK & REC LOCAL OPTION | 64.62 |
| GENERAL GOVT TOTAL: | 3,974.70 |
| COUNTY LIBRARY BOND | 145.35 |
| SISTERS/CAMP SHERMAN BOND | 71.43 |
| SCHOOL #6 BOND 2016 | 158.23 |
| SCHOOL #6 BOND 2021 | 384.88 |
| C O C C BOND | 33.04 |
| BONDS - OTHER TOTAL: | 792.93 |

| | |
|---|---|
| TAX QUESTIONS | (541) 388-6540 |
| ASSESSMENT QUESTIONS | (541) 388-6508 |
| For Property Information: | dial.deschutes.org |

**Full Payment with 3% Discount** **$6,833.54**

**Discount is lost after due date and interest may apply**

**PAYMENT OPTIONS:**

- **Online** www.deschutes.org/tax
- **By Mail** to Deschutes County Tax, PO Box 7559 Bend OR 97708-7559
- **Drop Box** located at 1300 NW Wall Street, Bend or 411 SW 9th Street, Redmond
- **In Person** 1300 NW Wall Street, Ste 203, Bend (2nd Floor)

*Please include this coupon with payment. Please do not staple, paper clip or tape your payment.*

## Payment Due November 15, 2022

**Please select payment option**

**TAX ACCOUNT: 179566**

DESERT WIND HOLDINGS LLC
PO BOX 2418
SISTERS OR 97759

| | |
|---|---|
| ☐ **Full Payment (3% Discount)** No Additional Payment Due | **$6,833.54** |
| ☐ **Two-Thirds Payment (2% Discount)** Next Payment Due 05/15/23 | **$4,602.86** |
| ☐ **One-Third Payment (No Discount)** Next Payment Due 02/15/23 | **$2,348.30** |

☐ **Change my Mailing Address**
(Mailing address change form on reverse)

AMOUNT ENCLOSED
$

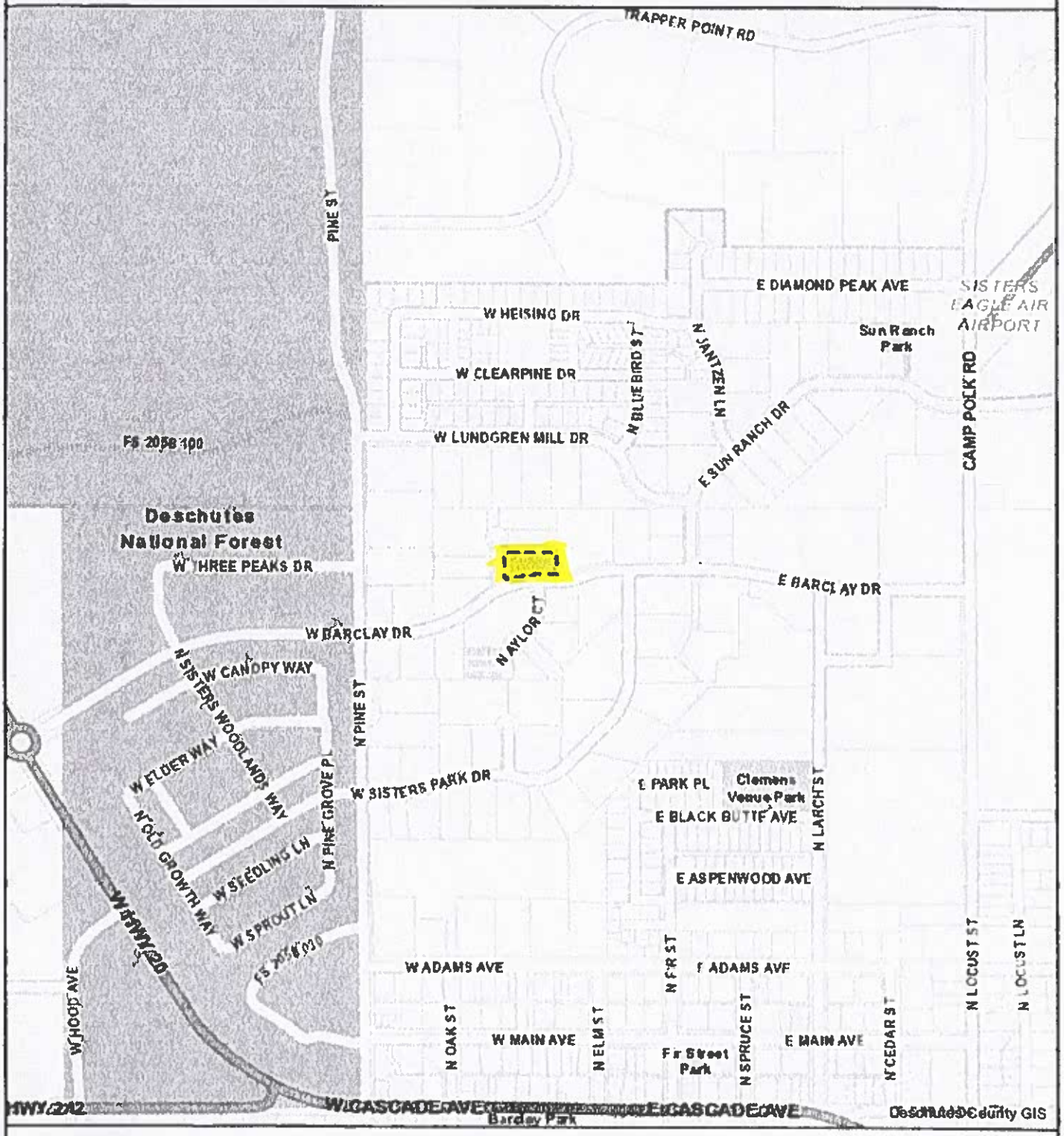
**Please make checks payable to Deschutes County Tax Collector**

**Deschutes County Tax Collector**
**PO Box 7559**
**Bend OR 97708-7559**

0910000179566000023483000004602660000683354?

# Deschutes County Property Information - Dial

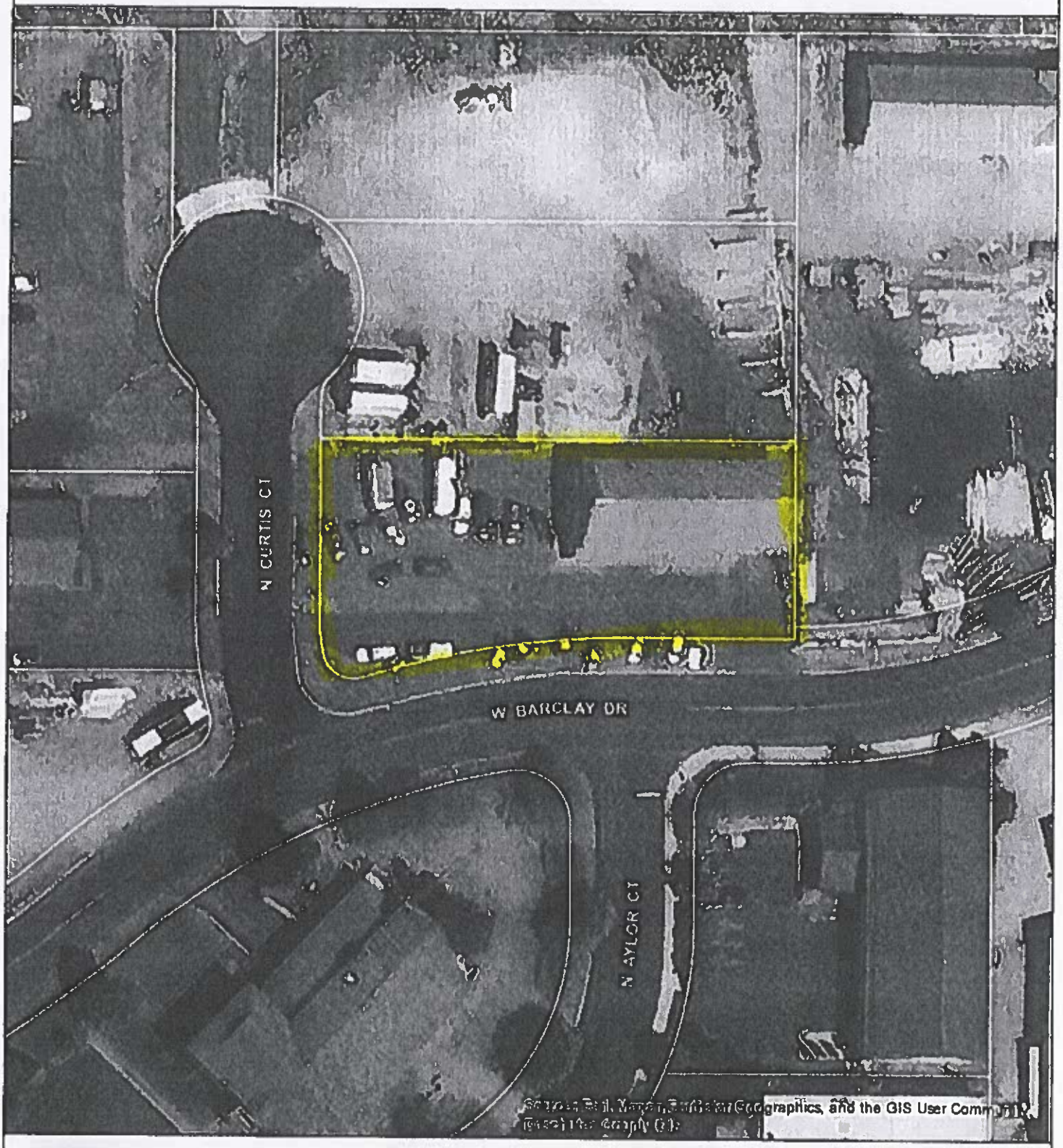
## Road Map




**Map and Taxlot:** 151004CB02800

# Deschutes County Property Information - Dial

Overview Map




**Map and Taxlot:** 151009BA07800

Attachment F

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service
Tax Exempt and Government Entities
P.O. Box 2508
Cincinnati, OH 45201

SISTERS COLD WEATHER SHELTER
C/O JOHN O MILLER
770 S MAPLE ST
SISTERS, OR 97759-9420

**Date:**
01/22/2021
**Employer ID number:**
32-0635347
**Person to contact:**
Name: Customer Service
ID number: 31954
Telephone: (877) 829-5500
**Accounting period ending:**
December 31
**Public charity status:**
170(b)(1)(A)(vi)
**Form 990 / 990-EZ / 990-N required:**
Yes
**Effective date of exemption:**
August 12, 2020
**Contribution deductibility:**
Yes
**Addendum applies:**
No
**DLN:**
26053707006040

Dear Applicant:

We're pleased to tell you we determined you're exempt from federal income tax under Internal Revenue Code (IRC) Section 501(c)(3). Donors can deduct contributions they make to you under IRC Section 170. You're also qualified to receive tax deductible bequests, devises, transfers or gifts under Section 2055, 2106, or 2522. This letter could help resolve questions on your exempt status. Please keep it for your records.

Organizations exempt under IRC Section 501(c)(3) are further classified as either public charities or private foundations. We determined you're a public charity under the IRC Section listed at the top of this letter.

If we indicated at the top of this letter that you're required to file Form 990/990-EZ/990-N, our records show you're required to file an annual information return (Form 990 or Form 990-EZ) or electronic notice (Form 990-N, the e-Postcard). If you don't file a required return or notice for three consecutive years, your exempt status will be automatically revoked.

If we indicated at the top of this letter that an addendum applies, the enclosed addendum is an integral part of this letter.

For important information about your responsibilities as a tax-exempt organization, go to www.irs.gov/charities. Enter "4221-PC" in the search bar to view Publication 4221-PC, Compliance Guide for 501(c)(3) Public Charities, which describes your recordkeeping, reporting, and disclosure requirements.

Sincerely,

Stephen A. Martin
Director, Exempt Organizations
Rulings and Agreements

Attachment G

# Shepherd's House Ministries

Hello Luis,

We have searched our records and can confirm that Shepherd's House Ministries acted as the fiscal agent for SCWS during 2018 - 2020, prior to SCWS' formation of a 501(C) (3).

We wish you and the Sisters' community, in general, the best in your efforts to reach a positive resolution.

Thank you,

John Ryan
Director of Operations

# Shepherd's House Ministries
## Statement of Activity
### July 1, 2017 - March 5, 2021

| | Total |
|---|---|
| **Revenue** | |
| **4000 Revenue** | |
| **4010 Contributions** | 85,947.16 |
| **Total 4000 Revenue** | **$ 85,947.16** |
| **4200 Grants** | |
| **4210 Corporate/business** | 1,280.00 |
| **4220 Private Foundations** | 10,000.00 |
| **4230 Government Agency Grants** | 20,000.00 |
| **Total 4200 Grants** | **$ 31,280.00** |
| **4901 Cash paid to new SCWS 501(c)(3)** | -16,440.68 |
| **Total Revenue** | **$ 100,786.48** |
| **GROSS REVENUE** | **$ 100,786.48** |
| **Expenditures** | |
| **7100 Direct Support** | |
| **7140 Personal Items & Supplies** | 44.85 |
| **7150 Prescriptions & Medication** | 5.97 |
| **7170 Support for Individuals** | 263.89 |
| **7190 Benevolence** | 195.00 |
| **Total 7100 Direct Support** | **$ 509.71** |
| **7200 Payroll, Taxes and Benefits** | |
| **7210 Salaries & Wages** | 82,562.56 |
| **7220 Payroll Taxes** | 8,026.24 |
| **7230 Workers Comp Insurance** | 655.71 |
| **Total 7200 Payroll, Taxes and Benefits** | **$ 91,244.51** |
| **7700 Non Personnel Expenses** | |
| **7710 Office Supplies** | 65.18 |
| **7750 Marketing & Promotion** | 18.00 |
| **7760 Postage** | 148.60 |
| **7770 Printing** | 11.95 |
| **Total 7700 Non Personnel Expenses** | **$ 243.73** |
| **7800 Supplies** | |
| **7810 Food** | 2,068.39 |
| **7820 Kitchen Supplies** | 113.39 |
| **7830 Janitorial Supplies** | 418.88 |
| **7850 Other Supplies** | 423.68 |
| **Total 7800 Supplies** | **$ 3,024.34** |
| **8200 Facilities & Equipment** | |
| **8210 Rent** | -5.00 |
| **8230 Utilities** | |
| **8234 Telephone/Internet** | 160.00 |
| **Total 8230 Utilities** | **$ 160.00** |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 8240 Building Repair & Maintenance | | 146.95 |
| Total 8200 Facilities & Equipment | $ | 301.95 |
| 8300 Travel and Meeting Expenses | | |
| 8310 Meals (Non-Resident) | | 187.97 |
| 8330 Transportation | | 23.98 |
| Total 8300 Travel and Meeting Expenses | $ | 211.95 |
| 8500 Other Expense | | |
| 8520 Insurance - D&O and other | | 103.96 |
| 8570 Volunteer Expenses | | 319.00 |
| 8595 Miscellaneous Expenses | | 7,893.61 |
| Total 8500 Other Expense | $ | 8,316.57 |
| Total Expenditures | $ | 103,852.76 |
| NET OPERATING REVENUE OVER EXPENSES | -$ | 3,066.28 |
| NET REVENUE OVER EXPENSES | -$ | 3,066.28 |

## EXHIBIT C: PUBLIC COMMENTS

All public comments received can be found at the following link: **PUBLIC COMMENT**

# Re: Question about new homeless shelter on Barclay

Nancy Aebersold <aebersoldnancy@gmail.com>

Fri 7/14/2023 1:22 PM

To:Jordan Wheeler <jwheeler@ci.sisters.or.us>
Cc:Kerry Prosser <kprosser@ci.sisters.or.us>

Thank you very much for providing this preliminary information Jordan and for offering to keep me in the loop. I have shared this with several of my friends and neighbors here in ClearPine as well as Grand Peaks. - Nancy

Sent from my iPhone

> On Jul 14, 2023, at 9:25 AM, Jordan Wheeler <jwheeler@ci.sisters.or.us> wrote:
>
> Hi Nancy,
>
> Thank you for your email and I can appreciate your concerns. While I am still researching and gathering information about the proposal, I can confirm that the Sisters Cold Weather Shelter (SCWS) did submit an application for the emergency shelter under HB 2006, which is State legislation that was enacted in 2021.
>
> The legislation requires local governments to approve an application for an emergency shelter regardless of state or local land use laws as long as it meets the approval criteria in the bill. The application process is not a land use decision – so it removes requirements such as noticing and public hearings. In other words, the legislation was crafted specifically to remove barriers for siting emergency shelters such as zoning, conditional uses, and other land use regulations that local governments typically apply to such proposals.
>
> We've reached out to the organization and we are pulling together some information based off their application and the state laws since we are receiving questions about their plans since the Nugget published that article. I will follow up with you with more information and explanations of the process and their plans.
>
> Best,
> Jordan
>
> **Jordan Wheeler**
> City Manager | City of Sisters
> PO Box 39 | 520 E. Cascade Ave., Sisters, OR 97759
> 541-323-5205
> jwheeler@ci.sisters.or.us | www.ci.sisters.or.us

---

**From:** Nancy Aebersold <aebersoldnancy@gmail.com>
**Sent:** Thursday, July 13, 2023 1:29 PM
**To:** Jordan Wheeler <jwheeler@ci.sisters.or.us>; Kerry Prosser <kprosser@ci.sisters.or.us>
**Subject:** Question about new homeless shelter on Barclay

Dear Jordon and Kerry,

I am a resident of Sisters and live at 133 W Heising Dr in the ClearPine neighborhood.

I read about the homeless shelter that is being proposed at 192 W. Barclay Dr. midway between Sun Ranch Drive and Pine Street and backing to the ClearPine neighborhood.

While I understand the need for our community to provide emergency shelter options for the unhoused, I am concerned about the choice of this location given it's proximity to my neighborhood and the potential impacts of transient residents on our community.

Will there be community input sought for this type of use in the proposed building? How might I, as a community member, be engaged in this process to better understand what is being proposed and the role of the city in the approval and regulatory process?

Thank you for helping me understand a bit more about this.

Kindly,

Nancy Aebersold

**Nancy Aebersold**
**133 W Heising Dr.**
**Sisters, OR 97759**

August 23, 2023

Sisters City Council
PO Box 29
Sisters, OR 97759

Dear Sisters City Council Members,

I had the opportunity to attend the August 9, 2023 workshop on the proposed shelter.

I came to the meeting with an openness to learn and after the presentation, Q&A, and citizen comment period I was also inspired to speak about my personal experience and concerns about what is being proposed and it's impact on our community.

I also, as a result of hearing the proposals and speakers, have additional concerns that I will share in this letter.

I am a recent transplant to Sisters. I moved in June 2022 from Santa Cruz, CA, where I lived most of my life. I saw Santa Cruz change radically from a quiet, peaceful, safe beach town where tourists could come and enjoy the natural offerings to a gnarly, dirty, drug ridden, unsafe community where it was virtually impossible to get away from the misery that was being spread by the houseless community, many of whom suffer from untreated mental illness, drug and alcohol addition, lives of crimes, and other misdeeds.

Our downtown, once called "The Pacific Garden Mall" - a place of happy enjoyment and commerce has now become blighted. Many residents and tourists alike won't go to the area due to being harassed by panhandlers, dealing with the smell and filth of urine and defecation, finding copious amounts of drug paraphernalia and feeling threatened by mentally unstable individuals who are not adequately being treated or contained.

The home town I grew up in, went to college in, and worked in became unrecognizable and unlivable, and ultimately inspired my move here, where I found a place that offered a peace, ease, simplicity, and community mindedness I was seeking. I worry that Sisters is in danger of losing these qualities by inviting more houseless to use resources right in the center of town.

What I saw happen in Santa Cruz is the more services that were offered to the houseless community (beds, meals, showers, internet, etc.), the more that community grew. Santa Cruz now has more homeless people per capita than anywhere else in California; some 2,300 of its residents are without housing. About 67% of these homeless residents experience chronic substance abuse, and 43% the substance use

disorder individuals are involved with the criminal justice system. (Source: June 12, 2023 Grand Jury Report on the Santa Cruz County Behavioral Health Division)

The main concerns I have about what is being proposed is:

The proposal is NOT for an Emergency cold/warm weather shelter, as it is being billed by the Sisters Cold Weather Shelter organization. I only learned during the presentation that the organization intends to operate, in addition to a cold/warm weather shelter, as a full-time homeless resource center - offering daily showers, meals, internet access and other services that will draw people to the location year round and at all hours (not just during emergency weather conditions). The impact on the community has not been adequately assessed based on this proposed use pattern.

I live in the ClearPine neighborhood which is just 500 fee away from the proposed shelter. There are specific impacts to this community which I am concerned about. These are as follows:

There is no sidewalk on Barclay Drive. The presenters from the Sisters Cold Weather Shelter indicated that many of the emergency shelter recipients do not have cars and would come on foot. The ClearPine neighborhood has access from the forest where many of the unhoused live, and it will be a safer and more efficient way to just cut through the neighborhood. I worry about interactions with mentally unstable, drug afflicted, and criminal types here in ClearPine which currently has a very safe, comfortable neighborhood feeling.

Also, I watched what happened to neighborhoods near shelter and resource center locations in Santa Cruz. Those areas immediately became the “bad” part of town, because of the impacts of the users of those services. Residents felt unsafe. Property values decreased. The surrounding streets became filthy and unkept. Car and house break-ins increased dramatically. Imagining this happen here in Sisters, in the ClearPine (and other) neighborhoods, is just tragic.

I watched, first hand, the “if you build it, they will come” play out in Santa Cruz. Please don’t make Sisters another Santa Cruz. The decisions you make today will have dramatic and long-standing effects on our community. I ask you to strongly consider a more strategically planned, community-involved process to consider various options for providing support to those in need of emergency shelter.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Nancy Aebersold

**From:** Debbie Barnes
**To:** Kerry Prosser
**Subject:** Re: Proposed Emergency Shelter
**Date:** Tuesday, August 8, 2023 6:26:00 AM

---

Sorry for forgetting to put our names on our questioning email.
Jim and Debbie Barnes

On Tue, Aug 8, 2023 at 6:23 AM Debbie Barnes <debjimbarnes@gmail.com> wrote:

> Questions that we have:
> How will it be managed?
> Who will be on site and what authority do they have to remove disruptive individuals?
> Who is called to assist with houseless clients who are inebriated or on drugs,or otherwise disruptive?
> Will there be medical personnel to evaluate an individual presenting with health concerns?
> Once admitted do they have to stay in the facility until the following morning? Who monitors this?
> What other sites were considered?
> What time to they need to check in/check out?
> Can they check in the following night?
> How long can an individual continue to use the shelter?
> Is this a permanent shelter for individuals?
> Will there be an area set aside for family units?
> How will permanent funding work?
> Will they be tested for Covid before being allowed to stay?
> Do they have to show proof of Covid vaccination?
> Debbie

**From:** Debbie Barnes
**To:** Kerry Prosser
**Subject:** Re: Proposed Emergency Shelter
**Date:** Friday, August 11, 2023 6:15:13 AM

---

HI Terry,
Just a thought we have had since the City Council meeting on Wednesday evening.
First of all, "hats off" to the City team for a very well run meeting.

We wondered if the Board of the Cold Weather Emergency Shelter considered leasing space that is currently the Schools administration office or the elementary school - once that move to their new facilities?
We feel that leasing might be a better way to invest some of the 1.5 million they have to spend.
Thank you,
Debbie & Jim Barnes

On Tue, Aug 8, 2023 at 6:23 AM Debbie Barnes <debjimbarnes@gmail.com> wrote:

> Questions that we have:
> How will it be managed?
> Who will be on site and what authority do they have to remove disruptive individuals?
> Who is called to assist with houseless clients who are inebriated or on drugs,or otherwise disruptive?
> Will there be medical personnel to evaluate an individual presenting with health concerns?
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> What other sites were considered?
> What time to they need to check in/check out?
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> How long can an individual continue to use the shelter?
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> Will there be an area set aside for family units?
> How will permanent funding work?
> Will they be tested for Covid before being allowed to stay?
> Do they have to show proof of Covid vaccination?
> Debbie

**From:** Kerry Prosser
**To:** Kerry Prosser
**Subject:** FW: SCWS end run
**Date:** Tuesday, August 29, 2023 8:43:32 AM

---

**From:** Scott Woodford
**Sent:** Monday, August 28, 2023 4:24 PM
**To:** juliebartolotta@aol.com
**Subject:** RE: SCWS end run

Julie,

Let me answer your questions below.

--Scott

---

**From:** juliebartolotta@aol.com <juliebartolotta@aol.com>
**Sent:** Monday, August 28, 2023 2:09 PM
**To:** Scott Woodford <swoodford@ci.sisters.or.us>
**Subject:** Fw: SCWS end run

Scott,

I'm forwarding my email chain I had with a Jennifer Letz and I was directed to you. Can you answer the following questions I had for her that she wasn't able to answer?

-Is this meeting a question and answer session? – it is not a question and answer session per se – it is a public hearing format where the staff will make a presentation, followed by the applicant presentation with questions from Council to each, followed by public comment, opportunity for applicant rebuttal, then close of the public hearing and deliberation by City Council.

-Will we be able to ask questions to the council and you guys answer them or is this a complaint session again with no answers? – You can ask questions to Council during the public comment section that they can in turn ask staff or the applicant to answer (after all public comment is done), but public comment is generally not intended to be a back and forth between the Councilors and the public.

-As a community we have asked lots of questions and just get directed to City of Sisters website which doesn't have any answers either. – I understand your frustration. We have attempted to answer the questions the city can answer that are pertinent to the review criteria (some questions are and some aren't relevant) in the midst of a high volume of letters and emails. In the staff report to Council, we will attempt to capture those questions so that Council is aware and then you can reiterate those questions in your public comments. I know that Councilors have a lot of similar questions that they will ask in the public hearing.

-Who actually gets to be part of the decision whether the SCWS is approved or not? – The House Bills are silent on that – it just says the "city". In this case, the Council will be making the decision to approve or deny.

-Will the individual decisions made be public record so we know who voted for the shelter and who voted against it? – Yes, the Councilors will vote in public during the hearing, so you would know which way each votes.

-Since it seems like your the main decision maker or the speaker for the shelter I have a question for you, do you live in Sisters or run a business in Sisters? – Since Council is taking on this decision, I am not the main decision maker. I don't live in the city, but my job is to review and apply applicable criteria objectively and correctly.

Thanks in advance for clarification, once I hear back I'll let the group of folks know what the meeting is going to look like so we can be prepared. You are welcome. Let me know if you have any other questions.

Regards,

Julie Bartolotta
541-222-9978

Sent from AOL Mobile Mail

Begin forwarded message:

On Monday, August 28, 2023, 11:06 AM, Jennifer Letz <jletz@ci.sisters.or.us> wrote:

> Hi Julie-
> The meeting on the 5th will be a hearing where the applicant and anyone else can sign up to speak. Council will have the ability to ask questions. After the meeting, Council will make a decision on the application, probably at the Sept. 13 regular Council meeting. This was the best schedule we could create allowing for public notice, staff to prepare, and schedules of all those involved.
>
> If you have more questions about the specifics on how the meeting will run, please reach out to community development director Scott Woodford, or city recorder Kerry Prosser.
>
> Hope that helps!
> -Jennifer
>
> ---
>
> **From:** juliebartolotta@aol.com <juliebartolotta@aol.com>
> **Sent:** Thursday, August 24, 2023 2:33 PM

**To:** Jennifer Letz <jletz@ci.sisters.or.us>
**Subject:** Re: SCWS end run

Thanks for getting back to me Jennifer.I'm traveling at the moment installing Sanistar systems so I have very limited cell and Wi-Fi.  I've almost memorized the HB 2006 and yes, I believe it was meant for larger towns with much large populations and a lot more resources.

I have just read that another City Counsel meeting in regards to SCWS is being held on September 5th? I'm hoping this isn't another meeting of complaints and concerns without answers. So myself and others can prepare, will you guys be taking questions? I hear a bunch of questions and concerns thrown out but then never they are never answered.

Please let me know how this next meeting is going to look I'd really appreciate it.

Thanks in advance,

Julie Bartolotta
541-222-9978

Sent from AOL Mobile Mail

On Saturday, August 19, 2023, 12:22 PM, Jennifer Letz <jletz@ci.sisters.or.us> wrote:

> Hi Julie-
>
> Thanks for your letter. I'm sorry you're not getting the information you need. Grappling with the vague stipulations of HB 2006 has become an enormous time commitment for our small staff and Council. It was really meant for larger towns with more services, not rural communities. The irony is that if SCWS went through the traditional permit process we all would have had more time and tools to address the concerns of all parties.
>
> I am reading all submitted comments and taking the positive AND negative impacts of the proposal very seriously. Because of the State rules, Council nor the Planning Commission can "vote" on the proposal. But staff is having many discussions with our City attorney, reps of the Governor's office, and leadership in other communities about our options. They are sharing what they are learning with us, and we are discussing the issue and sharing our opinions with them.

Again, thanks for reaching out and feel free to share anymore thoughts with us. Using the email address citycouncil@ci.sisters.or.us ensures all Councilors and the City Manager receive your letter.

-Jennifer

---

**From:** JULIE BARTOLOTTA <juliebartolotta@aol.com>
**Sent:** Friday, August 18, 2023 5:22 PM
**To:** Jennifer Letz <jletz@ci.sisters.or.us>
**Cc:** Paul Basile <paul2004@mac.com>; Patti Adair <Patti.Adair@deschutes.org>; Michael Preedin <mpreedin@ci.sisters.or.us>
**Subject:** Re: SCWS end run

Jennifer,

Yes I think someone hit reply to all but it won't happen again. I do see this entire situation has touched nerves of so many people. I know me having my business across the street from SCWS doesn't sit with me well. I am, thankfully in a very fortunate position as a business owner in Sisters, If SCWS does get passed I am able to move my company, I am not Sisters based. I keep everything I purchase for my business, day to day operations, etc. as local as I can to help support the community my family was raised in. My company supports all the local sports teams, businesses and employ's high school students but it does not have to stay local. I have other businesses and commercial buildings outside of Sisters so I have the benefit of selling my building and moving my business if need be.

All the email chains I'm in, reading all the documentation and no questions answered (we just get directed to your website) which has no answers is very very frustrating for people who have put so much time, energy and their livelihood into starting and building a business only to have it threatened of being over run by the people SCWS will attract. I'm not sure if you or anyone that represents Sisters has ever started and ran their own business but most business owners have a lot of blood, sweat and tears getting it started and keeping it profitable.

I apologize if an email was accidentally sent to someone that felt threatening, it won't happen again, but you need to understand the sacrifices business owners as well as residents who have bought and lived in Sisters think about when you as City Representatives don't try to put yourselves in our shoes, I'm not saying all of you don't but its the current vibes that most are feeling.

Do the decision makers such as Scott actually live and own in Sisters? If he or any of the decision makers live outside of Sisters they shouldn't decide what is best for our community because they are not part of our community. I know they are hired and/or elected positions and if this gets passed through I hope people look for resignations and/or replacements of power.

Hope you all have a good weekend,

Julie Bartolotta

On Aug 18, 2023, at 9:51 AM, Jennifer Letz <jletz@ci.sisters.or.us> wrote:

Julie and Paul-

A firm reminder that while we are happy to receive relevant comments from the public, threats made against our staff and volunteers - real or hyberbole - will not be tolerated. Remember that any email communication with staff and Council is public record. Please be mindful of hitting "reply all."

Our small staff works very hard to serve our community. This includes meeting with ANY permit applicant (business, event producer, non-profit, etc.) when that applicant requests a meeting. Meetings with applicants happen every day; it's one of the many in-person services our staff provides.

If your frustration is with the process, may I also suggest contacting your state reps and the Governor's office with your concerns since that is where the legislation came from.

Thanks for your understanding,
Jennifer

**Jennifer Letz**
City Councilor
City of Sisters
PO Box 39 | 520 E. Cascade Ave., Sisters, OR 97759

**From:** juliebartolotta@aol.com
**To:** Scott Woodford
**Subject:** Fw: SCWS end run
**Date:** Monday, August 28, 2023 2:08:45 PM

---

Scott,

I'm forwarding my email chain I had with a Jennifer Letz and I was directed to you. Can you answer the following questions I had for her that she wasn't able to answer?

-Is this meeting a question and answer session?

-Will we be able to ask questions to the council and you guys answer them or is this a complaint session again with no answers?

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-Since it seems like your the main decision maker or the speaker for the shelter I have a question for you, do you live in Sisters or run a business in Sisters?

Thanks in advance for clarification, once I hear back I'll let the group of folks know what the meeting is going to look like so we can be prepared.

Regards,

Julie Bartolotta
541-222-9978

Sent from AOL Mobile Mail

Begin forwarded message:

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create allowing for public notice, staff to prepare, and schedules of all those involved.

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Hope that helps!
-Jennifer

---

**From:** juliebartolotta@aol.com <juliebartolotta@aol.com>
**Sent:** Thursday, August 24, 2023 2:33 PM
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Please let me know how this next meeting is going to look I'd really appreciate it.

Thanks in advance,

Julie Bartolotta
541-222-9978

Sent from AOL Mobile Mail

On Saturday, August 19, 2023, 12:22 PM, Jennifer Letz <jletz@ci.sisters.or.us> wrote:

> Hi Julie-
>
> Thanks for your letter. I'm sorry you're not getting the information you need. Grappling with the vague stipulations of HB 2006 has become an enormous time commitment for our small staff and

Council. It was really meant for larger towns with more services, not rural communities. The irony is that if SCWS went through the traditional permit process we all would have had more time and tools to address the concerns of all parties.

I am reading all submitted comments and taking the positive AND negative impacts of the proposal very seriously. Because of the State rules, Council nor the Planning Commission can "vote" on the proposal. But staff is having many discussions with our City attorney, reps of the Governor's office, and leadership in other communities about our options. They are sharing what they are learning with us, and we are discussing the issue and sharing our opinions with them.

Again, thanks for reaching out and feel free to share anymore thoughts with us. Using the email address citycouncil@ci.sisters.or.us ensures all Councilors and the City Manager receive your letter.

-Jennifer

---

**From:** JULIE BARTOLOTTA <juliebartolotta@aol.com>
**Sent:** Friday, August 18, 2023 5:22 PM
**To:** Jennifer Letz <jletz@ci.sisters.or.us>
**Cc:** Paul Basile <paul2004@mac.com>; Patti Adair <Patti.Adair@deschutes.org>; Michael Preedin <mpreedin@ci.sisters.or.us>
**Subject:** Re: SCWS end run

Jennifer,

Yes I think someone hit reply to all but it won't happen again. I do see this entire situation has touched nerves of so many people. I know me having my business across the street from SCWS doesn't sit with me well. I am, thankfully in a very fortunate position as a business owner in Sisters, If SCWS does get passed I am able to move my company, I am not Sisters based. I keep everything I purchase for my business, day to day operations, etc. as local as I can to help support the community my family was raised in. My company supports all the local sports teams, businesses and employ's high school students but it does not have to stay local. I have other businesses and commercial buildings outside of Sisters so I have the benefit of

selling my building and moving my business if need be.

All the email chains I'm in, reading all the documentation and no questions answered (we just get directed to your website) which has no answers is very very frustrating for people who have put so much time, energy and their livelihood into starting and building a business only to have it threatened of being over run by the people SCWS will attract. I'm not sure if you or anyone that represents Sisters has ever started and ran their own business but most business owners have a lot of blood, sweat and tears getting it started and keeping it profitable.

I apologize if an email was accidentally sent to someone that felt threatening, it won't happen again, but you need to understand the sacrifices business owners as well as residents who have bought and lived in Sisters think about when you as City Representatives don't try to put yourselves in our shoes, I'm not saying all of you don't but its the current vibes that most are feeling.

Do the decision makers such as Scott actually live and own in Sisters? If he or any of the decision makers live outside of Sisters they shouldn't decide what is best for our community because they are not part of our community. I know they are hired and/or elected positions and if this gets passed through I hope people look for resignations and/or replacements of power.

Hope you all have a good weekend,

Julie Bartolotta

> On Aug 18, 2023, at 9:51 AM, Jennifer Letz <jletz@ci.sisters.or.us> wrote:
>
> Julie and Paul-
>
> A firm reminder that while we are happy to receive relevant comments from the public, threats made against our staff and volunteers - real or hyberbole - will not be tolerated. Remember that any email communication with staff and Council is public record. Please be mindful of hitting "reply all."
>
> Our small staff works very hard to serve our community. This includes meeting with ANY permit

applicant (business, event producer, non-profit, etc.) when that applicant requests a meeting. Meetings with applicants happen every day; it's one of the many in-person services our staff provides.

If your frustration is with the process, may I also suggest contacting your state reps and the Governor's office with your concerns since that is where the legislation came from.

Thanks for your understanding,
Jennifer

**Jennifer Letz**
City Councilor
City of Sisters
PO Box 39 | 520 E. Cascade Ave., Sisters, OR 97759
City Hall: 541-549-6022
jletz@ci.sisters.or.us | www.ci.sisters.or.us

**From:** Michael Preedin
**To:** Kerry Prosser; Jordan Wheeler
**Subject:** Fwd: Coming to Sisters soon....
**Date:** Tuesday, August 1, 2023 7:50:36 AM

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Forward to make sure you saw this
---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: Paul Basile <paul2004@mac.com>
Date: Aug 1, 2023 07:10
Subject: Coming to Sisters soon....
To: Patti Adair <Patti.Adair@deschutes.org>,Tony DeBone <Tony.DeBone@deschutes.org>,Andrea Blum <ablum@ci.sisters.or.us>,Nancy Connolly <nconnolly@ci.sisters.or.us>,Jennifer Letz <jletz@ci.sisters.or.us>,Michael Preedin <mpreedin@ci.sisters.or.us>,Gary Ross <g.ross@ci.sisters.or.us>
Cc:

….because a magnet attracts.

And by the way, SCWS has not reached out to the community as "suggested" by the city. They have not respond to my email inquires, have not been transparent in their communication with the press, and are not setting a good example of a good neighbor. All of this may make possible them becoming the magnet we do not want to become similar to Portland and Bend.

We definitely need to help those in need who do not choose being homeless as a lifestyle but rather need help with their addictions, mental health, income insufficiency, but spending the amount of money awarded to SCWS would have been better spent to get these folks real help so they wouldn't need a shelter in the first place.

We need your help in ensuring that Sisters doesn't become the magnet.

Oregon's experiment to curb overdoses by decriminalizing small amounts of illicit drugs is in its third year, and life has changed for most everyone in the city of Portland.

https://www.nytimes.com/2023/07/31/health/portland-oregon-drugs.html?unlocked_article_code=lLQme4K2aHoIbeyhCFPvwpEAAlYJSRw05GzTFz99SmTiXaeXokcikMvwdhSOSX5IJzHMRjq-2U3qFgjJBBh3WnwnCXDVdceP-oYFE-VjpvWBmTbp4B1lhsmsx7zhqfJ-uduouNPa1LbVdEo95kJpMflI4moyH6L0-g26eHMJV-Pv6awtN6fEutcdRCcSZv_vPhHKManIRYrRsFdBkIkGpJCk54Y8kebjuqz5S6xO8MkYxOCwyczgGGN2hMs7k-0eG3kE-n0Xp4-bzb9szjJZja7HopFVO7GwNO2B2L3igfMYPuV9YIj4GhlTLOc9tE3bnAjU3irmuK1vTPYpit4&smid=em-share

Paul Basile
paul2004@mac.com

**From:** Jennifer Letz
**To:** Paul Basile; JULIE BARTOLOTTA
**Cc:** Patti Adair; Michael Preedin
**Subject:** Re: SCWS end run
**Date:** Friday, August 18, 2023 9:52:04 AM
**Attachments:** Outlook-2nyhcdtl.png

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Julie and Paul-

A firm reminder that while we are happy to receive relevant comments from the public, threats made against our staff and volunteers - real or hyberbole - will not be tolerated. Remember that any email communication with staff and Council is public record. Please be mindful of hitting "reply all."

Our small staff works very hard to serve our community. This includes meeting with ANY permit applicant (business, event producer, non-profit, etc.) when that applicant requests a meeting. Meetings with applicants happen every day; it's one of the many in-person services our staff provides.

If your frustration is with the process, may I also suggest contacting your state reps and the Governor's office with your concerns since that is where the legislation came from.

Thanks for your understanding,
Jennifer

**Jennifer Letz**
City Councilor
City of Sisters
PO Box 39 | 520 E. Cascade Ave., Sisters, OR 97759
City Hall: 541-549-6022
jletz@ci.sisters.or.us | www.ci.sisters.or.us



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**From:** Paul Basile <paul2004@mac.com>
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 16, 2023 7:43 PM
**To:** JULIE BARTOLOTTA <juliebartolotta@aol.com>
**Cc:** Patti Adair <Patti.Adair@deschutes.org>; Michael Preedin <mpreedin@ci.sisters.or.us>

**Subject:** Re: SCWS end run

According to today's Nugget, Scott makes the decision!!! A real shame council is powerless as are we…. but we need to continue the fight!!!

Sent from cyberspace via my iPhone

> On Aug 16, 2023, at 6:42 PM, JULIE BARTOLOTTA <juliebartolotta@aol.com> wrote:
>
> I'm not opposed to water boardingI think it would be public record on who approves it correct? I think if goes through and gets approved, as a group we go after getting him fired. I refuse to have my taxes pay a salary for someone who is not for the majority…very secret and sneaky I think you are spot on that he is behind it.
>
> > On Aug 16, 2023, at 6:36 PM, Paul Basile <paul2004@mac.com> wrote:
> >
> > julie
> >
> > i assume he's hired since he's Scott Woodford, Community Development Director: swoodford@ci.sisters.or.us.
> >
> > i also assume that he is behind all this, is very secretive, but unless luis and he are waterboarded, we'll never know, as he and luis met yesterday and luis was assured that he (scott) would be making the decision!!!!!! YIKES!!!!
> >
> > again, i can't reveal my source but it's unrefutable.
> >
> > > On Aug 16, 2023, at 6:18 PM, JULIE BARTOLOTTA <juliebartolotta@aol.com> wrote:
> > >
> > > Paul,
> > >
> > > Is Scott Woodford hired in his position or elected? If he is hired and helps push through the shelter when clearly most disapprove how can we as a group try to get his resignation? Seems like he is being very secret and helping get the shelter pushed through? Your thoughts?
> > >
> > > Julie

On Aug 16, 2023, at 12:40 PM, Paul Basile <paul2004@mac.com> wrote:

Wondering if you heard about an “end run” that SCWS and Scott Woodford maybe doing …withdrawing original application then simultaneously resubmitting SCWS app under HB 3395 rather than OR 2006, based upon recommendation from mr. woodford and may get approved by him w/o citizen or council input.

Paul Basile
paul2004@mac.com

Paul Basile
paul2004@mac.com

FWhat public engagement was done?

**From:** Paul Basile <paul2004@mac.com>
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 18, 2023 8:55:04 AM
**To:** SCWS <sisterscoldweathershelter@gmail.com>; lblanchardw@msn.com <lblanchardw@msn.com>; Andrea Blum <ablum@ci.sisters.or.us>; Nancy Connolly <nconnolly@ci.sisters.or.us>; Jennifer Letz <jletz@ci.sisters.or.us>; Michael Preedin <mpreedin@ci.sisters.or.us>; Gary Ross <g.ross@ci.sisters.or.us>; Patti Adair <Patti.Adair@deschutes.org>; Tony DeBone <Tony.DeBone@deschutes.org>; DAVID CHINBURG <DavidChinburg@gmail.com>; LIZ FOSTER <lz22foster@yahoo.com>; MICKI MCFADDEN <kilabuddy@msn.com>; DIANE PHILLIPS <dianalphillips@gmail.com>; The Management Trust Oregon <cs@managementtrust.com>
**Subject:** What public engagement was done?

SCWS

**What public engagement was done?**

The emergency shelter siting legislation was passed in 2021 by the Oregon Legislature following public hearings. For this particular proposal, per the state law, no public noticing or hearings are required for the organization to submit an application. ***The city has encouraged SCWS to reach out and meet with the surrounding neighborhood and community members.***

as a resident of the neighborhood of Clear Pine, a mere 450' away from SCWS's proposed shelter (that have not precluded a year round shelter nor RV parking or camping on site) and have not been advised of the project nor reached out to by SCWS as encouraged by the City of Sisters, i am requested that you provide a list of the surrounding neighborhood and community members including businesses and HOA's, within walking distance of the proposed shelter. the requested list should include names, dates, times, and communications exchanged both written and oral.

thank you in advance for your cooperation

Paul Basile
paul2004@mac.com

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | Michael Preedin |
| **To:** | Kerry Prosser; Jordan Wheeler |
| **Subject:** | FW: (4) Sisters Community Updates & News \| Facebook |
| **Date:** | Tuesday, August 1, 2023 9:47:48 AM |
| **Attachments:** | WebPage.pdf |

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*3rd email*

Michael Preedin
Mayor
City of Sisters

mpreedin@ci.sisters.or.us
www.ci.sisters.or.us


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**From:** Paul Basile <paul2004@mac.com>
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 1, 2023 9:25 AM
**To:** Patti Adair <Patti.Adair@deschutes.org>; Tony DeBone <Tony.DeBone@deschutes.org>; Andrea Blum <ablum@ci.sisters.or.us>; Nancy Connolly <nconnolly@ci.sisters.or.us>; Jennifer Letz <jletz@ci.sisters.or.us>; Michael Preedin <mpreedin@ci.sisters.or.us>; Gary Ross <g.ross@ci.sisters.or.us>; Diana <dianalphillips@gmail.com>
**Subject:** Fwd: (4) Sisters Community Updates & News | Facebook

In case you haven't seen these posts.

> Begin forwarded message:
>
> **From:** Paul Basile <paul2004@mac.com>
> **Subject: (4) Sisters Community Updates & News | Facebook**
> **Date:** August 1, 2023 at 9:15:07 AM PDT
> **To:** PAUL BASILE <paul2004@mac.com>
>
> https://www.facebook.com/groups/160523538206709/search/?q=shelter
>
> Paul Basile
> paul2004@mac.com

**From:** Michael Preedin
**To:** Kerry Prosser; Jordan Wheeler
**Subject:** FW: SCWS issues
**Date:** Tuesday, August 1, 2023 9:47:33 AM

---

*Another email (#2)*

Michael Preedin
Mayor
City of Sisters

mpreedin@ci.sisters.or.us
www.ci.sisters.or.us


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**From:** Paul Basile <paul2004@mac.com>
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 1, 2023 8:00 AM
**To:** Andrea Blum <ablum@ci.sisters.or.us>; Nancy Connolly <nconnolly@ci.sisters.or.us>; Jennifer Letz <jletz@ci.sisters.or.us>; Gary Ross <g.ross@ci.sisters.or.us>; Michael Preedin <mpreedin@ci.sisters.or.us>
**Subject:** Fwd: SCWS issues

Sent from cyberspace via my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

> **From:** Paul Basile <paul2004@mac.com>
> **Date:** August 1, 2023 at 7:35:41 AM PDT
> **To:** Patti Adair <Patti.Adair@deschutes.org>
> **Cc:** Diana <dianalphillips@gmail.com>
> **Subject: Re: SCWS issues**
>
> Thank you!!!
>
> Sent from cyberspace via my iPhone

> On Aug 1, 2023, at 7:09 AM, Patti Adair <Patti.Adair@deschutes.org> wrote:

Let me check on this.

Glad you were away enjoying travels!!

Patti

Get Outlook for iOS

---

**From:** Paul Basile <paul2004@mac.com>
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 1, 2023 6:31:45 AM
**To:** Patti Adair <Patti.Adair@deschutes.org>
**Cc:** Diana <dianalphillips@gmail.com>
**Subject:** SCWS issues

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

---

Patti

I've been out of town since 7/13 but my neighbors have been keeping me abreast of issues regarding the SCWS.

The latest problematic issue is that SCWS had scheduled a meeting on 8/8 to hear concerns from the community of which there are many.

As I understand it, most of the board (whoever they are) and the CEO agreed to have the meeting except for one member, Sharlene Weed.

Yesterday I was advised that Sharlene had the meeting cancelled.

This is yet another example of this group's obfuscation and unwillingness to be transparent with the community.

They got grant money from our taxes and we deserve to have a say regarding their operation as it sits 450' from our community.

Please let me now how you can help and what we as a community can do to address our issues to folks who have oversight to this group.

Thanks, as always, for your support!!!

Paul Basile
paul2004@mac.com

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | Paul Basile |
| **To:** | Scott Woodford; City Council; Jordan Wheeler |
| **Subject:** | Re: August 9, 2023 City Council Meeting |
| **Date:** | Friday, August 4, 2023 3:18:02 PM |
| **Attachments:** | image001.png<br>cc080923agenda.pdf<br>08.09.23 Emergency Shelter Siting.pdf |

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scott

read the letter to the editor from Louis in the Nugget….https://www.nuggetnews.com/story/2023/08/02/opinion/letters-to-the-editor-822023/35474.html

THIS IS NOT JUST AN EMERGENCY SHELTER!!

they intend to operate 24/7/365 for ANY homeless person, thus becoming a magnet….and our community becoming the next Bend/Portland…..DON'T BEND SISTERS!!!

I personally have asked Louis and Sharlene several questions and have had ZERO response from them and they consistently lie about their intentions, have ZERO effective organizational leadership experience, no budgetary expertise, no sense of the current state of affairs of any of the individual homeless and what their needs are, have not sought other alternative solutions for a location that isn't a mere 450' from my street (contrary to what they professed). and the piece de resistance is lou's comment that "I don't want to associate with anyone who doesn't want this for their fellow man, woman or child."….in other words ITS MY WAY REGARDLESS OF OTHER OPINIONS. below is the conversation from which his quote came when asked about his "no-show" at a previous scheduled meeting with effected businesses.

> I never was informed of the 9am meeting. Mike Owens agreed to coordinate a meeting for the business interest on Barclay and when asked he mentioned 3-4 individuals would be meeting with me at 10am. When I heard from an advocate that there's was to be meeting at 9 I called Mr. Owens and he denied knowing there was a 9am meeting. I ask to change the venue for our small sit down and he declined. He thought it would be a good idea to address the community. First, as a member of a board I didn't have approval to speak in an ad hoc manner nor did I have quorum to ask for that vote via text. Second, knowing this 9am meeting was stirred by the flyer was significant mis-representation of our emergency shelter I wasn't going to walk into that environment. I know if tables were turned you wouldn't as well. The meeting was a successful one for your business contingent to misconstrue and redirect from a virtuous endeavor where tax dollars of Sister's residence could be doing something huge for this vulnerable community both homeless and housed. This is an Emergency Shelter for marginalized individuals who may be suffering from weather related threats and a place to rest, charge electronics, shower, washer clothing and gain supplies for there camps. With luck and trust maybe even obtain housing, shelter, travel elsewhere in effort to become stabilized. I don't want to associate with anyone who doesn't want this for their fellow man, woman or child.

i think SCWS doesn't realize that the grant money they may receive isn't manna from heaven, it's from OUR tax dollars, and to not be transparent, engaging, respectful of other people's opinions, is beyond disturbing.

> On Aug 4, 2023, at 2:45 PM, Scott Woodford <swoodford@ci.sisters.or.us> wrote:
>
> Hello,
>
> Please note that there will be a work session on the proposed shelter at 192 W. Barclay Avenue with City Council. The meeting agenda and a short staff report is attached.
>
> You are receiving this email because you've previously submitted comments on the proposal.
>
> Thank you,
>
> **Scott**
> **Woodford**
> Community Development Director
> City of Sisters | Community Development Dept.
> PO Box 39 | 520 E. Cascade Ave., Sisters, OR 97759
> Direct: 541-323-5211 | City Hall: 541-549-6022
> swoodford@ci.sisters.or.us | www.ci.sisters.or.us
>
> 
>
> 

Paul Basile
paul2004@mac.com

**From:** Paul Basile
**To:** Kerry Prosser; Jordan Wheeler
**Subject:** 8/9/23 meeting
**Date:** Tuesday, August 8, 2023 7:10:42 AM

---

good morning

i have sent these 12 questions to Luis Blanchard and Sharlene Weed of the SCWS, but have never received a response.

i am submitting these in the hopes that the city manager or council will get answers to them before any decision is made on SCWS's proposal.

in addition, i have noted other questions i would like to get responses to.

thank you in advance.

1. What public engagement was done?
The emergency shelter siting legislation was passed in 2021 by the Oregon Legislature following public hearings. For this particular proposal, per the state law, no public noticing or hearings are required for the organization to submit an application. ***The city has encouraged SCWS to reach out and meet with the surrounding neighborhood and community members.***
as a resident of the neighborhood of Clear Pine, a mere 450' away from SCWS's proposed shelter (that has not precluded a year round shelter nor RV parking or camping on site) and have not been advised of the project nor reached out to by SCWS as encouraged by the City of Sisters, i am requested that you provide a list of the surrounding neighborhood and community members including businesses and HOA's, within walking distance of the proposed shelter. the requested list should include names, dates, times, and communications exchanged both written and oral.

2. what is the definitive objective of SCWS with "outcome measures of success" given that that is part of the Governor's concerns about doling out funds, which may have been included in your proposal, but to my knowledge has not been made public.

3. how did SCWS communicate its intention for a shelter to the community of sisters as a whole and what were the responses from the public at large as to the need for a 365/24/7 shelter, the impact upon the adjacent neighborhoods, businesses, tourism, etc.?

4. what has been the reaction from businesses (Sister's Rental, Bend Windows and Doors, Naughty Log Homes, etc.) in the immediate vicinity of the shelter?

5. what will be the eligibility criteria for intake of homeless folks during the cold, hot, smoky, conditions and what services will be provided to them?

6. given the amount of allocated for salaries ($181,000) half of which is said to be coming from other sources, what other sources will be providing that amount ($90,500)?

7. how will the shelter be managed 365/24/7?

8. how will the $181,000 earmarked for salaries be allocated and to whom by position?

9. after expending the $950,000 for the building and SCWS's $90,500 share of the proposed salaries, how does SCWS plan on expending the remaining $419,500 of the grant?

10. what is the 5 year plan for successful operation of SCWS and it's contribution toward eliminating Sister's homelessness issue

11. were other locations and strategies to accomplish your "mission" considered and if so why did you not pursue them?

12. what are the names and qualifications of your board members?

_____
_____
_____
_____

A. As one of your stated goals is to "Conduct forest outreach to broaden and reinforce the safety net for Sisters Country's houseless population through identification, connection, friendship, and communication", do you have any counts of the number of homeless people in Sisters, what their issues are, and if not, do you plan to do so and when?

B. It has been stated by one of your board members that "we hope to be open in the daytime year-round to provide resources and services"
In light of that statement, we have a concern that the proposed shelter will become a magnet for addicts and those with mental health issues that have a high probability of posing a risk to public health or safety of our community as referenced in OR 2006 **SECTION 3. (1) (f) Will not pose any unreasonable risk to public health or safety.**

You are quoted as saying that *"..."This may be the best location in the heart of Sisters, away from residential communities, away from where there might be some exposure, say, to children."*
Another of your board members have told me that *"I am not aware of any residences within a block of the location. The building is located in the light-industrial zone which is not usually an area with residences. ClearPine is close as the crow flies but probably a half mile by road or sidewalk."*

For your organization's edification and for the record, the location is 450' away from Clearpine, not a half mile away (2640') where children live and play!!!

C. **OR 2006 SECTION 3. (1) states that an emergency shelter application can be denied if there is lack of sufficient medical services (no urgent care or ER).**
Given that some of the homeless population are a vulnerable community that has elevated needs, how do you propose to provide emergency medical, urgent care, etc.?

D. What is your definition of an "emergency", i.e. below 32 degrees in winter months (please clarify winter months); above 90 degrees in summer months (please clarify summer months); Air Quality Index at ???? number.

E. Will you stipulate that this shelter will never be used as a transitional shelter as defined by **OR 2006 SECTION 3.**
**(4) An emergency shelter approved under this section may also provide additional services not described in subsection (3) of this section to individuals who are transitioning from unsheltered homeless status. An organization providing services under this subsection may charge a fee of no more than $300 per month per client and only to clients who are financially able to pay the fee and who request the services.**

F. In your application you state that, "The organization does not *currently plan* to allow outdoor camping or overnight vehicle parking at the property"

Will you stipulate that this proposed shelter will *never* be used as outlined in OR 2006 **SECTION 6.**
**(1) Any political subdivision may allow any public or private entity to allow overnight camping by homeless individuals living in vehicles on the property of the entity.**
**(2) A political subdivision may impose reasonable conditions upon offering camping space under this section, including establishing a maximum number of vehicles allowed.**
**(3) Entities providing camping spaces under this section must also provide access to sanitary facilities, including**

**toilet, handwashing and trash disposal facilities.**

Paul Basile
paul2004@mac.com

As one of your stated goals is to "Conduct forest outreach to broaden and reinforce the safety net for Sisters Country's houseless population through identification, connection, friendship, and communication", do you have any counts of the number of homeless people in Sisters, what their issues are, and if not, do you plan to do so and when?

It has been stated by one of your board members that "we hope to be open in the daytime year-round to provide resources and services"

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**OR 2006 SECTION 3. (1)** states that an emergency shelter application can be denied if there is lack of sufficient medical services (no urgent care or ER).

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What is your definition of an “emergency”, i.e. below 32 degrees in winter months (please clarify winter months); above 90 degrees in summer months (please clarify summer months); Air Quality Index at ???? number.

Will you stipulate that this shelter will never be used as a transitional shelter as defined by OR 2006 **SECTION 3.**
**(4) An emergency shelter approved under this section may also provide additional services not described in subsection (3) of this section to individuals who are transitioning from unsheltered homeless status. An organization providing services under this subsection may charge a fee of no more than $300 per month per client and only to clients who are financially able to pay the fee and who request the services.**

In your application you state that, “The organization does not *currently plan* to allow outdoor camping or overnight vehicle parking at the property”

Will you stipulate that this proposed shelter will *never* be used as outlined in OR 2006 **SECTION 6.**
**(1) Any political subdivision may allow any public or private entity to allow overnight camping by homeless individuals living in vehicles on the property of the entity.**
**(2) A political subdivision may impose reasonable conditions upon offering camping space under this section, including establishing a maximum number of vehicles allowed.**
**(3) Entities providing camping spaces under this section must also provide access to sanitary facilities, including toilet, handwashing and trash disposal facilities.**

I have requested but have not been provided a response to my questions from July 18th, as follows:

**1. What public engagement was done?**
The emergency shelter siting legislation was passed in 2021 by the Oregon Legislature following public hearings. For this particular proposal, per the state law, no public noticing or hearings are required for the organization to submit an application. ***The city has encouraged SCWS to reach out and meet with the surrounding neighborhood and community members.***
as a resident of the neighborhood of Clear Pine, a mere 450' away from SCWS's proposed shelter (that have not precluded a year round shelter nor RV parking or camping on site) and have not been advised of the project nor reached out to by SCWS as encouraged by the City of Sisters, i am requested that you provide a list of the surrounding neighborhood and community members including businesses and HOA's, within walking distance of the proposed shelter. the requested list should include names, dates, times, and communications exchanged both written and oral.

2. what is the definitive objective of SCWS with "outcome measures of success" given that that is part of the Governor's concerns about doling out funds, which may have been included in your proposal, but to my knowledge has not been made public.

3. how did SCWS communicate its intention for a shelter to the community of sisters as a whole and what were the responses from the public at large as to the need for a 365/24/7 shelter, the impact upon the adjacent neighborhoods, businesses, tourism, etc.?

4. what has been the reaction from businesses (Sister's Rental, Bend Windows and Doors, Naughty Log Homes, etc.) in the immediate vicinity of the shelter?

5. what will be the eligibility criteria for intake of homeless folks during the cold, hot, smoky, conditions and what services will be provided to them?

6. given the amount of allocated for salaries ($181,000) half of which is said to be coming from other sources, what other sources will be providing that amount ($90,500)?

7. how will the shelter be managed 365/24/7?

8. how will the $181,000 earmarked for salaries be allocated and to whom by position?

9. after expending the $950,000 for the building and SCWS's $90,500 share of the proposed salaries, how does SCWS plan on expending the remaining $419,500 of the grant?

10. what is the 5 year plan for successful operation of SCWS and it's contribution toward eliminating Sister's homelessness issue

11.  were other locations and strategies to accomplish your “mission” considered such as purchase of land and placement of mobile, tiny, or other such homes.

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | Paul Basile |
| **To:** | Andrea Blum; Nancy Connolly; Jennifer Letz; Michael Preedin; Gary Ross |
| **Cc:** | Scott Woodford; Jordan Wheeler; Kerry Prosser |
| **Subject:** | SCWS |
| **Date:** | Thursday, August 10, 2023 9:29:24 AM |
| **Attachments:** | ISSUES AND CONCERNS.docx |

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good morning all

thank you for the opportunity to share some of my feelings on the issue of the SCWS application at last evening's meeting. 3 minutes really flies by but at least i got on the record.

i've communicated to so many people on this issue that i've forgotten whether i've sent some of my thoughts to you, so i will attach them at the end of this email .

last evening's presentation by Luis Blanchard was very disappointing although from my experience, it was par for the course. i was actually hoping that he would have definitively said that the shelter will be EMERGENCY ONLY, would ONLY operate under specific metrics regarding what constitutes a weather emergency, would only accommodate the truly homeless in our community during specific hours of the day/night, during which time they would have access to counseling, nourishment, internet, etc., in addition. unfortunately he would not stipulate to that, and in fact spoke from both sides of his mouth, saying yes, emergency only, as well as no, we will provide other services via partnership with other providers at anytime, and yes, we may very well expand the shelter's capacity to 40 or more for all the homeless to access in our community!

i felt the Mayor Ross' frustration when he asked about this "non-profits" operating, business, strategic, financial plans, to which Luis replied, we'll get to it eventually. a similar comment was made by one of the ZOOM attendees, and it appeared he was equally frustrated by Luis' continued obfuscation. this appears to be Luis' mode of operation….be non-transparent, noncommittal, and play on his badge by telling people they are not compassionate if they oppose his dream. even on the morning news 21 today, when asked to comment on the meeting he replied, i don't want to make a public statement.

there were several folks, mostly the SCWS board members present (the one that was fired from Habitat for Humanity was not present) or past members or volunteers who spoke in favor of the shelter and their comments were appreciated and revealing at the same time. they and Luis spoke proudly about the fact that in years past, when working with area churches to operate a warming shelter, they were able to help around 10-12 homeless folks in need of shelter every cold weather season for several years. what struck me, and hopefully to council as well was, if the shelter has historically served 10-12 homeless in need of a cold weather shelter (no mention of a hot weather cooling shelter or an appropriately equipped air quality shelter) and if the subjective count of homeless in our area needing such service increased to say 20, why on earth would an organization need $1.4 million to work once again to area churches to provide such services? that equates to $70,000 per person!!!

like you and many others in our community. i understand the need to help those truly homeless that can't help themselves and i have no opposition to a legitimate temporary shelter. my opposition to THIS applicant's proposal is that it appears to be a scam and the folks on the board don't have a clue, as well intentioned as they believe they are, Luis in particular. they have no objectively measured track record of operating a shelter, no real organizational

leadership experience, no financial or budgetary expertise, no operational planning experience… i could go on. what they have instead (and not all SCWS's board members agree to have a shelter…you may want to consider interviewing each one separately) is a desire to have a round the clock and calendar homeless shelter in our community and to use the grant money to establish this shelter for years to come….and come they will!!! and if they operate for a year or two and somebody wakes up and says, gee, this was a bad idea from the beginning, and they have to sell the building, who gets the "equity" (as luis called it) from the sale of the property? oh, i see, the SCWS crew!!!!

i hope i don't come across as "non-compassionate". my intention is come across as retired executive with a plethora of experience with running effective large organizations who see the folly with this group and with it's proposal. there is so much that could've been done to really help our homeless community in sisters with that money. to begin with it would be nice to know how many there actually are in our community. i don't believe anyone knows that for certain but seems to me to be the first step. second step would be to ascertain who wants what kind of assistance. do they want/need rehab treatment or mental health care? spend some of the $1.4 m and get it for them, anywhere in the countRy!

do the working homeless need a little $ subsidy to help them with rent or child care or getting their RV or trailer repaired in sisters, spend some of the $1.4 m for that. i'm sure that'd take care of most. the remainder, more than likely, just want to be left alone most of the time and on occasion want a little respite from extreme weather. but don't spend $950,000 on a dilapidated building 450' from a residential community! spend some for working with the churches again or spend it for temporary tents with heating/cooling equipment along with sanitary facilities on a piece of existing land (like the abandoned Indian Ford campground or similar). don't spend almost $200++k on salaries for less than adequate leadership and staff! and what about the remaining $450k that isn't talked about. where is that going to go?

OK, one cup of coffee is plenty for me, so i'll stop here.

please read the attachments as they are questions i've asked of Luis and Sharlene Weed (the missing board member) but never received a truthful response.

thanks again for your time.

Paul Basile
paul2004@mac.com

https://www.costco.com/astreea-igloo-plus.product.4000176843.html

**From:** Paul Basile
**To:** Jordan Wheeler
**Cc:** Andrea Blum; Jennifer Letz; Michael Preedin; Gary Ross; Scott Woodford; Susan Cobb; Patti Adair; Kerry Prosser; Chris Ogren
**Subject:** Re: SCWS
**Date:** Thursday, August 17, 2023 11:22:33 AM

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Good morning Jordan

Thanks for the info and yes it helps to clarify who **may** be the decision making body. I personally appreciate your work on this issue and hopefully you can appreciate the passionate concerns of a majority of our community as you move forward with your input to our City Council.

a few points:

1. I knew prior to the Nugget article and the announcement on your website (not so coincidentally occurring on the same day) regarding the withdrawal and resubmission of SCWS's application for the homeless shelter. In fact, i know that Scott Woodford met with SCWS and advised them to withdraw their application to site the shelter under HB-2006 and resubmit under HB-3395. The only reason I can ascertain, since most of the criteria didn't change other than the new language under HB 3395, regarding the requirement that non-profit status of the proposed operator must have been obtained **"at least three years before the date of the application for a shelter",** rather than prior to January 1, 2018, which was the previous requirement under HB 2006, and therefore SCWS would have had to be automatically disqualified since they didn't receive their non-profit status until August 12, 2020. i guess it pays to have low friends in high places.

2. I am glad that the law does not preclude Council from making the decision. I also hope and pray that our duly ELECTED government authority operating as our Mayor and City Council, will in fact assert that decision making authority in this case, as they then will have acknowledged that they will act on behalf of it's citizenry as promised and accept full responsibility for its decision. Let our City Council be the first then to do so. No offense, but staff can't and shouldn't be put in that position.

3. Yes, we've heard time and time again that this isn't a land use decision, etc., etc., we get it! However, like the much appreciated "workshop" and post "workshop" citizen input to council, I believe that there ought to be more citizen input opportunities. Whether that occurs at a special Council meeting, a regular Council meeting, invitations to submit further citizen concerns via email or letter, or via a "survey" accomplished through your website or phone calls or "survey monkey", this issue is too important not to use more methods to take the pulse of our community.

Thanks again Jordan for all your support on this issue.

> On Aug 17, 2023, at 9:52 AM, Jordan Wheeler <jwheeler@ci.sisters.or.us> wrote:
>
> Hi Paul,
>
> The law is ambiguous on the decision-making body for emergency shelter siting applications. It states that "a local government shall approve an application for the development or use of land for an emergency shelter..." if it meets the requirements and criteria. We have not yet found a case where a City Council approved or denied an application rather than a staff level decision. We based our application and application review process on how other cities have been processing these applications but with enhancements such as noticing, holding the Council workshop with the applicant, and taking public comments. At the meeting and in the staff report, we stated that we were processing it as a staff level decision taking into account the public comments and Council input and the evidence submitted by the applicant that addresses the criteria.
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> That all being said, the law also does not preclude a Council from making the decision. The City Council can still decide to be the decision-making authority for this application and any future emergency shelter siting applications. Otherwise, regarding the process, the law only states that it is not a land use decision, the decision can be made with or without a public hearing, and appeals are subject to review only under ORS 34.010 - 34.100 (the writ of review process).
>
> I hope that helps clarify.
>
> Thanks,
> Jordan

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**From:** Paul Basile <paul2004@mac.com>
**Sent:** Thursday, August 17, 2023 7:28 AM
**To:** Andrea Blum <ablum@ci.sisters.or.us>; Jennifer Letz <jletz@ci.sisters.or.us>; Michael Preedin <mpreedin@ci.sisters.or.us>; Gary Ross <g.ross@ci.sisters.or.us>; Scott Woodford <swoodford@ci.sisters.or.us>; Jordan Wheeler <jwheeler@ci.sisters.or.us>
**Cc:** Patti Adair <Patti.Adair@deschutes.org>
**Subject:** SCWS

i just read an article on page 16 in latest issue of The Nugget, that Sisters City Council is NOT the approving authority for the newly submitted application to operate a homeless shelter in our community, but rather Mr. Woodford and Mr. Wheeler are.

This came as a very disturbing surprise to me and i'm sure to others who have been led to believe that the City Council IS the approving authority.

Even at the "workshop" held on this issue last week, the Mayor prefaced the meeting by saying that no decisions will be made here tonight (although some community members thought there might be) and that City Council will be asking more questions of the applicant and considering all the concerns from citizens they have been received before THEY make a decision on whether the application meets all the criteria of HB 2006.

Please clarify.

Paul Basile
paul2004@mac.com

Paul Basile
paul2004@mac.com

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | Paul Basile |
| **To:** | Doug Hull |
| **Cc:** | Scott Woodford; Michael Preedin; Andrea Blum; Gary Ross; Jennifer Letz; Susan Cobb; Jeff Seymour; Cris Converse; Vikki HIckmann; Jeremy Dickman; Sarah McDougall; Art Blumenkron; Tom Ries; eric@edcoinfo.com; Jordan Wheeler; Kerry Prosser; Matt Martin; Jacob Smith; Emelia Shoup; Carol Jenkins; Paul Bertagna; Jackson Dumanch |
| **Subject:** | Homeless emergency services |
| **Date:** | Friday, August 18, 2023 4:07:05 PM |

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Doug

Incredibly well said and consistent with what I believe a majority of our community feels as well.

Let's hope and pray that city council declares itself the deciding authority consistent with their duly elected governing authority as allowed under hb2006.

Sent from cyberspace via my iPhone

> On Aug 17, 2023, at 9:51 AM, Doug Hull <doug@hullsconstruction.com> wrote:
>
> Thank you all for your service to our community. I've been living and working and coaching in this community for 22 years. As someone who is for helping the fortunate in communities locally as well as Haiti, Dominican Republic, Mississippi, San Fransisco and South Africa to name a few, we always had a long term plan for a short term problem. Emergency services make us think this is a short term problem, however as we all know it isn't. It is apparent that the people trying to fix an issue aren't a certified applicant number #1 and #2 looks as they are trying to take money that is being thrown out.
>
> Many studies over many states have determined that 94%-98% of the homeless also have a drug and alcohol addition. This in my opinion is part of the root cause. With that being said there isn't any direction as to how to handle this part of the issue. Meaning they want the money to put a band aid on a compound fractured femur.
>
> We don't currently have medical facilities that could even take care of one of these individuals let alone try to keep up with the current tax paying population.
>
> I would recommend not even entertaining this group until full certification is completed, in which time poll the faith based community and others for another option. As they may have a plan for helping these individuals back into the community as tax paying members who can give back.
>
> We have all gone through hard times and it is the community that helps us back on our feet. However, the proposed plan will not do so it will only bring more crime to the city and trash waste/ potential fires to the forest when these individuals are outside during the day.
>
> Thank you again for your service and hearing me out.
>
> Doug Hull
> Hull's Construction
> 541-312-2344 office
> 541-410-4121 mobile

**From:** Paul Basile
**To:** Jordan Wheeler; Andrea Blum; Michael Preedin; Scott Woodford; Patti Adair; Jennifer Letz; Gary Ross; Susan Cobb; Kerry Prosser; Chris Ogren
**Subject:** Re: SCWS
**Date:** Friday, August 18, 2023 8:53:52 AM

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Good morning all.

One of the pieces of information sought by hundreds of community members as well as the Mayor and others on council, is the SCWS 's documentation used in applying for tax exempt status to the IRS. I personally asked Luis Blanchard for this information on several occasions and on each he has refused. in response to my most recent request he refused yet again and advised "please feel free to gain that information via the freedom of information policies"

According to the IRS...A charitable organization must make available for public inspection its approved application for recognition of exemption with all supporting documents and its last three annual information returns. The organization must provide copies of these documents upon request without charge (other than a reasonable fee for reproduction and copying costs). **Penalties are provided for failure to comply with these requirements.**

**Public Inspection**

**Information available for public inspection.** If we approve exempt status under section 501(c)(3), the following information that will be open for public inspection includes the following.

- Your complete Form 1023 and any supporting documents.
- All correspondence between you and the IRS concerning Form 1023, including Form 2848.
- Your determination letter.
- Annual information returns (Forms 990, 990-EZ, or 990-PF).
- Schedule A, included with Forms 990 or 990-EZ.
- Schedule B, included with Forms 990 or 990-EZ, excluding the names and addresses of contributors and other identifying information about contributors.
- Schedule B, included with Form 990-PF, including names, addresses, and other identifying information about contributors.
- Exempt Organization Business Income Tax Return (Form 990-T).

As info, i will be filing Form 4506-b, **Request for a Copy of Exempt Organization IRS Application,** with the IRS today.

The reason this is important to me and should be to you is SCWS's blatant disregard for the law, and their attitude and behavior toward you and our community, which is secretive, non-transparent, deceptive, and unconcerned about the safety and security of Sister's citizens. I urge you to consider this information in your deliberations on SCWS's most recent revised application, as their disregard for the law ought to be sufficient grounds for denial in and of itself.

I also hope that you, City Council, decide to make yourselves the deciding authority on SCWS's most recent revised application, as allowed by HB2006 and HB-3395. i know that staff has collaborated with SCWS on their revision as well as intimating that they will be approved....*he'll be able to make a decision, and I believe it will be in our favor, within a week!* What staff doesn't know is that there are several SCWS board members who do not favor the shelter or support the application as written!!! It's a shame that this minority have been bullied by others on the board and its leadership.

SWCS is seeking to expedite approval of their application in order to close on the proposed property slated for the 24/7/365 shelter (which has to be the worst real estate purchase decision of all real estate purchase decisions and will cost hundreds of thousands to repair and bring up to code) in order to be able too secure the grant funds prior to their expiration date. This eagerness to push this through at any cost is one of the most egregious examples of the abuse of power of staff, disregard for the law, and disrespect for the citizens of our community i have ever experienced.

paul basile
505.603.5249

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On Aug 17, 2023, at 11:21 AM, Paul Basile <paul2004@mac.com> wrote:

Good morning Jordan

Thanks for the info and yes it helps to clarify who **may** be the decision making body. I personally appreciate your work on this issue and hopefully you can appreciate the passionate concerns of a majority of our community as you move forward with your input to our City Council.

a few points:

1. I knew prior to the Nugget article and the announcement on your website (not so coincidentally occurring on the same day) regarding the withdrawal and resubmission of SCWS's application for the homeless shelter. In fact, i know that Scott Woodford met with SCWS and advised them to withdraw their application to site the shelter under HB-2006 and resubmit under HB-3395. The only reason I can ascertain, since most of the criteria didn't change other than the new language under HB 3395, regarding the requirement that non-profit status of the proposed operator must have been obtained **"at least three years before the date of the application for a shelter",** rather than prior to January 1, 2018, which was the previous requirement under HB 2006, and therefore SCWS would have had to be automatically disqualified since they didn't receive their non-profit status until August 12, 2020. i guess it pays to have low friends in high places.

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> **To:** Andrea Blum <ablum@ci.sisters.or.us>; Jennifer Letz <jletz@ci.sisters.or.us>; Michael Preedin <mpreedin@ci.sisters.or.us>; Gary Ross <g.ross@ci.sisters.or.us>; Scott Woodford <swoodford@ci.sisters.or.us>; Jordan Wheeler <jwheeler@ci.sisters.or.us>
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> Paul Basile
> paul2004@mac.com

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paul2004@mac.com

**From:** Paul Basile
**To:** Andrea Blum; Susan Cobb; Jennifer Letz; Michael Preedin; Gary Ross; Scott Woodford; Jordan Wheeler; Kerry Prosser; Michael Preedin
**Subject:** SCWS
**Date:** Monday, August 21, 2023 10:23:40 AM

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sorry, but there were a few i forgot to attach.

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Dear Sisters City CouncIl, Michael, Scott, Jordan, & Kerry,

Thank you for taking the time on 8/9/23 to listen to both those who are in favor and not in favor of the proposed Sisters extreme weather shelter. After listening to the public comments and having time process those comments. I have two additional thoughts that I would like to add that were not brought up in the meeting:

1) In HB 2006 Section F it states: "Will not pose any unreasonable risk to public health or safety."

There are no sidewalks on Barclay street between Pine street and Sun Ranch Drive. How does the SCWS and the City of Sisters expect houseless residents without cars to safely walk or ride a bike to the proposed shelter when there is snow and/or ice on the road and shoulders of Barclay street?

The proposed emergency shelter would be open in the winter months during the shortest daylight hours of the year. Barclay Street has no street lights from Pine Street and Sun Ranch Drive. In addition, on the Northside of Barclay there is a tree on the shoulder of the street that forces the pedestrian into the street if you are traveling east to west (see attached photo).

If a houseless person is struck by a car while walking to or from the shelter, the City of Sisters would be liable for not providing a safe passage to the shelter. The location of the prosed shelter puts every single houseless individual at an unreasonable risk of being hit by a car by forcing them to walk on the road at night with no street lighting to access the shelter. I have attached two photos taken two Saturday nights ago with perfectly clear skies from Sun Ranch Drive looking west and from Pine Street look east onto Barclay for reference and I would encourage all of you to walk Barclay at night. This is summer time now, it will only get darker this winter and more dangerous to walk this road.

While upgrades to the stretch of Barclay Street are in the planning stages, it will be several years until that work is realized. This leaves houseless individuals two options: Trespass over the former Laird Superfoods property and the Third Garage Light Industrial location or walk Barclay Street. Neither of these are acceptable solutions and puts the houseless residents in unacceptable risk to being injured or killed.

2) Does anyone from the BOD SCWS or volunteers with SCWS stand to financially benefit from the proposed shelter? As I understand from public documents and comments made by the BOD of SCWS at the hearing, several paying positions will be created. It is known throughout the community that SCWC Board Member, Sharlene Weed, was fired in May 2023 from her position at Habitat for Humanity:

https://www.nuggetnews.com/story/2023/05/10/news/habitat-for-humanity-weed-part-ways/35162.html?m=true

As it stands, she currently is not employed. This would be a direct conflict of interests if she was part of the proposal process for applying for the grant and creating a job that she would take.

In addition, who on City Council has worked with Sharlene while she was involved with City Council? If so, this should be publicly disclosed.

Thank you for your time and consideration to the above comments. Please remember, the decision that you make will mark your legacy and lasting impacts on the future of the City of Sisters long after you are no longer here.

Paul Basile
paul2004@mac.com

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | Paul Basile |
| **To:** | Andrea Blum; Susan Cobb; Jennifer Letz; Michael Preedin; Gary Ross; Scott Woodford; Jordan Wheeler; Kerry Prosser; Michael Preedin |
| **Subject:** | SCWS |
| **Date:** | Monday, August 21, 2023 10:19:09 AM |

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Paul Basile
paul2004@mac.com

**From:** Paul Basile
**To:** Andrea Blum; Susan Cobb; Jennifer Letz; Michael Preedin; Gary Ross; Patti Adair; Kerry Prosser
**Cc:** Melissa Parker; heather herauf; vicki hunt; Bert Good; Kyle Parker; Jon prince; Jack Overcash; Mike Owen; r spot
**Subject:** SCWS issue
**Date:** Saturday, August 26, 2023 4:38:22 PM

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i just posted this on Sisters FB page

Paul Basile

Top contributor · **Just now** ·

DUMPSTER DIVING

while i was at the recycling center today getting rid of cardboard, i heard a lot of rattling around in one of the other dumpsters and a male voice yelling, MILO get back here. i walked over to that dumpster, saw a bike with a home made trailer behind with space for a doggie, racks for whatever, and inside the dumpster was a young gentleman (everyone is younger than me these days) crushing cans and putting them into a bag, MILO nearby. MILO was rough looking but after he sniffed me and i petted him, he just laid back down. this gentleman wasn't as rough looking as his dog, but disheveled and grimy for sure. i asked him if he was doing OK, and he say yeah, sure, just getting some cans. without getting into a novella here, suffice to say that this man, didn't catch HIS name, didn't want to pry, was very cogent and articulate, just getting cans to recycle for $, cans being better than glass which paid the same but were heavier to shlep to the bottle drop. 2 hours of work for about $50 payoff. good enough to live for several days. mr x is not homeless (but might be counted as one by some) but lives in his pickup/camper in the woods off north pine adjacent to ClearPine. he doesn't work because he can't stand stupid or rude, can't take orders from anyone since he left the Army in the early 2000's. admitted to being bi-polar which, although i must have met him on a good day, could be an employment problem. he said he was a carpenter, but again, didn't like take orders and he really doesn't want to work 8 hours for $90 a day when he can work 2 for $50, enough for what he and MILO need. he doesn't engage with others in the forest preferring to be alone in the silence and dark sky it provides. we chit chatted for about 30 minutes about the military experience we had in common, our mutual experience of being out of work during our lives, all in all a pleasant experience with another human being.

my encounter today brought to mind another encounter i had while i was donating stuff at COVO in Bend. i was pulling into the driveway and blocking my path was a cattle dog/healer mix and on the sidewalk was its owner, standing next to his bike, trying on clothes. he apologized for the dog in the way, to which i saved, no worries! i had a bag of my clothes to donate and i asked what size he was, clearly knowing he was skinnier than me (who isn't) and had a six pack to die for, but ya never know. he said he was good, just got what he needed, so i gave my bag to the volunteer at the donation window. when i was on my way back to the car, i asked him how he was doing and he said he was just on his way back home. i asked, where is that, to which he responded, oh, here, there, anywhere he can pitch his tent/bike/dog. we spoke for quite awhile, rather he spoke for quite awhile, telling me about his profession as a ferrier who was making 80-90k a year in Idaho before someone stole his tools and his truck, so he couldn't work or drive anywhere and if he could just get 2-3k to buy some new tools and used truck, he could get back on his feet and live in a nice trailer somewhere away from all the druggies at China Hat. i told him about several equine rescue places i know of who might need some work done and who may even front him the $ for his tools, but he didn't seem all that interested, but said he would check them out…don't know if he did or not.

i'm saying all of this to say, well, several things. there are many homeless folks who are truly homeless, no trailer, no apartment, no job, maybe a box or a tent, and many need help with their addiction or mental condition. others, like mr x today is not homeless per se, has a companion, friendly as can be and really just want to be left alone in the woods. mr ferrier may have spun me a story, maybe not, but i gathered he knew where he could get some clothes and a job if he wanted one. i'm sure there are other "categories" of homeless living among us in Sisters, and we need to know more about them. where they are, if they need any help and what kind, or would they rather just be left alone, thank you very much. we should realize that

most people living in the woods are perfectly fine with their choice to live in their trailers, campers, tents. i'm sure they are saying, much like greta garbo or marlene dietrich is reported to have said, "i just vant to be alone dahlink". i'm sure there are a few others who's needs are more complex, but we need to know who they are, etc.

the other thing i want to point out is this. right after WW II, dwight d. eisenhower once warned of the "military industrial complex", leading us to places we should be aware of, consequences and all. today, there is a similar situation in the "homeless industrial complex", entities that get organized purportedly to help the homeless and who collectively get billions of $ to do so, many without any accountability or performance metrics and often under the guise of providing a genuine need. granted there are some very good examples of above board and successful organizations locally, like shepherds house, bethlehem inn, and COVO. but if you go up to the state/county/city level, there are literally dozens perhaps hundreds of organizations, agencies, task forces, forming this homeless industrial complex without much success, without much oversight and clearly given all that, not using effective and efficient strategies to truly help those who need and want help.

i just want us all to think about the SCWS proposal in light of all this. a great idea to have 10-20 beds for a warming/cooling/clean air shelter for the number of homeless in our community who have been repeatedly reported to have been provided this via our area churches in the past and according to SCWS, the numbers probably will be the same this winter. it's not such a great idea to be able to get $1.4 million without knowing what information was given to the granting authority or who the directors of the board are, all of whom are not on board with the shelter idea i'm pretty sure. it's not such a great idea to spend $950+k of the grant money on a run down building that will likely need over $200k worth of improvements nor a great idea to spend $180k on a director and 1 senior staff person to oversee the shelter's operations. it's also not a great idea to not have enough $ to help those that truly need help with addiction (if any) or mental issues (if any) or more likely, working folks who still can't afford rent here, without a helping hand. also not a great idea to have an organization and it's leadership continue to not respond sufficiently enough to questions and concerns asked of them, to obfuscate and be arrogant to our community when all our community wants to do is to help in the right way and make sure we don't become another Portland or Bend. finally it's not a great idea to have it's leadership break Federal Law by not providing public access to the documentation they submitted to the IRS to gain tax exempt status as is required. i personally don't believe any of the SCWS leadership is fit or qualified or genuinely interested in providing the help our homeless community or our community needs.

**From:** Michael Preedin
**To:** Kerry Prosser
**Cc:** Jordan Wheeler; Andrea Blum
**Subject:** FW: a few points re SCWS
**Date:** Friday, August 25, 2023 8:14:57 AM
**Attachments:** Screenshot 2023-08-24 at 7.01.49 PM.png

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*Kerry,*

*Here is an email you may not have seen due to the addressing*

Michael Preedin
Mayor
City of Sisters

mpreedin@ci.sisters.or.us
www.ci.sisters.or.us


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**From:** Paul Basile <paul2004@mac.com>
**Sent:** Thursday, August 24, 2023 7:03 PM
**To:** Andrea Blum <ablum@ci.sisters.or.us>; Susan Cobb <scobb@ci.sisters.or.us>; Jennifer Letz <jletz@ci.sisters.or.us>; Michael Preedin <mpreedin@ci.sisters.or.us>; Gary Ross <g.ross@ci.sisters.or.us>
**Cc:** Patti Adair <Patti.Adair@deschutes.org>
**Subject:** a few points re SCWS

briefly.

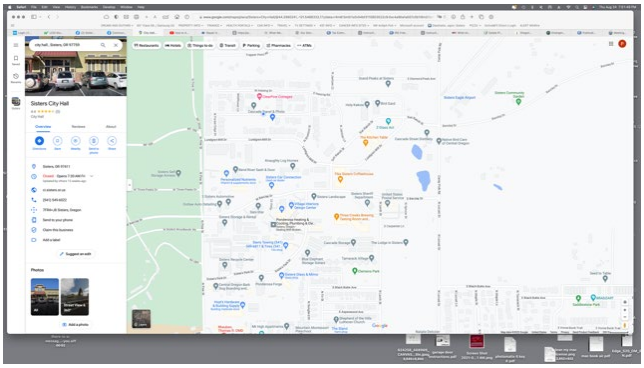
1. please consider making public the total number of emails, letters, phone calls, etc., regarding the SCWS application for a homeless shelter and provide the number in opposition and the number of supporters.

2. please consider a survey of residences and businesses located within a mile radius (easy to walk or bike a mile) of the proposed shelter to determine whether they are opposed or supportive of the shelter. this can be done via your website through notification of those folks that this will be available from x date to y date, and make the results public.

3. please consider taking a walk from city hall, north on locust to barclay turning left on east barclay and continuing to north pine, turning right on north pine to the entrance of clear pine subdivision on lundgren mill road to the end at sun ranch. turn right on sun ranch which will take you back to barclay and then locust and then back to city hall.

that's not even a 1/2 mile in radius from the proposed shelter but may give you some idea of who will be effected by the magnet that this proposed shelter will become. notice the proximity of the

shelter to those effected including the businesses on barclay with direct access to clear pine, sisters woodlands and all the future businesses that will be located there, not to mention the hundreds of families that will live there.  notice the condition of the road and lack of sidewalk on barclay.  notice the proximity to the forest, home of many of the homeless currently, on north pine.  notice the ease of ingress and egress from lundgren mill road to walkers and bikers through laird's property and the other current and future businesses on lundgren mill and sun ranch.




thank you for your consideration.

Paul Basile
paul2004@mac.com
505.603.5249

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| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | Paul Basile |
| **To:** | Scott Woodford; Jordan Wheeler; Michael Preedin; Andrea Blum; Gary Ross; Jennifer Letz; Susan Cobb; Patti Adair; Tony DeBone; Kerry Prosser |
| **Subject:** | SCWS breaking Federal Law |
| **Date:** | Saturday, August 26, 2023 8:16:19 AM |
| **Attachments:** | .png |

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all

A Tax Exempt organization MUST provide any and all documents pertaining to their exempt status that would include their original request for such status, as well as tax records since awarded exempt status. i personally asked Luis Blanchard for this info both via SCWS's website (to which their staff was instructed by their exec director, Sharlene Weed, to ignore it) as well as via direct conversation with Luis via comments on the Sisters Community Facebook page. in both instances he has refused, publicly and told me if i wanted them to file a records request with the IRS. i did so as you may know, last week. in addition i filed a complaint against SCWS for not obeying the law!

i am sending this again because i just now found the Sister's Community Facebook page "conversation" i had with Luis Blanchard on 8/17 regarding my request to him for his IRS tax exempt status documentation, the documentation he used in his original request.

Paul Basile

Lou Blanchard please provide me and this forum with all the documentation filed with the IRS to obtain your tax expert status. this documentation would include but not limited to names and contact information for all board members, directors and staff… See more

**Reply** 23h

Paul Basile

typo....tax EXEMPT status, not expert.

**Reply** 23h

Lou Blanchard

Paul Basile please feel free to gain that information via the freedom of information policies.

**Reply** 22h

**Reply** 9h

Paul Basile

Lou Blanchard i thought i'd give you an opportunity to provide the information according to law. since you are choosing to break the law i will in fact file a Form 4506-b with the IRS. in addition, i will be notifying the IRS that YOU have refused to provide this info according to the law and i will be notifying the City Council and your friends on staff of your refusal to provide the community this information as required by law. i'm pretty certain that one of the conditions of approval for your ill advised shelter is not breaking the law. 

**Reply** 9h

Paul Basile

FROM THE IRS: Public Inspection
Information available for public inspection. If we approve exempt status under section 501(c)(3), the following information that will be open for public inspection includes the following.
Your complete Form 1023 and any supporting documents.
All correspondence between you and the IRS concerning Form 1023, including Form 2848.
Your determination letter.
Annual information returns (Forms 990, 990-EZ, or 990-PF).
Schedule A, included with Forms 990 or 990-EZ.
Schedule B, included with Forms 990 or 990-EZ, excluding the names and addresses of contributors and other identifying information about contributors.
Schedule B, included with Form 990-PF, including names, addresses, and other identifying information about contributors.
Exempt Organization Business Income Tax Return (Form 990-T).

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I have requested from luis Blanchard via scws website and in direct correspondence with him on sisters Facebook page for all documentation submitted to IRS in their application for 501-c status, as is the law. He has steadfastly refused to abide by federal law and therefore I believe he and/ or scws should have their ill conceived application for a homeless shelter disapproved.

Sent from cyberspace via my iPhone

**From:** Kerry Prosser
**To:** Kerry Prosser
**Subject:** FW: SCWS new location support
**Date:** Wednesday, August 9, 2023 4:08:18 PM

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-----Original Message-----
From: Jennifer Binks <jenbinks@icloud.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 9, 2023 4:00 PM
To: Matt Martin <mmartin@ci.sisters.or.us>
Subject: SCWS new location support

To everyone this may concern, (please forward to whomever else this letter needs to reach) The Sisters Cold Weather Shelter was created by our community, for our community during the harsh winter of 2017 following the death of a houseless community member. This individual died while sleeping in his car awaiting the start of his shift at McDonalds. He could not afford rent in our town but he worked here and served our community.
That winter our community came together in the most remarkable way. We collaborated to create safe space for families and individuals in need. We cooked meals and sat together to eat them. We supplied warm clothing, resources and health services. Most of all we created community for EVERYONE.
The shelter served those in need but it also served the rest of us.
It served our humanity.
“When one of us suffers, we all suffer”
Please accept this letter in overwhelming support of the new permanent shelter on Barclay.
Thank you,
Jen Binks

Sent from my iPhone

# Sisters Cold Weather Shelter

**Shelter, Advocacy and Resources for the Sisters Community**

PO Box 1782, Sisters, OR 97759 sisterscoldweathershelter@gmail.com

Respectfully, Sisters Cold Weather Shelter wants to address Sisters City Council about obtaining acceptance to site our emergency shelter on 192 N. Barclay Road.
The proposed project will serve as an emergency shelter dictated by the increasingly threatening weather conditions that affect our community. Though it's been our history to accommodate houseless individuals, the shelter is especially interested in the displaced families and elderly that reside in our community. The building has been toured by Deschutes County's regional superintendent and the Sisters/Camp Sherman fire marshals, where we received their approval to house up to 40 individuals with a minimal upgrade to egress and fire monitoring. In prior years, we have housed an average of 10-12 individuals per night. The additional beds will be an asset to the community if the need arises to accommodate those whose homes may not serve them adequately in adverse weather.

Outside of housing in those emergency conditions, we will operate as advocates providing individuals with basic needs like hygiene and nutrition and connecting them to services such as permanent housing vouchers, transitional housing, and assistance applying to social services like disability and the Oregon Health Plan (OHP). We are discussing with Deschutes Behavioral Health to facilitate their specialist in one of the office spaces in the building for consultations. Family Kitchen has been serving free hot meals for many years and is excited to offer them to our occupants and others who might face food insecurity. Another potential partner who may also be utilized within this space is Citizens Leadership Initiative (CLI), which is currently servicing the wooded areas for trash and offering water to those camped and are our first line of outreach to know who's in our community.

Part of the grant provides funds for staffing an executive director to manage our day-to-day operations and working with our current coordinator in connecting individuals to services in and around the county. The second funded staff position is a Caseworker/Outreach specialist. This individual will work alongside the county's specialist, who is overworked due to the ever increasing need, and is only present in our community a few days a week. To have our specialist is such an asset in understanding our vulnerable neighbor's needs.
Currently, our community is grateful to have a liaison with the local Forest Service that continues to build trust so we, as advocates, can tie these individuals to services, build community, and collate data for the state's HMIS (Homeless Management Information System) which is utilized to prioritize needs and resources. Sisters will get all of this, and approving our submission is our tax dollars being spent in our community.
When filtered down, the opposition letter the City received from the business contingent on August 3, 2023, had (3) aspects.

1. Our qualifications. SCWS has been a 501C3 since 2020 and has partnered with Sheperd's House since 2017. The Multiagency Coalition (MAC), comprised of trusted bodies who know our region's issues best, agreed to award SCWS our full ask for funding. Central Oregon's Intergovernmental Council (COIC) further vetted our organization's ability to warrant this award.

2. It expounds on the disqualification of our building for our services, and the county's fire marshal's approval should dismiss that claim. We hope to improve the facility for our needs and have received positive feedback from Central Oregon Health Council grant administrators for items including a backup generator, commercial air-filtration, energy-efficient windows, ADA showers, and a commercial washer & dryer.
3. The last item was addressing safety. The letter mentioned no specifics, so I'll address this issue generally. SCWS has a quiet history regarding disturbances, and in a recent conversation with Officer Hudson, he reiterated their quick response time when called. Our shelter has adopted Shepherd's House policies drafted in cooperation with its occupants. Their history reflects meaningful cooperation of those occupants and a self-policing that works well. Failure to comply typically calls for quick and firm counseling and, dependent on the offense, an inability to use the shelter. We aim to use some renovation funding for a camera monitoring system for the facility's interior and exterior.

I summarize by reiterating how this generous gift has blessed our community. The volunteers who have given so much of themselves over the years have earned a facility to work out of and store the provisions shared among our vulnerable neighbors. The ability of partners with similar missions all collaborating from a single facility is immeasurable. And finally, it is our duty to serve others who have, in many cases, fallen into demise, not of their doing. I hear this isn't a city but a community, so I ask the city to show us a true community spirit.

**From:** Luis Blanchard
**To:** Jordan Wheeler; Michael Preedin; Scott Woodford; Kerry Prosser
**Subject:** SCWS updated Webpage links
**Date:** Friday, August 25, 2023 11:02:28 AM

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Here are the links for the updated Webpage. The updates are postings of our founding documents and financials. We also have posted opertional bullet points and FAQ's.
Please feel free to forward to community members who may inquire with you all on these topics.

Luis Blanchard

https://www.sisterssheltер.org/shelter-faq

https://www.sisterssheltер.org/documents

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | Michael Blesius |
| **To:** | Jordan Wheeler; Kerry Prosser; Scott Woodford |
| **Cc:** | Michael Preedin |
| **Subject:** | HOMELESS 97759 |
| **Date:** | Monday, August 7, 2023 10:40:11 AM |
| **Attachments:** | IMG_7863.PNG |

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Good Morning City Leaders,

My two cents...

My name is Michael Blesius and I own & operate the Sisters Bunkhouse hotel.

I have lived and worked at 114 North Oak Street for about 8 years now.
I am one of a handful of citizens that actually lives in the downtown corridors full time.
That said, I would like to share my perspective on what I see on a daily basis in hopes that you understand my position with the Sisters Cold Weather Shelter's current plight.

Frankly, I moved to Sisters 8 years ago to get away from the 'escalating' homeless situations of the San Francisco Bay Area where I grew up.
In 2015, I relocated here to Sisters & built out the only hotel in downtown Sisters at the time. We opened our doors after remodeling in early 2016.
At that time, I rarely saw a presence of what I see now.

In 2017, the year that the SCWS began, I started to notice an uptick with the homeless & such here in Sisters and began to pay attention to the situation.
At that time, the churches began using their facilities as shelters which were adjacent to schools & residential homes, putting 'ours' at risk.
I personally contacted the shelter and began asking questions. In addition, I requested a tour to better understand what their practices were to which they obliged.
My takeaway from that meeting/tour was that it was an unprofessional (volunteers) and an unserviced (programs) shelter of 'good hearted' retired people.
A red flag to me.

From that point on, I started to pay more attention and speak out about their practices & procedures to other business owners & professionals here in Sisters.,. discreetly documenting.

In recent years, the SCWS leaders have shown me that they don't care how their actions affect my downtown business or ALL the other village businesses & residences. I don't find this outfit to be transparent, honest or forthcoming which surprises me being church affiliated folks.
In addition, I don't think any of the 'leaders or volunteers' at SCWS have businesses within Sisters city limits??!! All seem to be retired and NOT working day to day jobs here.

Do any of you see what I see?

Attached are a few images of what I see on a daily basis in downtown Sisters & beyond these days.
In addition, a side note, I have called 911 on three separate occations in the last 2 months… ALL homeless situations… happy to provide details & insight if you inquire.

Please take heed in this matter… your leadership & strength is needed more than ever.

Please forward to ALL City of Sisters staff & council volunteers, thank you.

Sincerely,

Michael Blesius

Sisters Bunkhouse
114 N Oak Street
650-743-5121 (mobile)

residents have provided propane, water, and gasoline on occasion.

The major problem facing the Shelter this year is the lack of a location. Last year, COVID-19 was a big concern. Sisters Community Church and Wellhouse opened their doors for November and December 2021. In January, February, and March the Shelter rented the former Habitat for Humanity offices on Main Avenue. The scramble to find space for January left no time to notify the neighboring businesses of their presence before guests began arriving. That created some concern and a rough start for the Shelter in that location, but the situation resolved itself.

This year, for a variety of reasons, churches are unable to provide shelter space. Sisters Community Church and Vast Church have merged, which has created a congregation of 350, with a very large youth group that will utilize The Hangar where the Shelter

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# Shelter receives support, needs space

By Sue Stafford
Correspondent

Support has been tremendous from community members for the Cold Weather Shelter, board members reported at their meeting last week.

They pointed to the volunteer monitors, mainly from the local churches, who serve meals and cover

*See* **SHELTER** *on page 18*


Facials
Reflexology
Massage
BODYWORKS


ICE COLD
Coca-Cola
SOLD HERE
200

**From:** Michael Blesius
**To:** Scott Woodford; Jordan Wheeler; Kerry Prosser; Michael Preedin
**Subject:** And so, it begins…
**Date:** Saturday, August 19, 2023 11:11:22 AM

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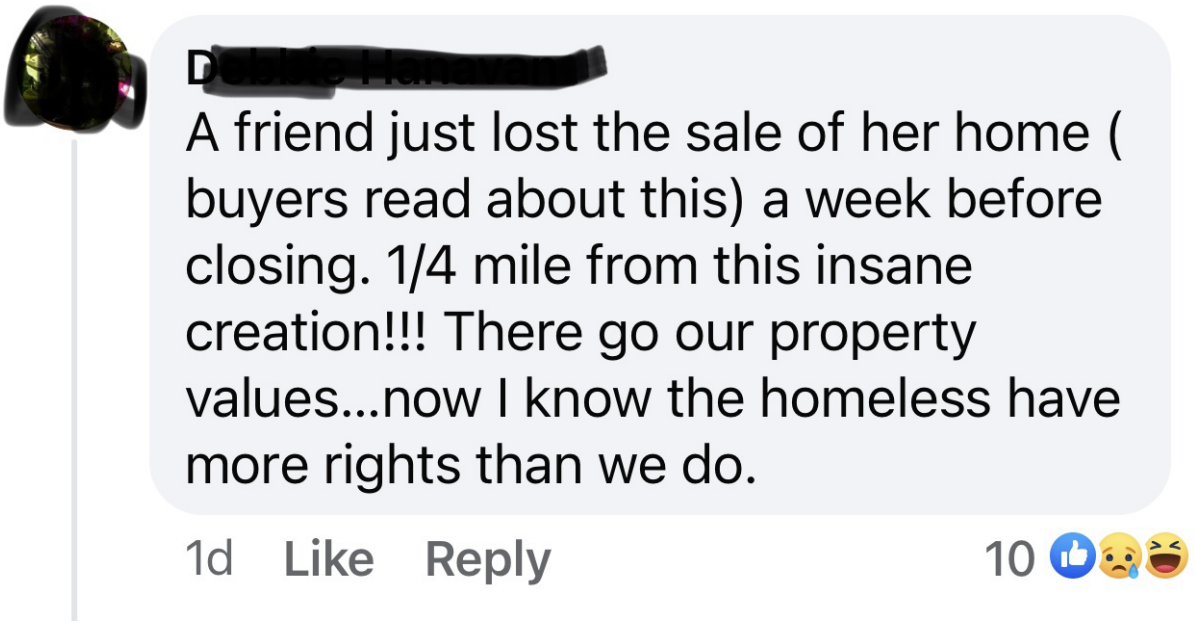
City of Sisters,

And so, it begins…

Below is a post off the Facebook page 'Sisters Community & News.'
If you are NOT paying attention to the banter on social media pages you are missing critical local feedback & their insights.

Immediate action by ALL of you is URGENTLY needed… stand up for this village please OR it will be lost!

STOP the Sisters Cold Weather Shelter's plight… their actions will crumble this town.




Sincerely,
Michael Blesius
Sisters Bunkhouse

Sent from my iPhone

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | Michael Blesius |
| **To:** | Scott Woodford; Jordan Wheeler; Kerry Prosser; Michael Preedin |
| **Subject:** | NAY to Sisters Cold Weather Shelter |
| **Date:** | Friday, August 25, 2023 9:21:07 AM |

Hello City of Sisters Council & Staff,

Before the city council cast their votes on this critical SCWS decision, I would invite all 5 council members to each walk our downtown streets & personally ask our 'RETAIL' business owners (who rely on tourism dollars specifically to pay their mortgages & bills) how THEY feel about the proposed shelter.

Many people are uncomfortable speaking their minds in your forum (City Hall)… my self included for some reasons.

I have an OPEN door office next to two city council members here in the downtown corridor.
ONE of which I speak with often, the OTHER has never even said "hello" to me!?

How can decisions like this be made by city council without reaching out & communicating with the hard working taxpayers of this community?

I hope you take my request to heart… bolster this community, please don't dismantle it.

Portland & Salem created this homeless mess with their policies & actions.
NOW their PLAN is to disperse the problem state wide to alleviate their catastrophic issues.
They made the mess, please push back and make them clean it up!

Buy 'retired' cruise ships or mothballed ships and dock them in the port cities… Seattle, Portland, San Francisco, Los Angeles & San Diego.

Use these 'ships' to house the homeless for a determined amount of time and provide services that can get them back in the game… if they choose.
If they don't want help, cut them off with all taxpayer funding.

Make 'rock bottom' uncomfortable for them… at some point they will rise.

Jay Inslee, Kate Brown, Tina Kotek & Gavin Newsome are to blame for the current conditions in these cities… when I make a mess, I clean it up.
Their leadership has failed us all and their repeated policies show us little hope.

Michael Blesius

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** Paree Amiry
**To:** Kerry Prosser
**Subject:** Sisters proposed cold weather shelter
**Date:** Wednesday, August 9, 2023 1:08:31 PM

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Dear Ms. Prosser,

My son and I are vehemently opposed to this shelter for the following reasons.
We currently rent in town within a close proximity to the proposed shelter. I do not drive a car, so we walk everywhere. I am concerned for our safety and well-being. We moved here from the Portland area to get away from finding needles at every one of our local parks and being surrounded by mentally ill persons who were not stable and some quite dangerous. I remember when my son was still in his stroller, walking up to the library and there was a man yelling angrily and wielding a large knife. Also, on our street I was constantly reporting individuals trying to break into cars and every single time the police told me they were high on something. Sadly, this is likely what will happen if we invite new homeless/ mentally ill individuals into our community.
I do believe in helping those in need. Sisters has been a very loving and supportive community to many individuals, and it seems as if they take good care of our local homeless. We should put all of our energy and funds into helping those currently in our community who want to help and are willing to receive it and do what it takes to get it. Local churches that were already helping and maybe a program specifically for the homeless of Sisters who again are willing to do what it takes to participate. As mentioned by many on social media, Sisters is too small, does not have the facilities/ resources to accommodate these people and protect the rest of the community at the same time.

Thank you for your time and attention,

Warmly,

Diane Bolton

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | Darin Burgstahler |
| **To:** | Michael Preedin; Kerry Prosser; Scott Woodford; Jordan Wheeler |
| **Cc:** | julie Bartolotta; Eric Knirk; Vito Bartolotta; mike@solidrockoregon.com; curtkallberg1@gmail.com; rod@robinsonandowen.com; Dave Helm; mike@robinsonandowen.com; jeff ponderosaforge.com; Ghosttreeranch@gmail.com; Jim Cornelius; Cary Kiefer; Jeff Frink; Matt Cyrus; pam@aspenlakes.com; Snowigloo6@gmail.com; Bearyman@aol.com; Daly Haasch; Karalappe@gmail.com; Drtewalt@gmail.com; Julia Knirk; Jmkapp@renreal.net; angela@sistersselfstorage.net; jon@tintingoregon.com; patrica@villageinteriorsdesign.com; Wendy Johnson; ed@lodgeinsisters.com; Christopher Gulick; cole.cote@pwl.com |
| **Subject:** | Re: Cold Weather Shelter |
| **Date:** | Saturday, August 5, 2023 10:00:16 AM |

Mr. Preedin, , Mr. Wheeler, Mr. Woodford and Ms. Prosser:

I would like to wholeheartedly sign on to the contents of this letter and add further information as well. Since SCWS verbalized their intent to the city staff, their CEO kindly and publicly stated their true intentions in an Aug 2nd letter to the editor. Some "slight" changes include:

- The Fire Marshall has approved up to 40 beds instead of 20.
- They plan to be open under any "extreme event" including hot weather, smoke, and other undefined events.
- They plan to be open year round for services including food.

That last point means that a virtually unlimited number of people (and their dogs) could visit the center every day and there is no way to quantify that number. With the national forest right next door, there is also no limit to how many people could camp and then walk, ride, or drive to this facility 365 days a year. To think that this will not occur is short-sighted and naive. In summary, this application is ill conceived, overly aggressive, and is not the solution that Sisters needs. As such, it should be summarily rejected immediately.

Sincerely,

Darin Burgstahler

On 8/4/2023 4:23 PM, Eric Knirk wrote:

> Mr. Preedin, Mr. Woodford and Ms. Prosser:
>
> In light of the attached letter presented to the city yesterday, how can the staff justify continuing on with the consideration of the applicant?
>
> There are several facts that should cause the application to be rejected immediately. The letter needs to be responded to in writing.
>
> Can the city please explain why any meetings are occurring, or work is being done by staff on this application until the issues pointed out in the letter are addressed.?
>
> At the same time, there is a great deal more public disclosure from the applicant needed before staff time is spent on this.

Sincerely,

Eric Knirk

**From:** Darin Burgstahler
**To:** Jordan Wheeler; Scott Woodford; Kerry Prosser; Michael Preedin
**Cc:** Eric Knirk
**Subject:** Re: Revised Emergency Shelter Site Application
**Date:** Monday, August 21, 2023 7:25:55 PM
**Attachments:** kFRDSN76kkipwliM.png
Outlook-ozswol4c.png

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Hi Jordan and the rest,

Thanks for the update, but I still don't see how this complies with all of the criteria. A few examples...

e. Transportation access to medical and commercial services - They don't identify any commercial services and their plan for medical services is our local EMT unit at the fire station. Emergency services cannot be considered "adequate" in my opinion and where is the plan to fund this? They don't have any funding lined up for that.

f. No unreasonable risk to public health or safety - They assure us that they have this covered and that no events have happened in the past with them, though that is in dispute. But they are only talking about events at the facility. They have never operated a full time services facility in the past and they have no way to prove that people coming to and from the facility won't pose these risks. In fact, this is what the community is most concerned with. They have limited experience with just cold weather sleeping facilities, but nothing like this. Also, what about the safety of the homeless themselves. Barclay is already busy with no sidewalks and will soon get very busy as a bypass once the roundabout goes in.

And what about oversight once they are approved? Here is their plan for that...

Any changes to operations will be communicated on the Sisters Cold Weather Shelter website and Facebook page. An email newsletter is also being planned for future communications. To be included on the distribution list please email sisterscoldweathershleter@gmail.com

That's it? As far as I can tell they can and will do whatever they like after initial approval.

It should be readily apparent that the only real plan they have is to gain approval from the city and purchase the building with the state funds they are seeking. Everything after that is just winging it. They plan to do this and would like to do that, but nothing is concrete at this point in time. In fact, they don't currently meet a lot of other things as well - they just plan to meet them in the future. That alone should disqualify them and, again, where is the oversight if approved?

This law is designed to go completely around all local government and our local community and this group is choosing to utilize this avenue to do just that. We need to deny their application without conditions (coaching) and put the onus on them to prove that they comply. It is the only way to have any say about what they do now and in the future at all.

Sincerely,
Darin Burgstahler

On 8/16/2023 3:22 PM, Jordan Wheeler wrote:

> Good afternoon,
>
> Thank you for your continued interest in the Sisters Cold Weather Shelter proposal. We are notifying you that the City received a revised application for the shelter and a withdrawal letter of the previous application. You can find the revised application and withdrawal letter on the city's website at https://www.ci.sisters.or.us/administration/page/emergency-shelter-siting.

Best,
Jordan

**Jordan Wheeler**
City Manager | City of Sisters
PO Box 39 | 520 E. Cascade Ave., Sisters, OR 97759
541-323-5205
jwheeler@ci.sisters.or.us | www.ci.sisters.or.us


<!--[if !vml]--> <!--[endif]-->

**From:** Matt Martin
**To:** Scott Woodford
**Cc:** Jordan Wheeler
**Subject:** FW: cold weather shelter input
**Date:** Thursday, August 10, 2023 2:48:12 PM
**Attachments:** image001.png

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Scott - I replied to Marie confirming receipt of the comments and that I am forwarding this message to you.

Jordan – You were an intended recipient of the original message, but it appears your email address was incorrect, so I am also forwarding it to you.

Thank you,

**Matthew Martin, AICP**
Principal Planner
City of Sisters | Community Development Dept.
PO Box 39 | 520 E. Cascade Ave., Sisters, OR 97759
Desk: 541-323-5208 | City Hall: 541-549-6022
mmartin@ci.sisters.or.us | www.ci.sisters.or.us



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**From:** Marie Clasen <marieoclasen@gmail.com>
**Sent:** Thursday, August 10, 2023 2:01 PM
**To:** jwheeler@ci.sisters.us; Matt Martin <mmartin@ci.sisters.or.us>
**Subject:** cold weather shelter input

Jordan and Matthew,
The Cold Weather Shelter was scheduled to open December 2017. However, a storm brought deep snow to the area prior to the shelter opening. My husband, Tim, was skiing in the forest and came across an older fellow digging out his tent that collapsed under the weight of the snow. He reacted and invited the houseless man to spend the night at our home. My husband called me at work and told me "I invited a homeless man to stay with us," Was I nervous - heck yeah, but I trusted my husband's actions and went with it.
This man ended up staying with us for about a week and left when the cold weather shelter opened. He was a gracious guest, a veteran who liked molasses in his coffee. The reasons for his houselessness were complex and he survived on a small monthly social security check. Once connected to the Cold Weather Shelter, the resources available were able to link him to a veterans' housing opportunity in Bend. He continues to live in that housing complex today.
WIll every houseless person served by the shelter be a success story? Probably not, but given the opportunity many will succeed in improving their lives.
I urge you to support the Cold Weather Shelter project on Barclay Rd.

Thanks for your consideration,
Marie Clasen
PO Box 1633
Sisters, OR  97759

**From:** Michael Preedin
**To:** Kerry Prosser; Jordan Wheeler
**Subject:** Fwd: Additional information and feedback, acknowlegement
**Date:** Friday, August 11, 2023 10:23:07 AM

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For the record
---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: Eric Cope <eric.cope@aol.com>
Date: Aug 10, 2023 15:06
Subject: Additional information and feedback, acknowlegement
To: Michael Preedin <mpreedin@ci.sisters.or.us>,Andrea Blum <ablum@ci.sisters.or.us>,Gary Ross <g.ross@ci.sisters.or.us>,Jennifer Letz <jletz@ci.sisters.or.us>,Susan Cobb <scobb@ci.sisters.or.us>
Cc:

Dear Mayor and City Council Members:

It seems to me more people take to Facebook community than actually showing up to give their input at the council meeting, however, you got to hear both sides regarding the pros and cons of the shelter. There are plenty more members of this community that were not there but glad the passionate ones were that took the time to do so.

I wanted to keep it short and simple as the three minutes allow and tried to cover all bases that I wanted. There were also certain things I didn't want to say that may sound discriminatory and of sensitive nature.

I totally would be for this project if it were to actually help ones to have temporary housing, find jobs, and offer resources for individuals and families to better themselves. That is not the case. We are talking about an emergency shelter which is a temporary bed and they are put right back on the street to fend for themselves the next day loitering around town.

As I stated last night, I knew a woman that worked for the shelter when they had it at Wellhouse Church and later moved to a place located by Angeline's Bakery. Unlike the woman that spoke last night that stated she broke bread with them and they go to bed pretty quickly, that is contrary what was told to me. I was told that many of them stay up all night long. Some of them get into fights with one another to where it causes one or both parties to be asked to leave. One gentleman defecated in the bathroom and put it on the walls. Another couple kept trying to have sex and had to be monitored to make sure they didnt have sex on her watch. It was a constant battle that they aren't caught with drugs or they are asked leave. I want you to know there were no circumstances of women with children and families just needing help to stay warm. These were individuals in which were from Salem and other areas of the state that found their way here. They leave and go to Bend and when Bend is filled up then they come here. I know this because I dealt with them at my job and I got to know them personally by name.

The Nugget did a story last year where it featured a homeless woman named Brandi on the front of their paper. She was a homeless Veteran. They glorified her. I wish

they would have spoken to me. I would have told them how she showed up at Dollar General all the time asking people for money, trying to get hand outs in the store as well as caught stealing and often drunk. She got into it with other homeless people in which I had to call the police. I trespassed her as well as many others during my tenure there. They didnt have that in the Nugget. She had fallen on hard times and had served her country. However, did they ask to see her credentials? She could have lied about that. If someone is honorably discharged from the service, and they have mental illness such as this woman has, then the military gives a pension and has medical care for them.

I personally know a woman whose husband is an army veteran and schizophrenic. He draws $4,000 a month from an army pension and all his medical is covered. I dont have a soft heart for these people that claim to be veterans. If they truly are then they have resources and choose not to partake. Otherwise they are not being honest about their situation.

As I said last night, I got to know many of these people that used the shelter in the past and they are not the caliber of people that you want here. You have a criteria that you have to base it, but to be given1.4 million dollars and a million of it is wasted on a building alone, I don't get it. There's lots more questions that need to be asked. Then you have a majority of a town that is not happy that it will be here and appears to be an open invitation to have every opportunity to bring in an influx of transients and vagrants to latch on to whatever they can get their hands on while living here. They wont pay taxes, they wont add to our community because the majority doesnt want to work, and will not be a benefit whatsoever. One bum sits in front of DG now. I told him he should apply for a job. He told me that he doesnt believe in how jobs are taxed and the governments hand in it. I told him yet you believe in a system where my tax dollars pay for your EBT benefits. Hypocrisy. Its okay not to work because you dont want to be taxed but you will take my taxes for your needs.

In all honesty, I left my job there after 2 1/2 years for a few different reasons including I got a better job with more money and better schedule. Another reason I left it is because I was sick and tired of dealing with people like that. There is no helping them because they need to want to help themselves and they dont care and most dont want it. That is what this shelter will encourage and assist.

It is easy for myself. At this time, I lease the house in which we live. If this town ever becomes a tent city like Bend, then we will leave it just as easily as we did when we came to it. When we visited Prairie City recently, I noticed there were no homeless people on the streets. I asked this gentleman about it. An elderly man that owns the diner in which we ate said its because they run them out of there and they go to Bend. Bend is full and here they are. If they dont adhere to it in Prairie City, then why do we allow it here is the better question? I lost patience when I realized their priorities are marijuana, alcohol, and cigarettes. If they have an extra dollar, then that is what they spend it on because that is what is important to them. I encountered it first hand.

Thank you for you time.

Eric Lee Cope
eric.cope@aol.com

**From:** Kerry Prosser
**To:** Jordan Wheeler
**Subject:** FW: Proposed Warming Shelter Opposition
**Date:** Thursday, August 17, 2023 3:34:00 PM
**Attachments:** image001.png

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Jordan,
Please see the letter below regarding the shelter. I responded to Mr. Davis.
Thank you,

**Kerry Prosser**
Assistant City Manager
City of Sisters | City Managers Office
PO Box 39 | 520 E. Cascade Ave., Sisters, OR 97759
Direct: 541-323-5213 | City Hall: 541-549-6022
kprosser@ci.sisters.or.us | www.ci.sisters.or.us



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**From:** Jeremy Davis <jerdavis14@hotmail.com>
**Sent:** Thursday, August 17, 2023 1:52 PM
**To:** Kerry Prosser <kprosser@ci.sisters.or.us>
**Subject:** Proposed Warming Shelter Opposition

Dear City Manager,

I just wanted to voice my absolute objection to this proposed warming shelter. I write to you as a business owner in the general area of where this shelter is being proposed (roughly a quarter mile away) and a concerned Sisters residence.

Over the last 4 years I've volunteered quite regularly as a monitor in the Sisters warming shelter, so I've worked closely with the homeless population and got to know many of them. I also did the same thing in Hood River with their overnight warming shelter for several years prior to moving to Sisters with my family. I understand the mental problems and addiction issues that largely come with the homeless crowd, as I witnessed them first hand. I wouldn't allow my wife to volunteer in the shelter as I didn't feel safe having her exposed to the people that the shelter regularly serves. We have a homeless population here in Sisters, I get that, and am compassionate towards them.

However, my compassion ceases when my city invites the problems that come with the homeless population into town and essentially rolls out the red carpet for them. That's a very dangerous proposition for our small community and leaves many of our citizens vulnerable to the illegal activities that go along with a place that caters to the homeless crowd. I know that's not "popular" to say these days, but, if you've worked with the homeless as I have, and you have vulnerable kids at home still, it's near impossible to not share the same concerns that I have regarding purposefully increasing the number of substance addicted and those needing mental health help, into a small town. If you have personally worked in our homeless shelter and closely interacted with the people that frequent the shelter, I believe that you would understand my concern and the concern of what I believe to be the vast majority of Sisters residences.

I'll assume that you understand how many school-aged kids walk/bike the route to school along W McKinney Butte Rd, which has become a popular "hang out" spot for the current homeless population (Bi-Mart, Dollar General area). Why would we invite more to come into our safe community by promoting that we have beds for them? As you're well aware, all three schools will be in the same general location by next school year, so the number of kids that travel that route will increase significantly (not to mention that the most vulnerable, the young 5-12 year old elementary aged kids, will now also be traveling that route).

I have 4 daughters that attend Sisters schools. My wife drives them each morning, but there's no way I'd let my daughters walk that route solely because I know about the individuals that already frequent our warming shelters in the winter. I know that they aren't just "people that work in Sisters, but can't afford homes". I know of the unstable nature and many mental issues, coupled with the substance abuse problems, and I know that it's just a ticking bomb waiting to go off. It would be reckless for me as a father to subject my own kids to that danger. Many other parents that have not interacted closely with our homeless population wouldn't necessarily know the dangers like I do. Do not put our school children at risk. It is nothing shorts of reckless to invite more homeless people into our community when we lack resources to help them, and resources to keep our kids safe.

I understand the nature of the bills passed by the state of Oregon that attempt to lock cities into homeless shelters, but it's your duty as a city leader to listen to your constituents and fight to keep the community safe. Purposefully increasing your homeless population by a large percentage is probably the number one thing that you could do to put the residence of Sisters in danger.  Please do not do it.

There are many other reasons to block this proposed "warming shelter", such as:
-Sister's not having the proper medical facilities (such as urgent care)
-The application for this shelter seems to be inconsistent and ever changing and lacks experienced leadership

-Jeopardizing the safety of the community, particularly our school aged population
-The unfair nature to surrounding business owners that had to jump through all the hoops to site their business properly, who now have to deal with the loitering issues and property crime that always comes with these types of shelters

Please do the right thing for our city and deny this shelter. If you need the excuse of the location/building not being right, use that, that seems to be an easy way to deny this proposal.

Thanks for considering,
Jeremy Davis

August 3, 2023

Scott Woodford
City of Sisters
PO Box 39
Sisters, OR 97759

**Opposition to Emergency Shelter Site Application of Sisters Cold Weather Shelter**

On behalf of many individual Sisters residents and families, business owners operating in the Sister's industrial area and their employees and customers, the undersigned respectfully submit the following statement in opposition to the Emergency Shelter Site Application of Sisters Cold Weather Shelter.

The Emergency Shelter Site Application (Application) that Sisters Cold Weather Shelter (SCWS) has submitted for review by the City of Sisters fails to meet the fundamental statutory requirements under ORS 197.782 (HB 2006) in multiple respects. The City of Sisters cannot approve this Application with so many significant deficiencies and lack of support for an emergency shelter that will impact the Sister's community.

As explained in detail below, SCWS' Application fails to satisfy the following requirements:

- SCWS does not qualify as an organization permitted to operate an emergency shelter.
- SCWS' Application and proposed development of an emergency shelter to be sited at 192 W. Barclay Dr. fails to meet the following requirements for an emergency shelter site:
    - Include sleeping & restroom facilities.
    - Comply with applicable building codes.
    - Have adequate transportation access to medical & commercial services.
    - Will not pose significant unreasonable public health and safety risks.

**SCWS - Not a Qualified Operator**

ORS 197.782 (2) only permits emergency shelters to be operated by qualified organizations with actual operating experience. SCWS fails to meet the 2 required elements to be a qualified operator: (i) actual operational experience and (ii) be an authorized organization.

**No Experience.** ORS 197.782 (2) requires the emergency shelter operator be an organization with at least 2 years' experience operating an emergency shelter that has used best practices in its operations. SCWS does not have 2 years' experience in operating an emergency shelter and SCWS' Application is void of any evidence or documentation describing or certifying such operational experience necessary to be a qualified operator.

**Not an Authorized Organization.** In addition to possessing operational experience, a qualified operator must be an organization authorized and listed under ORS 197.782 (b),

which is an organization that has also received an IRS tax exemption declaration on or before January 1, 2018. ORS 197.782(b)(c).

In its Application SCWS represents that it received its IRS 501(c)(3) tax-exempt declaration in 2020, yet the IRA declaration letter submitted with its application shows its exemption issued on January 22, 2021. Regardless, SCWS tax exempt status was obtained over 3 years after the January 1, 2018 deadline in ORS 197.782 (2) (c). SCWS does not meet this element to be an authorized organization and the city cannot approve an Application for an unqualified organization.

ORS 197.782(2)(c) would also permit SCWS, to "partner" with another non-profit that actually has a tax-exempt status on or before 2018 in order to be a qualified operator. However, SCWS fails to meet this standard too. SCWS has not provided any form of partnership or operating agreement with a qualified organization with emergency shelter operational experience. In its Application, SCWS makes an unsupported reference to its "discussions" with an organization, Shepherd's House Ministries (SHM) about establishing a partnership agreement to provide "technical assistance" to help "guide" the project. SCWS' statements of intent are simply self-serving attempts to overcome its lack of experience and its an unqualified organizational status. SCWS provides no partnership agreement, no documentation or any support that even remotely supports the required partnership relationship essential for SCWS to be a qualified operator. SCWS provides no information, support, or communication from SHM that would evidence any form of partnership.

**No Application Support**. The City cannot approve SCWS as a qualified emergency shelter operator under this organizational standard as there is absolutely no supporting evidence in its Application:

- No written partnership agreement executed or proposed.
- No evidence or documentation of SHM's intent, ability, or agreement to operate the facility,
- No written operational or organizational plan on how SHM would operate or supervise SCWS' operations.
- No written obligation of SHM to undertake the operational responsibility or liability for any part of the shelter operation.

## SCWS' Application Fails to Meet Fundamental Operational Requirements

SCWS Application provides a one-page outline of how SCWS believes it meets the criteria for operating an emergency shelter. This outline is seriously deficient in its lack of substance, plans or information to support a well-planned emergency shelter operation. SCWS provides no documents, data, external or internal analysis, or any information to support the essential components for the emergency shelter operations and the impact on the City of Sisters.

One reason why SCWS' Application is so incomplete and deficient in explaining or demonstrating a well-thought-out plan to operate an emergency shelter is that SCWS does not even own the property upon which the proposed shelter will be sited. SCWS future ownership of the property is contingent upon leveraging state grant funds to turn this commercial building

into a residential emergency shelter. Due to the lack of ownership, SCWS has not even begun the long process of renovation feasibility, design and plans – as shown by their insufficient Application.

The following are 4 essential criteria for an emergency shelter operation under ORS 197.782 which SCWS fails to adequately address or support it its SCWS Application.

**1. Sleeping & Restroom Facilities.** SCWS states the "proposed shelter location" has room for 20 sleeping pads & cots and separate space to accommodate children. SCWS Application includes no actual documentation, plans or evidence to support these claims.

- SCWS has provided no drawings, floorplans, building plans, architectural plans, or engineering reports to support its overnight accommodation claims or separate space for children.
- SCWS provides no information on existing restroom facilities, renovation plans for shower facilities or needs for elevator facilities for accommodations or any other renovations.

**2. Building Code Compliance.** SCWS claims it is working with the Deschutes County Building Department and State Fire Marshall to ensure its compliance with applicable code requirements. SCWS' Application includes no documentation or evidence to support this claim. SCWS provides no evidence that it currently meets all applicable building code requirements or that it can or will meet these essential compliance requirements at any time. SCWS' Application contains no information from the two agencies related to any meetings, communications or requirements that must be satisfied. Satisfaction of compliance with applicable building codes is a specific shelter application requirement in ORS 197.782 (b) that has not been met by SCWS.

**3. No Unreasonable Risk to Public Health or Safety.** SCWS' proposed emergency shelter seeks to relocate homeless individuals and families next to several Sisters residential areas and the central industrial center of Sisters. The relocation and concentration of this shelter population poses significant public health and safety risks. SCWS provides no documentation, reports, analysis, or evidence to support its claim that the proposed shelter operations pose no public health or safety risks. These risks exist, these risks are significant and SCWS does not address or satisfy these risks in any meaningful way.

SCWS simply asserts that such health and safety risks are solved with a requirement that shelter residents agree to some form of shelter facilities rules and SCWS will enforce them.

First, SCWS' Application does not include any written rules that can be reviewed.

Second, even if SCWS had well-written rules, such written rules will not reasonably ensure the public health and safety to the residents and public in Sisters. SCWS must rely heavily upon the limited public resources of the City of Sisters and other organizations to provide protection from health and safety risks from the proposed shelter, yet SCWS provides no analysis that such resources will be available or adequate. For example, the City of Sisters does not have a

police department, but only contracts law enforcement resources of 2-3 officers, staffed Monday-Friday from 9-5, and closed on the weekends.

SCWS has provided no analysis or documents of the significant impact the proposed shelter will have on:

- Immediate industrial neighbors in the area,
- The Clear Pine residents who live just 200 yards from the proposed facility,
- The City of Sisters contracted law enforcement officers in responding to the increase in safety and emergency calls and the financial and resource impact in handling such increased calls.
- The Sisters-Camp Sherman Fire Department in responding to the increase in emergency and health related calls and the financial and resource impact in handling those increased calls.
- Based upon its Application, there is no evidence that SCWS has met with or communicated with either of these Departments to evaluate these impacts, to understand the public health and safety risks or to develop an effective plan to reasonably ensure these risks can and will be satisfied.

A set of internal conduct rules does not address or satisfy these significant risk issues.

**4. Transportation Access to Medical and Commercial Services.** SCWS simply states that the proposed shelter is within one (1) mile of medical and commercial services. However, SCWS fails to provide any supporting information or analysis that such access is adequate as required under ORS 197.782(3) (e).

- SCWS provides no information about the available medical services in Sisters to support the operation, during and after hours of its operations.
- SCWS provides no information about the types and level of medical needs and resources that are typical for a 20-bed emergency shelter and how those medical needs will be satisfied.
- The medical resources and facilities in Sisters are very limited. There is no urgent care facility within 20 miles of the proposed facility. Furthermore, all the medical centers in Sisters are appointment only and most providers are not accepting new patients. SCWS provides no information, analysis, or recognition of the impact the proposed shelter may have on the existing, limited medical resources and facilities in Sisters.
- Serving the homeless population at this location on W. Barclay Drive in Sisters will involve significant increased traffic and potential parking of vehicles and RVs at or near the facility. The current configuration of the street does not accommodate street parking.
- The increased traffic will have a very serious impact on the heavy equipment operators who work in and from the immediate vicinity of the industrial area, as well as the traffic that is rerouted around the core downtown of Sisters during its numerous community events.

The City of Sisters cannot approve an emergency shelter application that fails to explain or demonstrate that the access and availability of medical services in Sisters is adequate to support

the needs of the shelter. Clearly, access to such services is inadequate, even without a new population of shelter residents who will need such services.

**Summary**

Based upon the issues identified and information provided in this opposition statement, SCWS has clearly failed to meet numerous statutory requirements for an emergency shelter application under ORS 197.782. SCWS is not a qualified operator and has provided no reasonable operational plan to operate an emergency shelter in a compliant, safe, and healthy manner. The City of Sisters cannot approve the Application submitted by SCWS and the deadline for any new, amended, or supplemental application passed a month ago.

We appreciate that Sisters City officials are carefully examining the sufficiency of the SCWS Application for an emergency shelter and doing their own work to evaluate the health and safety risks and considerations unaddressed by SCWS. However, the sufficiency of the SCWS Application must be evaluated on the basis of the Application alone. ORS 197.782 only authorizes the City to review and determine the sufficiency of the Application. The new Oregon law does not authorize the City to research the health and safety risk factors and impacts to supplement SCWS' Application with the City's documentation, evidence or facts to support the Application. Not only would such additional support exceed the City's authority, the lack of public disclosure of such Application information would unfairly prevent the residents of Sisters the opportunity to review the new Application information or the ability to respond or challenge such information. We expect the City of Sisters will not unfairly attempt to exceed their authority to supplement or repair the deficient Application of SCWS.

We respectfully request the City of Sisters make their determination on the SCWS Application on or before August 9, 2023 as previously communicated.

Respectfully,

Vito & Julie Bartolotta, Sani Star
Pat Thompson, Sisters Rental
Rod Robinson, Robinson & Owen Heavy Construction
Mike Owen, Robinson & Owen Heavy Construction
Mike & Carol Ezell, Solid Rock
Daryl Tewalt, Tewalt Excavation
Curt Kallberg, Kallberg Construction

**From:** Carolyn Gabrielson
**To:** Scott Woodford
**Subject:** Aug 9 hearing, Sisters Cold Weather Shelter
**Date:** Friday, August 4, 2023 6:48:07 PM

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Dear Mr. Woodford: Since I cannot attend the hearing, I am writing in support of the Sisters Cold Weather Shelter proposal. I have lived in this area for 25 years. When we first came, when a person who needed emergency shelter came to our church, the pastor would sometimes have discretionary funds to provide a night or two in a local motel. Fast forward, our church joined with others when the became exponentially greater. I was glad to provide dinners when it was "our turn" and later when the Habitat office building served as emergency shelter space upstairs. These "makeshift" efforts never fully met the need of our vulnerable citizens. But it was all we could do. At last!! Funds from the Federal Government will enable us to go a LONG way towards meeting the various needs of fragile citizens. We should put all our energy into using this precious opportunity. The sooner the better.

Sincerely,
Carolyn Gabrielson

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | Jordan Wheeler |
| **To:** | Kerry Prosser |
| **Subject:** | Fw: SCWS re: Clear Pine Residents Usage of Lundgren Mill Dr- |
| **Date:** | Friday, August 18, 2023 11:14:36 AM |
| **Attachments:** | Sisters Misc-16.jpg<br>Sisters Misc-27.jpg |

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**From:** Bert Good <bertgood@earthlink.net>
**Sent:** Thursday, August 17, 2023 11:52 AM
**To:** Jordan Wheeler <jwheeler@ci.sisters.or.us>
**Cc:** Bert Good <bertgood@earthlink.net>
**Subject:** SCWS re: Clear Pine Residents Usage of Lundgren Mill Dr-

Good Morning Jordan,

My email this morning is to visually show the close proximity of the shelter to the Clear Pine community and include a 12 hour usage census on Lundgren Mill Dr.

The first photo shows a person riding her bike on the sidewalk of Lundgren Mill Dr…450' from the shelter.
The shelter is the building with the green roof behind the rock pile.

The second photo shows an 8' wide paved pathway connecting Barkley to Lundgren Mill Dr. Note the shelter with the green roof.
The pathway provides the obvious shelter connection for homeless persons traveling to and from the forest since there is no safe sidewalk on Barkley.

Last Sunday I monitored the usage of Lundgren Mill by the Clear Pine community as they passed by the rock pile.
The results follow:
**11** People walking dogs
**24** People walking alone
**27** People riding bikes
**10** Children.
Total of **72** people from 7 a.m. to 7p.m.

Hence, there will be frequent contact between residents of Clear Pine and residents of the forest.
This frequent contact could pose **"unreasonable risk to public health and safety"** as required by
HB2006 and HB3395.

Thank You,

Bert

**From:** Scott Woodford
**To:** Jordan Wheeler; Kerry Prosser
**Subject:** FW: homeless shelter
**Date:** Monday, August 7, 2023 9:14:45 AM

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**From:** Chris Green <cgreen@green-em.com>
**Sent:** Friday, August 4, 2023 6:10 PM
**To:** Scott Woodford <swoodford@ci.sisters.or.us>
**Subject:** homeless shelter

How much destruction of our wonderful town do we have to put up with. You might want to get a speaker from ODOT to speak on the hundreds of needles they have to pick up when cleaning up homeless camps. Has the Sheriff's office been contacted for an opinion. I have direct insight to the problems and I can share with you that Sisters will rue the day if this passes.

Thank you.

Chris Green
cgreen@green-em.com
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_cWYSWQzOBI

**From:** Kelly
**To:** City Council
**Subject:** SCWS
**Date:** Sunday, August 20, 2023 11:37:21 AM

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Thank you for the opportunity to speak at city council meeting. I was quite nervous and had so much to ask / say, I forgot some things. So I am taking the time now to address them. The tax ID number associated with the application was only ruled upon in 2021. Even though SCWS operated under the umbrella of Shepherds House previously, wouldn't the fact that **the tax ID number listed on the application,** for the 501(c3), which is solely for SCWS, mean they don't meet the three year minimum criteria? Aren't you bending things to accommodate the application? That does not seem appropriate. (How would a judge rule)?

Taxpayers, expect good stewardship with our tax dollars. It seems that the cost of the proposed location is extremely overpriced. The current owner stands to make an obscene amount off the sale.
I would like to know if *each and every one of you* participate in the annual Point In Time Count since you have been in office. The answer should be YES and that all of you bundle up and are out there counting.

How frequently do any of you accompany the Forestry dept. when they go out into the forest to address the rampant problem of illegal camping? It affects our community by destroying the very thing that brings people to visit here. It's disgusting to attempt a nice hike only to be greeted by garbage, human waste and destruction of precious habitat.

You can and should do better.

*Oh and the conclusion on the resubmittal letter is arrogantly disturbing.*

*“…..we eagerly await your timely and favorable decision.”*

Thank you for your time.
Kelly Gutierrez

**From:** Daly Haasch
**To:** Jennifer Letz; Scott Woodford
**Subject:** SCWS
**Date:** Monday, August 14, 2023 3:16:23 PM

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Hi,

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I have owned Sisters Ace Hardware for 18 years and the initial site they looked at for the SCWS was directly across the street from the hardware store. I wasn't aware of this until Mike Owen brought it to my attention. Lack of trust is evident here. Could you even imagine this facility being on Hood Avenue?

As a property owner (of TWO) businesses within city limits, I have to meet all criteria. I have to get approval from the city for each move I make. I am held accountable if my sandwich board sign gets on the sidewalk . . . . . I had to follow each rule to get my new sign created and hung on my building. I have to have adequate parking, NO EXCEPTIONS! We had to install sprinklers in our live/work units. These are all very good things. They are what helps keep Sisters, Sisters!

I can re-list the many talking points that everyone else has made, but I don't think that's necessary. Inadequate parking, lack of immediate care, the unfortunate businesses directly surrounding the proposed SCWS who have been a part of Sisters for longer than most of us, property value impact (I live on Sun Ranch just around the corner) and the uptick in theft at the local businesses, to name a few.

This is a very vague business plan, being proposed with the potential for disaster.

We are still standing after 2007/2008 and we made it through COVID. Please help us! We are hardworking and determined, but we need the support of the city!

Daly Haasch
Sisters Ace Hardware
373 E Hood Avenue
PO Box 1240
Sisters, OR 97759
Store #14155

**From:** Daly Haasch
**To:** Kerry Prosser
**Subject:** Proposed SCWS
**Date:** Tuesday, August 22, 2023 3:46:25 PM

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Hello,

I would like to go on record as an opponent of the current proposed shelter in Sisters. I am in agreement that we have a problem, but Luis' proposal is not the solution for THIS community. Sisters is unique. There are so many business owners and concerned citizens ready to move forward and collaborate in an effort to create a tailored solution for our town. A thought out, intentional solution.

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Daly Haasch
Sisters Ace Hardware
373 E Hood Avenue
PO Box 1240
Sisters, OR 97759
Store #14155

Hello, my name is Emily Hammond and i live and work here locally as the regional representative for the Fair Housing Council of Oregon. I am here to speak briefly in support of the proposed emergency shelter through the lens of Deschutes being a recreation county.

There are 330 Counties in the US considered Recreation counties - 8 of which are in Oregon. And Deschutes County is 1 of those 8. In recreation counties, the primary jobs that support these town are in hospitality, which is one of the lowest paying jobs in Oregon. In order to keep the town of Sisters up and running to support the tourism that it brings, we need adequate housing for the low income people who help to run this town. Often times they rely on housing subsidies or housing vouchers to be able to pay their rent so that they have somewhere to live. With the Median rent amount in the area being $1,154/ month for a 1 or 2 bedroom house, according to the 2023 Census, many people are living paycheck to paycheck or 1 emergency away from losing their housing. If they have a medical emergency, for example, this could push them over the edge to not being able to pay their rent, and then they will likely need somewhere to live. According to the Point in Time Count done in January of 2023, there are 64 people living unhoused in Sisters.

And Often times, we don't know the people who may be experiencing this around us, because they are living out of their cars, in a 5$^{th}$ wheel without full hookup, or on BLM land, but their job is here and they **don't have enough expendable income to move to somewhere else** that they can afford. Unfortunately this often leads people to being stuck without any resources to change their unfortunate situation. By having an emergency shelter, this would allow them to have a safe place to go to get out of the elements, potentially help them begin to save money, to take shower, and tap into the hub of social service agencies to share resources that could help people get back on their feet and maybe learn about places they can get the support they need to pay for upfront deposits etc. to GET into housing.

Given how many vacation rentals and second homes there are within Deschutes County and the lack of affordable housing, many people who run the tourism are living unhoused and we don't even know it. We need somewhere for them to feel safe to go temporarily so they can get the help they need and get out of the elements. It's important to support the people who are living in this community, supporting the recreation economy, and STILL are struggling to make ends meet. Having resources and support for these community members is important so that they can get back on their feet and live independently. Thank you

## In support of the winter shelter proposal

Timothy Hockett <hockett.tim@gmail.com>

Sun 7/30/2023 1:36 PM

To:Jordan Wheeler <jwheeler@ci.sisters.or.us>

Gentlemen;

I live on Adams near the Sisters Folk Festival building. I am retired and used to be Exec Director of the equivalent of Neighborimpact ... we provided Head Start, Meals on Wheels, Employment Services, Energy Assistance, Food Banks and lots and lots of homeless services. I say this, just to make you aware that I am very familiar with homelessness both as a social issue and as a divisive political issue.

I am writing in strong support of the proposal for the building on Barclay. It is nowhere near downtown, and will provide a temporary solution for folks who might otherwise face roughing it in the snow.

Sisters is a lovely place, but if anyone is under the delusion that it is affordable, they need to be reminded of reality. A sandwich in any place downtown (fast food places notwithstanding) costs $15. Lots of people refuse to shop at Ray's ... with prices 2-3 times that of Winco in Bend. The Nugget this week published the median home price of $800K. This is craziness. It also breeds economic arrogance. "I've got mine, you're on your own," or perhaps, "good people don't become poor ... or homeless."

I will go so far as to say that in my view, most homeowners who have lived here more than 5 years could NOT afford to buy the home they currently live in ... at current market rates here in Sisters.

This simply means that anyone trying to reach the BOTTOM rung of the economic ladder is going to have a heck of a time in Sisters.

I think the City deserves credit for managing as well as they have. Our parks are not filled with homeless folks and our town is in no way "blighted" by the poor.

The shelter on Barclay will not add to any form of blight. The "magnet" fear expressed by some is unfounded. Why? Because the price of everything is so high. To the contrary, now law enforcement will have a place to take someone who might be viewed as a vagrant. You don't need to be reminded that poverty is not a crime.

Lastly, let me say that the central difficulty in helping people leave homelessness is the need to personally engage each person. My experience tells me that every person is like a 12-number combination lock. People are complex. No two stories are alike. With engagement and good case management, solutions can be found. Permanent housing is likely not in the future for homeless folks in Sisters, but to have a place to escape the elements, clean up, conduct a job search, and investigate personal options is critical.

I don't envy you men, but you're doing the right thing.

Feel free to call upon me, if I can be of any help.

--

**Tim Hockett**
154 W Adams Ave., Apt 123
Sisters, OR 97759
541-904-5565

**From:** ehuffman sanistardump.com
**To:** Kerry Prosser; Michael Preedin; Scott Woodford; Jordan Wheeler
**Subject:** Warming Shelter
**Date:** Tuesday, August 22, 2023 7:45:17 AM
**Attachments:** image001.png

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Good morning,

I have lived outside of Sisters for 19 years and work across the street of the proposed warming shelter. I'm sure you are familiar with the details of this proposal by now. I am wondering how can the any of you justify continue considering this applicant?

Please clarify why this warming shelter is a positive addition to our community when you get a chance.

Thank you.

Eric

**Eric Huffman**

**Sani-Star**
**Vice President**
**541-588-6340 Office**
**503-789-9773 Mobile**
**541-588-6342 Fax**
**ehuffman@sanistardump.com**
**www.sanistardump.com**

**From:** john hughie
**To:** Scott Woodford
**Subject:** Proposed Homeless Facility
**Date:** Tuesday, August 1, 2023 10:18:51 AM

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My wife and I have been residents of the Sisters Community for the past 31 years. Two of our children were raised here and graduated from Sisters High School.

We have followed with great interest the proposal to convert the building at 192 Barclay Drive to a facility to house houseless people. While a solution to the Houseless issue is very important, we want to voice our strongest objection to locating a facility of this type in the Sisters community.

The proposed location is very close to the new Woodlands housing development, Clear Pine residential area and other residential housing. The building is also within a 1 mile radius to city businesses, shops, stores, and [restaurants. This looks to be an ill conceived solution to help resolve the houseless issue.

We ask you, the Sisters Mayor, and City Manager to not approve this proposal.

Respectfully,

John and Judy Hughie

John Hughie
760-390-5192
jphughie@hotmail.com

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | Doug Hull |
| **To:** | Scott Woodford; Michael Preedin; Andrea Blum; Gary Ross; Jennifer Letz; Susan Cobb; Jeff Seymour; Cris Converse; Vikki HIckmann; Jeremy Dickman; Sarah McDougall; Art Blumenkron; Tom Ries; eric@edcoinfo.com; Jordan Wheeler; Kerry Prosser; Matt Martin; Jacob Smith; Emelia Shoup; Carol Jenkins; Paul Bertagna; Jackson Dumanch; paul2004@mac.com |
| **Subject:** | Homeless emergency services |
| **Date:** | Thursday, August 17, 2023 9:51:24 AM |

Thank you all for your service to our community. I've been living and working and coaching in this community for 22 years. As someone who is for helping the fortunate in communities locally as well as Haiti, Dominican Republic, Mississippi, San Fransisco and South Africa to name a few, we always had a long term plan for a short term problem. Emergency services make us think this is a short term problem, however as we all know it isn't. It is apparent that the people trying to fix an issue aren't a certified applicant number #1 and #2 looks as they are trying to take money that is being thrown out.

Many studies over many states have determined that 94%-98% of the homeless also have a drug and alcohol addition. This in my opinion is part of the root cause. With that being said there isn't any direction as to how to handle this part of the issue. Meaning they want the money to put a band aid on a compound fractured femur.

We don't currently have medical facilities that could even take care of one of these individuals let alone try to keep up with the current tax paying population.

I would recommend not even entertaining this group until full certification is completed, in which time poll the faith based community and others for another option. As they may have a plan for helping these individuals back into the community as tax paying members who can give back.

We have all gone through hard times and it is the community that helps us back on our feet. However, the proposed plan will not do so it will only bring more crime to the city and trash waste/ potential fires to the forest when these individuals are outside during the day.

Thank you again for your service and hearing me out.

Doug Hull
Hull's Construction
541-312-2344 office
541-410-4121 mobile

**From:** denise labuda
**To:** Kerry Prosser
**Subject:** In Favor of Sisters Emergency Shelter
**Date:** Saturday, August 5, 2023 2:16:05 PM

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The Sisters Cold Weather Shelter organization submitted an emergency shelter application under **HB 2006**. SCWS is a wonderful and effecitive non-profit organization that has been operating in Sisters since 2018 to provide shelter during extreme weather and providing resources to houseless individuals in the community.

The organization has partnered with several local organizations to provide shelter during cold weather and is proposing to also operate during extreme heat and bad air quality caused by fires.

This operation is critical for Sister's unhoused, seniors and those at risk from heat, cold and bad air.

I am in favor of this Emergency Shelter operation in Sisters.

Cheers,

Denise LaBuda

*"As you grow older, you will discover that you have two hands — one for helping yourself, the other for helping others." – Audrey Hepburn*

**From:** Hannah Joseph
**To:** Kerry Prosser
**Subject:** Comment for City Council Meeting 8/9
**Date:** Friday, August 4, 2023 9:31:14 AM

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Good morning,

I am writing in support of the Sisters Cold Weather Shelter purchasing the building on Barclay. Sisters greatly needs an emergency shelter and daytime resource center to provide basic needs for our neighbors. Supporting this shelter is the best way for our city and community to show that we are truly a welcoming place. Supporting our unhoused neighbors is critical as summers get hotter and smokier and winters continue to be cold and uninviting for living outdoors.

I know folks will have a lot to say to deter this shelter from coming to fruition, but I ask the City Counselors to think about these statements and try to understand the underlying fears and underlying lack of empathy in these statements. If we are truly caring for each other, we can see that a shelter is the best thing we can provide for our neighbors.

We need to come together as a community to support our neighbors and give them a place for reprieve from the elements and provide basic needs. We are all residents of Sisters, whether we are housed or living outdoors.

Sincerely,
Hannah Joseph
572 S Ash St
Sisters, OR 97759

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | Cary Kiefer |
| **To:** | Scott Woodford; Michael Preedin; Kerry Prosser; Jordan Wheeler |
| **Subject:** | Cold Weather Shelter |
| **Date:** | Tuesday, August 15, 2023 3:58:45 PM |

Dear Scott, Mayor Preedin, Kerry, and Jordan,

I wanted to write to you about the Cold Weather Shelter.

I am very close friends with a Bend City Police officer and Deschutes County Judge; we have conversations all the time about the homeless population. I believe wholeheartedly in helping the folks who want help and are trying to improve their lives but the fact is that most people experiencing homelessness are **not** trying to improve they are accepting help offered and continuing to live the way they live. I do not believe it is fair to my clients who have purchased homes in Grand Peaks or my fellow business owners on Barclay Drive. The impact this will have on them will not be able to be undone. Do we really want business owners selling their property and relocating their businesses because they will.

There is so much information that never makes it to the news regarding the homeless camps. So the argument is this isn't going to bring more into town? I don't believe it. When asked this question, Lou and his board said they didn't think so, but they couldn't say for sure. They followed that up with they were wanting to help the 8-10 (the number they threw out) that they normally help. So why do they need as many beds as they are proposing? They know damn good and well it'll bring more. We've all seen what their camps look like. Have you been down 2nd Street in Bend? Have you seen the fences that the businesses have had to put up to keep their property safe from the homeless and their mess? Ask the guys at EOFF how it's worked out for them. If this was to help the homeless families that are working in town to better themselves or even the ones that aren't working, I would be fine with that, but I am not fine with enabling people to live doing drugs, littering, etc and not having to follow any of the rules that I have to follow. When the shelter was at the old Habitat building next to Anglelines there was a man in there doing drugs and a woman giving oral sex. If you want to do that, do it in your own home, away from others. There were rules about that and when one of the ladies that was on duty that night brought it to the attention of her male counterpart she was told not to report it because then the shelter would be closed. It's

complete BS.

I believe this will bring more homeless to Sisters. I already have had two homeless people try to come through my property off Highway 20. It was two summers ago and Thank God my husband was still alive. I was with my 10-year-old granddaughter in the backyard. A man came down our red cinder road pushing a grocery cart trying to get back to the National Forest. Have you ever tried pushing a grocery cart down a red cinder road? It must take some ability; why can't he work? He was dumping garbage the entire way. The next was a lady that was high on meth talking to herself and screaming at something that wasn't there. My husband sent them on their way after a confrontation. My son rides his dirt bike out behind our property on the National Forest, I make him take protection with him now, he was out there one day and a homeless woman said if she could catch him she'd be in jail for statutory rape. More services like the proposed shelter will bring more homeless like this to our forests, which brings all kinds of dangers. My daughter has spoken to many of the homeless that will tell you they choose to live in the forest because they don't want to pay rent or a mortgage. Let's help the ones that DO want to improve their lives.

I do not know Lou, but I have reservations that he and his group are not being honest and forthcoming, nor do they have a good plan set for this endeavor. I believe part of the Grant requiring medical (Urgent-Care) facilities is one part they are not compliant with. It's really nice that Lou is willing to suture them up himself, but can you imagine the liability??? Is he going to be there 24/7 with his medical knowledge? Have you tried to get your kids or family members into the Doctor in this town last minute? I was shocked by the statement regarding how it would be a shelter for cold/hot/smokey nights, but then they'd also be able to come do their laundry and charge their cell phones during the day. So which is it? It didn't sound at all to me that they have the experience or plan in effect to truly be successful in this Cold Weather Shelter.

Lastly, this is a mental health and drug problem (for the majority of these folks, not all). The gentleman who was mauled by the dogs in Dirtworld had a Master's Degree. He had a family with children, broke his ankle, was given pain pills after surgery and so his addiction began. When he was not high on drugs, he was a very well-spoken smart man, but when he was high, he was seeing things and dangerous. Dirtworld is

dangerous. Many of the homeless will tell you they come here from other areas because of all the help they get and to live the lifestyle they choose. Our new drug laws have only made this worse.

I really hope that you look at all the facts and do not disappoint the business owners and homeowners in this town who give so much to our community.

Sincerely,

Cary Kiefer

Letter to Sisters City Council 8.9.23
From Elizabeth Kirby
Aspenwood Ave

Thank you to the Council for the opportunity to write in to share my thoughts on the proposed shelter location at 192 Barclay.

Sisters is the ONLY major community in Central Oregon that does NOT have an emergency shelter available for our most vulnerable community members. I am in full support of the proposed plan to site the Sisters Cold Weather managed shelter at the 192 Barclay location under the use of HB 2006.

As a business owner and 5-year homeowner within Sisters, I believe it is past time to address the fact that there are members of our community, those that work at our local establishments and have children within our school system who deserve a safe and consistent place to shelter during unsafe periods throughout the year. The proposed shelter can offer protection for our neighbors during the coldest months of the year as well as during periods of extreme heat and air quality emergencies.

It needs to be acknowledged that SCWS has received a portion of the funds provided under Executive Order 2302. The parameters required were strenuous to meet and it speaks to the organization and dedication of the SCWS that they were able to secure funding to address this glaring need in our community.

This is an opportunity to not only provide a valuable service to our neighbors but also to model to other communities across the state what it looks like to see beyond stereotypes and misconceptions about houselessness and focus on the humanity of those living around us.

In closing, I will reiterate my full support of approving the SCWS proposed site and thank you for the opportunity to share my opinion on the matter.

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | Danica Kleint |
| **To:** | Scott Woodford; Michael Preedin; Andrea Blum; Gary Ross; Jennifer Letz; Susan Cobb; Jeff Seymour; Cris Converse; Vikki HIckmann; Jeremy Dickman; Sarah McDougall; Art Blumenkron; Tom Ries; eric@edcoinfo.com; Jordan Wheeler; Kerry Prosser; Matt Martin; Jacob Smith; Emelia Shoup; Carol Jenkins; Paul Bertagna; Jackson Dumanch; paul2004@mac.com |
| **Subject:** | Strong Opposition to the Proposed Cold Weather Shelter |
| **Date:** | Monday, August 21, 2023 8:33:01 AM |

Danica Kleint
69707 Old Wagon Rd
Sisters, OR 97759
Dkleint@plaid.com
(541) 610-3760
8/21/2023

Dear Members of the Sisters Oregon City Council,

I hope this letter finds you in good health and high spirits. As an engaged and concerned member of the Sisters community, I feel compelled to express my strong opposition to the proposed Cold Weather Shelter. While I understand the City Council's commitment to addressing homelessness, I am gravely concerned about the potential safety risks, increased crime rates, and the broader implications this proposal may have on our community. As an attendee of the August 9th workshop, I am even further concerned.

**As a mother and woman who frequents the area of Barclay, I would not feel comfortable walking near or around the location of this shelter. While I do not think every homeless person is a threat, there is a level of unknown of their mental state and I am extremely concerned with the increased risk this brings to our community.**

**I ask you, the city council, would you feel comfortable walking your two year old daughter or granddaughter around this shelter on your way to the park?**

My husband and I have intentionally chosen to raise our family here in Sisters, where it is safe. I work in the tech industry with most of my colleagues who are based in San Francisco and I am reminded daily of the life they live and I do not want Sisters to fall down that same path - even if it is just a small scale.

Emotions aside, here are strong reasons why the City Council should stop this from moving forward:

1. **Unclear Activities during Non-Emergency Times**: While the shelter may provide refuge during extreme weather conditions, the question remains – what happens to the

occupants during non-emergency times? Without a comprehensive plan, we risk having a large number of individuals with uncertain daily routines, which could lead to loitering, increased crime, safety concerns for all members of the community, including children and deterring our primary business drive of tourism.

Question: has the city council considered where these individuals will go when they leave the shelter? Loitering and disturbing our tourists with whom this city relies on?

2. **Excessive Risk to Community Safety:** The proposed Cold Weather Shelter introduces a heightened safety risk for the entire community. Inadequate planning and oversight could lead to increased criminal activities, disturbances, and potential risks to residents. This jeopardizes the safety and security we value in our town, especially the surrounding businesses and homes next door. There isn't even a sidewalk for homeless people to walk to the proposed Cold Weather location. This is a massive safety concern.

Question: what are the safety and accessibility guidelines that the SCWS is obligated to adhere to?

3. **Potential for Elevated Crime Rates**: Drawing from the experiences of neighboring cities like Bend, where similar shelter initiatives have correlated with higher crime rates, it is crucial to consider the potential ramifications for our community. The risk of petty crimes, drug-related incidents, and other illegal activities could fundamentally alter our town's character.

Question: Do we have a plan for increased law enforcement availability with the increased crime that the SCWS will undoubtedly bring in by attracting homeless people with resources?

4. **Inadequate Experience of SCWS Board Members:** There is significant concern regarding the experience and qualifications of the board members. Operating a shelter of this complexity requires seasoned professionals with a proven track record in effectively managing such facilities. The lack of experienced personnel on the board poses a grave risk of mismanagement, inadequate care, and an overall inability to cater to the diverse needs of the homeless population. In the city council meeting, when asked what they would do in an emergency situation, given that Sisters does not have an ER, they mentioned they have helped people during times of need (I believe he said specifically in an earthquake) but that is grossly under qualifying these members to assist with the medical needs houseless people will need.

5. **Neglect of Long-Term Impact Scenarios:** The proposal's inadequacy in addressing long-term challenges is concerning. Without a comprehensive strategy for addressing resource strain, community harmony, and potential impacts on local businesses and

residents, we risk compromising the safety and well-being of our town.

Question: Does this application get revisited when the SCWS no longer is an emergency shelter but becomes a 365/24hr home for these individuals?

In conclusion, I urge the Sisters Oregon City Council to reconsider the current proposal for the Cold Weather Shelter, bearing in mind the the safety, security, and well-being of our community must be the top priority in any decision-making process. I respectfully request a thorough evaluation of the proposal's feasibility, operational strategy, and potential implications before proceeding. While the SCWS may have good intentions, the plan grossly neglects the wellbeing and longevity of our beloved community and has a long way to go to even be considered a robust plan.

Thank you for your time and thoughtful consideration. I am confident in your commitment to making decisions that safeguard the prosperity, safety, and harmony of our town.

Sincerely,

Danica Kleint
Sisters OR Homeowner
Sisters High School Graduate Class of 2010

**Subject:** Cold Weather Shelter
**Attachments:** 43O7600-Emergency Shelter Opposition Statement.docx; 08.09.23 Emergency Shelter Siting (1).pdf

**From:** Eric Knirk <evknirkfremontp970@gmail.com>
**Sent:** Friday, August 4, 2023 4:23 PM
**To:** Michael Preedin <mpreedin@ci.sisters.or.us>; Kerry Prosser <kprosser@ci.sisters.or.us>; Scott Woodford <swoodford@ci.sisters.or.us>; rod@robinsonandowen.com; Dave Helm <tranny@aol.com>; mike@robinsonandowen.com; jeff ponderosaforge.com <jeff@ponderosaforge.com>; Ghosttreeranch@gmail.com; Jeff Frink <bmi@bendcable.com>; Darin Burgstahler <dburgstahler@bendbroadband.com>; Jim Cornelius <editor@nuggetnews.com>; Cary Kiefer <carysellsrealestate@gmail.com>; Matt Cyrus <matt@aspenlakes.com>; pam@aspenlakes.com; Snowigloo6@gmail.com; Bearyman@aol.com; Daly Haasch <daly918@gmail.com>; Karalappe@gmail.com; Drtewalt@gmail.com; Julia Knirk <julesk2@hotmail.com>; Jmkapp@renreal.net; angela@sistersselfstorage.net; jon@tintingoregon.com; patrica@villageinteriorsdesign.com; Wendy Johnson <wendy@villageinteriorsdesign.com>; ed@lodgeinsisters.com; Christopher Gulick <actionair.cg@gmail.com>; cole.cote@pwl.com
**Cc:** julie Bartolotta <juliebartolotta@aol.com>; Vito Bartolotta <dpnw@aol.com>; mike@solidrockoregon.com; curtkallberg1@gmail.com
**Subject:** Cold Weather Shelter

Mr. Preedin, Mr. Woodford and Ms. Prosser:

In light of the attached letter presented to the city yesterday, how can the staff justify continuing on with the consideration of the applicant?

There are several facts that should cause the application to be rejected immediately. The letter needs to be responded to in writing.

Can the city please explain why any meetings are occurring, or work is being done by staff on this application until the issues pointed out in the letter are addressed.?

At the same time, there is a great deal more public disclosure from the applicant needed before staff time is spent on this.

Sincerely,

Eric Knirk

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | Eric Knirk |
| **To:** | Darin Burgstahler |
| **Cc:** | Michael Preedin; Kerry Prosser; Scott Woodford; Jordan Wheeler; julie Bartolotta; Vito Bartolotta; mike@solidrockoregon.com; curtkallberg1@gmail.com; rod@robinsonandowen.com; Dave Helm; mike@robinsonandowen.com; jeff ponderosaforge.com; Ghosttreeranch@gmail.com; Jim Cornelius; Cary Kiefer; Jeff Frink; Matt Cyrus; pam@aspenlakes.com; Snowigloo6@gmail.com; Bearyman@aol.com; Daly Haasch; Karalappe@gmail.com; Drtewalt@gmail.com; Julia Knirk; Jmkapp@renreal.net; angela@sistersselfstorage.net; jon@tintingoregon.com; patrica@villageinteriorsdesign.com; Wendy Johnson; ed@lodgeinsisters.com; Christopher Gulick; cole.cote@pwl.com |
| **Subject:** | Re: Cold Weather Shelter |
| **Date:** | Saturday, August 5, 2023 10:15:47 AM |

This proposed “cold weather shelter” at 192 W. Barclay is a wolf in sheep’s clothing and will become a magnet for vagrancy to our small town, “build it and they will come, enable it, fund it
and it will grow”. Here in Sisters we do not have large indigenous need and we are not prepared for the increased influx.

There had been no transparency nor meaningful public input until a group called private meetings at the fire house community center on August 1. The city has hidden behind a new state law to jam through this project without a process or public input. The takeaway here is just because you can do something does not mean you have to do it or should do it. The city staff works for the citizens and should be exclusively aware of our concerns and should be protecting the quality of life and safety of its citizens.

The applicant Luis Blanchard was supposed to attend the August 1 meeting, but did not show up. Did he cancel because of the crowd, because he thinks city staff is going to approve this project on August 9 or because he thought he had such a compelling letter to the editor coming out August 2 in the NUGGET?

Since it appears that the city is not going to immediately disqualify the applicant, there should be full public disclosure. Before being allowed to receive approval they should prove that they are competent as an operator and qualify under the state law they were trying to slip into town on under the radar. Under these terms they do not qualify.

The application states that there are police, transportation and medial resources in Sisters, there are not. For example, Sisters’ medical facilities are private and are not walk-in urgent care and we do not have a hospital in town. The Sheriff station is by contract, small, only staffed Monday-Friday from 9am-5pm and closed on the weekends.

What about all of the homes near 192 W. Barclay that the application states do not exist within the allowable distance? How do we compensate the industrial and commercial business owners
on Barclay, for the impact of this facility? These buildings are a major investment providing livelihoods and employment.

What date was their 501c3 fully approved and EIN issued, I do not believe the applicant has been around long enough to qualify under the status they are seeking.
How much are the non-profit’s officers / BoD compensated? What is the ratio of overhead/salaries to funds available to provide benefits? Present tax returns, to be a “high rated” non-profit it must have an audit.
How are the tax payers going to be reimbursed for the added cost impact from a 20 to 40 bed facility?

What protocols are in place to handle the problem cases that are beyond the “most vulnerable in our community”, meaning the drug addicted, criminal or mentally ill that are always a part of
the equation and will be attracted from out of the area to this magnet?

Who do our citizens call when one of the shelter’s “guests” are in town, at a school or in a neighborhood intoxicated, loitering, stealing, or having a mental breakdown? How many kids walk home by themselves from school or to town for lunch? Welcome to Portland, Salem and San Francisco.

Deception is everywhere, for example, the applicant’s representatives at the August 1 st meeting
said it was a 20 bed facility, but Luis Blanchard’s article says it’s a 40 bed, they say its only for
cold weather but Blanchard states heat and smoke, if you add cold, hot and smoke that is all year in Sisters.

The truth is the applicant and city has no plan, nor the resources for the impact. The applicant does not meet some basic terms of the program and this whole subject should mute, it is a mystery why the city has not turned them down already.

A small privately funded shelter should get organized, trained and funded to handle the small need that is locally generated and we should not allow the city staff and the applicant to create a magnet to our town.

On Sat, Aug 5, 2023 at 10:00 AM Darin Burgstahler <dburgstahler@bendbroadband.com> wrote:

> Mr. Preedin, , Mr. Wheeler, Mr. Woodford and Ms. Prosser:
>
> I would like to wholeheartedly sign on to the contents of this letter and add further information as well. Since SCWS verbalized their intent to the city staff, their CEO kindly and publicly stated their true intentions in an Aug 2nd letter to the editor. Some "slight" changes include:
>
> - The Fire Marshall has approved up to 40 beds instead of 20.
> - They plan to be open under any "extreme event" including hot weather, smoke, and other undefined events.
> - They plan to be open year round for services including food.
>
> That last point means that a virtually unlimited number of people (and their dogs) could visit the center every day and there is no way to quantify that number. With the national forest right next door, there is also no limit to how many people could camp and then walk, ride, or drive to this facility 365 days a year. To think that this will not occur is short-sighted and naive. In summary, this application is ill conceived, overly aggressive, and is not the solution that Sisters needs. As such, it should be summarily rejected immediately.
>
> Sincerely,
>
> Darin Burgstahler

On 8/4/2023 4:23 PM, Eric Knirk wrote:

Mr. Preedin, Mr. Woodford and Ms. Prosser:

In light of the attached letter presented to the city yesterday, how can the staff justify continuing on with the consideration of the applicant?

There are several facts that should cause the application to be rejected immediately. The letter needs to be responded to in writing.

Can the city please explain why any meetings are occurring, or work is being done by staff on this application until the issues pointed out in the letter are addressed.?

At the same time, there is a great deal more public disclosure from the applicant needed before staff time is spent on this.

Sincerely,

Eric Knirk

**From:** Scott Woodford
**To:** Kerry Prosser
**Subject:** FW: Resending letter
**Date:** Monday, August 7, 2023 3:24:42 PM

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**From:** Kathryn Leavitt <kathrynleavitt422@gmail.com>
**Sent:** Monday, August 7, 2023 3:14 PM
**To:** Scott Woodford <swoodford@ci.sisters.or.us>
**Subject:** Resending letter

July 29, 2023

To: Scott Woodford

Hello,

This is a letter in opposition to the homeless shelter that the City of Sisters is wanting to establish on 192 Barkley Ave, in our city of Sisters.

I do have compassion for the homeless, and our city with the help of our local churches have opened their doors for cold shelters in the past in the time of need.

However, I am afraid as I look to the future of the placement of this homeless shelter, I see it turning into not a temporary fix in times of cold weather, but into a permanent nightmare.

The City of Sisters has prided itself in being a lovely and quaint tourist town. Unfortunately things are changing, and not always for the better.

Has the City really given any thought to the businesses here in Sisters, and the residents?

Sisters has a population now of roughly a little over 3,000 and we are having issues with the expansion and facilities to help those already living here.

I see a lot of issues with this proposition of a homeless shelter. You will not be able to confine homelessness in one building, they will be all over this small town.

There is no bus lines for transportation, no hospital, no urgent care to help with their needs.

When and if, and it will be only a matter of time when you decide to expand this facility to accommodate a kitchen to feed them and then more people will come just for the food. Tents, will show up next when the facility is full but they will stay close by for food and bathrooms and showers.

You will have security and safety issues,. Unfortunately mental health issues and drug issues can be a big part of homelessness. Have you given any thought for all the businesses and residents living here.

Sisters is a tourist town, and visitors want to feel safe. Businesses here in town only survive because of people who buy at their businesses, and the industrial area is no place for the homeless, who again you cannot keep the homeless contained. Some of the offices and businesses in the industrial area have expensive equipment and vehicles used for their business. Do they now financially have to go out of their way to build high fences to protect and secure their properties?

We are too small of a town with too much to loose. The homeless situation needs to be in a larger city to get the help that they need.

Sincerely, Kathryn Leavitt

# Homeless to be housed on Barclay

Darrell K. Mona <asequui-wili@mail.com>

Thu 7/13/2023 3:00 PM

To:**City Council <citycouncil@ci.sisters.or.us>**

https://www.nuggetnews.com/story/2023/07/12/news/homeless-to-be-housed-on-barclay/35405.html

Council Members:

Whoever the economic/financial genius is that thinks this is great addition to our community, as I am unaware of any homeless shelter in the U.S. that doesn't have some issues from its users, this is a financial disaster for the taxpayers...A total waste of money for 12-24 people...The cost is astronomical!

It will be of great benefit to see drug/alcohol abusers up close and personal on the streets of Sisters...

Everyone of you, including the Mayor, should vote against any permits, etc., required to allow this facility in a commercial zone...Where is/are the law(s) to support this? How is this permitted under the County/State land use plan laws?

Every citizen in Sisters, or in Oregon for that matter, should stop abiding by the laws of this state that permit the rights of the homeless who provide nothing to society, and the likes of illegal aliens who get free healthcare, housing, etc., and is now not provided to taxpayers like seniors/disabled, etc., to supersede those of taxpaying and law abiding citizens...

VOTE IT DOWN!

Thank you,

Darrell K. Mona

"Every wanton and causeless restraint of the will of the subject, whether practiced by a monarch, a nobility, or a popular assembly, is a degree of tyranny."

Sir William Blackstone
English Jurist
1723-1780

**From:** Jordan Wheeler
**To:** Kerry Prosser
**Subject:** Fw: My life
**Date:** Monday, August 21, 2023 11:43:39 AM

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**From:** Ronni Moore <ronni273@icloud.com>
**Sent:** Sunday, August 20, 2023 12:27 PM
**To:** Jordan Wheeler <jwheeler@ci.sisters.or.us>
**Subject:** My life

So this weekend a forest dweller had demanded an answer to why a post of hers was taken down off FACEBOOK I commented that a lot of things get taken down for various reasons sometimes the admin just don't want to deal with the drama. Sometimes it just disappear. I also stated that it shouldn't matter to her because she lives in Bend turns out she moved to Sisters wThen it began. she went on beenverified. Got my cell phone number which is my home phone number my address and proceeded to send me threatening messages telling me I was in a deadly game with her. This is exactly what the cold weather shelter is wanting to bring part of her post in Facebook said that Charlene won't be able to hold her back and Sisters will definitely not like her. I did contact Deschutes county sheriffs office. S she is very well-known to them in Bend. She is very well-known to them in Bend. they had no clue she had moved here. She is not only threatening my life, but threatening this town. Her name is Anna Karren. I still have the text she sent me the Facebook messages she sent me and the picture she sent me. I truly hope you take the safety of a longtime resident and the safety of a town because one lunatic strung out on drugs has flat out said Sisters will not like her because of what she will do to this town.
I will always do what I can to protect my town the town I moved to over 23 years ago. The town I chose Theresa raise my son in the town that I have made sacrifices in order to be able to live here. Jordan, I hope as a member of Sisters you would do all you can to protect our town from people who are literally Bused to destroy our town?

Ronni Moore

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** Ronni Moore
**To:** City Council; Michael Preedin; Andrea Blum; Gary Ross; Jennifer Letz; Susan Cobb; Scott Woodford
**Subject:** SCWS
**Date:** Tuesday, August 22, 2023 2:19:44 PM

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Question I asked Lou
How long have you lived in Sisters? where did you move from?
I'm just trying to figure out why?
Why do you want the shelter?
Up until five years ago we didn't even have these homeless people living in the woods. We had Bob one homeless guy with a ton of money and no drug use.
This is Lou Blanchards reply
Ronni, I've lived in BBR for over 20 years. Volunteering at the shelter since 2016. We had many homeless then and maybe you weren't aware of that. Our shelter operations were very sound and successful but as an organization we've also needed our own building not just to shelter in in-climate weather but as office for the supplies etc. Many efforts have failed to get a facility whether it be rent, lease or purchase. The stigma and neighbor pressures were at fault, not the hazards as perceived by individuals. So this new law comes into play to site a shelter limiting community engagement or planning use laws and the award of a grant and so now our opportunity to get this building and office space can happen. I know this isn't fair but neither was the inability to even rent space. The city hasn't offered any suggestions for the problem of our homeless and instead has relied on us to serve that population. There here because they like to BLM lands. Not because we're here. So as a Godly man my mission is to aid but not enable. I hope this helps to understand me and the mission of SCWS.
Sounds to me SCWS is trying to go around the city of Sisters and what is truly best for the town.

Ronni Moore
Resident of Sister since 2000!
Sent from my iPhone

**From:** Michael Preedin
**To:** Kerry Prosser
**Cc:** Jordan Wheeler
**Subject:** FW: a few points re SCWS
**Date:** Friday, August 25, 2023 8:15:15 AM
**Attachments:** Screenshot 2023-08-24 at 7.01.49 PM.png

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Michael Preedin
Mayor
City of Sisters

mpreedin@ci.sisters.or.us
www.ci.sisters.or.us


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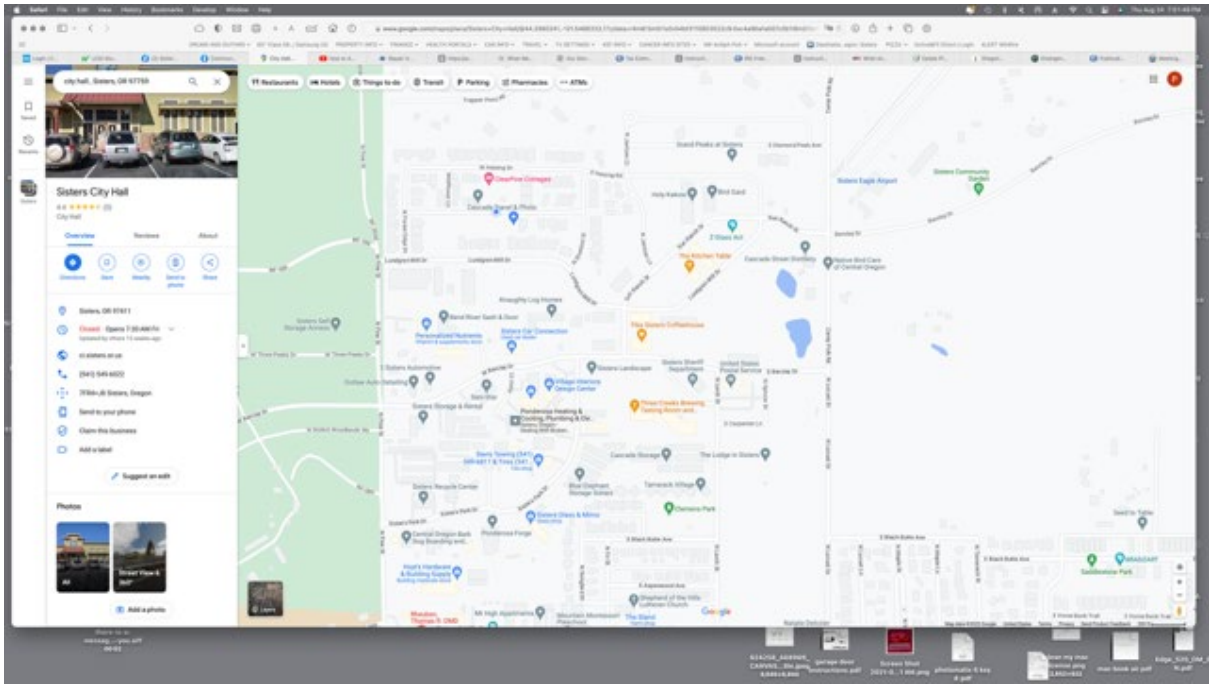
**From:** Jack Overcash <jackovercash3@gmail.com>
**Sent:** Thursday, August 24, 2023 7:07 PM
**To:** Paul Basile <paul2004@mac.com>
**Cc:** Andrea Blum <ablum@ci.sisters.or.us>; Gary Ross <g.ross@ci.sisters.or.us>; Jennifer Letz <jletz@ci.sisters.or.us>; Michael Preedin <mpreedin@ci.sisters.or.us>; Patti Adair <Patti.Adair@deschutes.org>; Susan Cobb <scobb@ci.sisters.or.us>
**Subject:** Re: a few points re SCWS

This is great, thank you!

On Thu, Aug 24, 2023 at 7:03 PM Paul Basile <paul2004@mac.com> wrote:

> briefly.
>
> 1. please consider making public the total number of emails, letters, phone calls, etc., regarding the SCWS application for a homeless shelter and provide the number in opposition and the number of supporters.
>
> 2. please consider a survey of residences and businesses located within a mile radius (easy to walk or bike a mile) of the proposed shelter to determine whether they are opposed or supportive of the shelter. this can be done via your website through notification of those folks that this will be available from x date to y date, and make the results public.
>
> 3. please consider taking a walk from city hall, north on locust to barclay turning left on east barclay and continuing to north pine, turning right on north pine to the entrance of clear pine subdivision on lundgren mill road to the end at sun ranch. turn right on sun ranch which will take you back to barclay and then locust and then back to city hall.
>
> that's not even a 1/2 mile in radius from the proposed shelter but may give you some idea of who will be effected by the magnet that this proposed shelter will become. notice the proximity of the shelter to those effected including the businesses on barclay with direct access to clear pine, sisters woodlands and all the future businesses that will be located there, not to mention the hundreds of families that will

live there.  notice the condition of the road and lack of sidewalk on barclay.  notice the proximity to the forest, home of many of the homeless currently, on north pine.  notice the ease of ingress and egress from lundgren mill road to walkers and bikers through laird's property and the other current and future businesses on lundgren mill and sun ranch.




thank you for your consideration.

Paul Basile
paul2004@mac.com
505.603.5249

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| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | Mike Owen |
| **To:** | Scott Woodford; admin@sistersrental.com; Rod Robinson |
| **Cc:** | Brian Witt (bwitt@fwwlaw.com) |
| **Subject:** | RE: Sisters Shelter |
| **Date:** | Wednesday, July 19, 2023 9:25:13 AM |
| **Attachments:** | image002.png<br>image003.png |

Good Morning Scott, in the article in the July 19th Nugget concerning the homeless shelter on Barclay Ave. It is stated that no opposition has yet surfaced although the first paragraph states the city has received a large number of calls concerning the location and the use commercial property . My question to you is what is the correct way to submit a formal opposition to the application as all neighboring property owners I have spoken with have many concerns and are asking how to submit their opposition. Thanks in advance for your time. Mike

Michael Owen
541-549-1848 office
541-549-0601 fax
541-480-3512 cell
mike@robinsonandowen.com
www.robinsonandowen.com
Robinson & Owen
HEAVY CONSTRUCTION

**From:** Scott Woodford [mailto:swoodford@ci.sisters.or.us]
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 18, 2023 9:08 AM
**To:** Mike Owen <mike@robinsonandowen.com>
**Subject:** Sisters Shelter

Mike,

Good to talk to you this morning and appreciate you relaying your concerns. Attached is some information including the application for approval and House Bill 2006 which lays out the criteria for review. Here is a link to the city website with some good additional information.

If you want to contact the applicants directly, you can email Luis Blanchard at sisterscoldweathershelter@gmail.com or call at 503-473-5869.

Thanks and let me know if you have any further questions.

**Scott Woodford**
Community Development Director
City of Sisters | Community Development Dept.
PO Box 39 | 520 E. Cascade Ave., Sisters, OR 97759
Direct: 541-323-5211 | City Hall: 541-549-6022

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | Mike Owen |
| **To:** | Scott Woodford; Michael Preedin; Andrea Blum; Gary Ross; Jennifer Letz; Susan Cobb; Jeff Seymour; Cris Converse; Vikki HIckmann; Jeremy Dickman; Sarah McDougall; Art Blumenkron; Tom Ries; eric@edcoinfo.com; Jordan Wheeler; Kerry Prosser; Matt Martin; Jacob Smith; Emelia Shoup; Carol Jenkins; Paul Bertagna; Jackson Dumanch; paul2004@mac.com |
| **Subject:** | Sisters cold weather shelter |
| **Date:** | Friday, August 11, 2023 12:29:33 PM |
| **Attachments:** | image001.png |

Good Morning Scott, I have a few questions about the cold weather shelter that I haven't heard addressed but needs to be addressed.

- I have concerns about the parking at the shelter. There is not close to 40 plus parking spots at the shelter for 40 beds plus staff. There is no parking allowed along Barclay Ave or along Curtis Court. Our business has semi-trucks on Curtis Court every day, not to mention the other businesses who receive deliveries daily. It is a safety issue if the delivery trucks can't make the turn on Curtis Court because of parked vehicles along the yellow curb.
- Who do the businesses contact when we have vehicles parked on private property, will the city help with parking issues?
- If approved will there be a one year review of the shelter, their promises of performance, and the impact on our neighborhood? Or once approved, will the city wash their hands of it no matter the impact on the citizens of Sisters or the shelters performance?
- I've heard no mention of the impact of property values to the surrounding businesses, will the city please take this into account when making your decision? The businesses affected are all long time local companies with many family wage jobs and have donated to every Sisters school, sports team, Starry Nights, The Quilt Show, Sisters Folk Festival, The Equestrian Team, High School Rodeo, Sisters Rodeo, Sisters Little League. I believe it is unfair to put this financial burden on the unlucky local companies who are located next to this site and apparently have no voice or recourse.
- Every article I've read states how this shelter will get the homeless off of the National Forest north of town, it will not, they will travel into town on a daily bases for meals and services then return to their camp in the forest, they will either drive to shelter with no sufficient parking or walk along Barclay with no sidewalks or through private property.
- Where will these people congregate when at the shelter? It seems with up to 40 beds, kitchen, dining ,and staff offices there will be many loitering outside in the parking area, along the street and on private property.
- As a low barrier shelter ,drugs and alcohol will be not tested for and permitted, why would anyone want to bring that to our town and would you want it in your neighborhood?
- The application states there is medical help available, can you tell me where in town that's located.

  ***** I think we all agree some of these folks need help, how about a facility on city property and involve the community to get it built? Robinson and Owen and Sisters Rental would be happy to participate with donations, materials, and in-kind work.

In closing to the city staff, I know the city is getting this new law shoved down your throat by the state, the same as the citizens of Oregon, but this shelter is not well thought out with a very vague business plan, potential to be a disaster for the people of Sisters. Please have a backbone and deny

this incomplete application and lets regroup and come up with a plan that works for all the citizens of Sisters.

Thank you,

Michael Owen
541-549-1848 office
541-549-0601 fax
541-480-3512 cell
mike@robinsonandowen.com
www.robinsonandowen.com

Robinson & Owen
HEAVY CONSTRUCTION

**From:** Jordan Wheeler
**To:** Kyle Parker
**Cc:** Scott Woodford; Michael Preedin; Susan Cobb; Kerry Prosser
**Subject:** RE: Homeless shelter on Barclay
**Date:** Monday, July 17, 2023 4:01:36 PM
**Attachments:** image001.png

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Mr. Parker,

Thank you for email to the City Council regarding the emergency shelter proposal. We appreciate and understand that the proposal has generated questions and concerns from residents and neighbors and hopefully we can help provide some clarity. We've added information about the emergency shelter application, the state laws that govern siting emergency shelters in local jurisdictions, and a FAQ on the city's website at https://www.ci.sisters.or.us/administration/page/emergency-shelter-siting.

To summarize, the Sisters Cold Weather Shelter (SCWS) is purchasing the property at 192 W Barclay to operate an overnight shelter during extreme cold and hot weather events and provide services to the houseless population in the Sisters area. In the past, the non-profit has partnered with local churches to provide emergency shelters during cold weather in Sisters. Their application and proposal fall under state legislation that was enacted in 2021 which obligates local governments to approve applications for emergency shelters if certain conditions are met. The proposed SCWS emergency shelter would have space for up to 20 beds with possible additional spaces for houseless families with children.

SCWS is happy to answer questions and has offered to meet with neighbors and community members to discuss their plans. They can be reached at sisterscoldweathershelter@gmail.com. I know they are interested in being responsive to the community and are committed to being a good neighbor.

To address some of your specific questions, city staff are currently reviewing their application. Per the state law, it is not a land use application, and the Planning Commission or City Council are not the decision-making authorities with a vote on the proposal. Timing-wise, staff are reviewing the application to ensure it meets the criteria laid out in the state legislation which includes verifying that it would satisfy building and fire code requirements. I believe SCWS is hoping to begin to provide emergency shelter services at the new location for this upcoming cold weather season. It is not intended to serve houseless populations in Crook or Jefferson, or the broader Deschutes County. I think the figures in the article were referencing the larger funding that is coming to central Oregon from Senate Bill 5019. The SCWS received a $1.4 million grant from that funding to purchase and operate an emergency shelter in Sisters.

I hope that helps address some of your questions. Again, please feel free to reach out to SCWS if you are interested in learning more and discussing their plans or let me know if you have additional questions we can answer.

Best,
Jordan

**Jordan Wheeler**
City Manager | City of Sisters
PO Box 39 | 520 E. Cascade Ave., Sisters, OR 97759
Direct: 541-323-5205 | Cell: 541-280-7722
jwheeler@ci.sisters.or.us | www.ci.sisters.or.us



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**From:** Susan Cobb <scobb@ci.sisters.or.us>
**Sent:** Friday, July 14, 2023 1:09 PM
**To:** Kyle Parker <kylekparker@yahoo.com>
**Cc:** Scott Woodford <swoodford@ci.sisters.or.us>; Jordan Wheeler <jwheeler@ci.sisters.or.us>; Michael Preedin <mpreedin@ci.sisters.or.us>
**Subject:** Re: Homeless shelter on Barclay

Hello Kyle,

Thank you for your questions. I have cc'd the person, Scott Wordford, to whom your concerns/questions can best be answered. As this is a 'possible' rather than a 'done deal', I cannot offer my input to you on this.

I also cc'd Mayor Preedin and our City Manager, Jordan Wheeler, as they too might assist you.

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**From:** Kyle Parker <kylekparker@yahoo.com>
**Sent:** Thursday, July 13, 2023 3:02 PM
**To:** Susan Cobb <scobb@ci.sisters.or.us>
**Subject:** Homeless shelter on Barclay

Councilor Cobb,

My family moved to Sisters in September 2022. We have often visited here on vacations and are happy to have the opportunity to make our home here. We are so excited to be part of the central Oregon community and lifestyle.

I have empathy for our homeless neighbors, but am greatly concerned about the prospect of a

homeless shelter with 111 beds, located at the proposed site on Barclay, or anywhere in and around our city limits. My family lives in the Clearpine neighborhood.

My concerns include safety, quality of life, and future value of our sizable home investment, to name a few.

According to the article, the shelter is not only for Sisters, but to support the counties of Crook, Deschutes, and Jefferson. Why would such a small community like Sisters have to shoulder this burden for the greater area, especially when a much larger population, more public services, etc. are clearly 20 miles to the East in Bend?

The article also references the permit requirement process and no definitive timeline for opening.

My questions to you:
-Is this a "done deal" or is the city/county still deciding if this will happen? Do you have insights into timing?

-Is there still opportunity for the community to weigh in and have an impact on the outcome? How can our voices be heard?

-What has been the process (and results of) community engagement to date?

-What is your position with respect to this shelter being located here in Sisters?

Kind Regards

Kyle Parker,
Concerned Citizen
503-816-7720

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** Jordan Wheeler
**To:** Kerry Prosser
**Subject:** Fw: To go along with email from Bert Good…
**Date:** Friday, August 18, 2023 11:18:15 AM

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**From:** Melissa Parker <melissa.parker@yahoo.com>
**Sent:** Thursday, August 17, 2023 12:33 PM
**To:** Jordan Wheeler <jwheeler@ci.sisters.or.us>; Scott Woodford <swoodford@ci.sisters.or.us>; Jennifer Letz <jletz@ci.sisters.or.us>
**Cc:** Kyle Parker <kylekparker@yahoo.com>
**Subject:** To go along with email from Bert Good…

To go along with the email from my neighbor Bert…. Who stated the following:

My email this morning is to visually show the close proximity of the shelter to the Clear Pine community and include a 12 hour usage census on Lundgren Mill Dr.

The first photo shows a person riding her bike on the sidewalk of Lundgren Mill Dr…450' from the shelter.
The shelter is the building with the green roof behind the rock pile.

The second photo shows an 8' wide paved pathway connecting Barkley to Lundgren Mill Dr. Note the shelter with the green roof.
The pathway provides the obvious shelter connection for homeless persons traveling to and from the forest since there is no safe sidewalk on Barkley.

Last Sunday I monitored the usage of Lundgren Mill by the Clear Pine community as they passed by the rock pile.
The results follow:
**11** People walking dogs
**24** People walking alone
**27** People riding bikes
**10** Children.
Total of **72** people from 7 a.m. to 7p.m.

Hence, there will be frequent contact between residents of Clear Pine and residents of the forest.
This frequent contact could pose **"unreasonable risk to public health and safety"** as required by
HB2006 and HB3395.

This is the photo from my front door to the path he references. As I have been repeatedly asking since my first set of emails - how is this reasonable for the residence of this neighborhood? The circle shows the shelter proposed site and you see the path Bert references that will dump people directly onto our street. Since there are NO sidewalks on Barclay the assumption that the homeless will use this as their pathway is pretty likely. How are you going to protect us? Our children?

Some people in this community who are for this don't even live in town! I have seen several who live out of highway 20! Yet all the local residents and all businesses in this area are against this! Where does Luis live? This is not a suitable location for this proposal!

Sent from my iPhone

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | Jordan Wheeler |
| **To:** | Kerry Prosser |
| **Subject:** | Fw: Coming to Sisters next… |
| **Date:** | Monday, August 21, 2023 12:29:47 PM |

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**From:** Melissa Parker <melissa.parker@yahoo.com>
**Sent:** Sunday, August 20, 2023 10:30 AM
**To:** Jordan Wheeler <jwheeler@ci.sisters.or.us>; Scott Woodford <swoodford@ci.sisters.or.us>; Jennifer Letz <jletz@ci.sisters.or.us>; Kyle Parker <kylekparker@yahoo.com>; Paul Basile <paul2004@mac.com>
**Subject:** Coming to Sisters next…

A Neighborhood Embraced a New Homeless Shelter. Then Came the Fires Across the Street.
wweek.com

Is this what you want?

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** Michael Preedin
**To:** Kerry Prosser; Jordan Wheeler
**Subject:** FW: Proposed homeless shelter on Barclay
**Date:** Wednesday, July 19, 2023 1:36:51 PM

---

*For the record*

Michael Preedin
Mayor
City of Sisters

mpreedin@ci.sisters.or.us
www.ci.sisters.or.us


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**From:** Kyle Parker <kylekparker@yahoo.com>
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 19, 2023 11:13 AM
**To:** Melissa Parker <melissa.parker@yahoo.com>
**Cc:** Michael Preedin <mpreedin@ci.sisters.or.us>; Andrea Blum <ablum@ci.sisters.or.us>; Gary Ross <g.ross@ci.sisters.or.us>; Jennifer Letz <jletz@ci.sisters.or.us>; Susan Cobb <scobb@ci.sisters.or.us>
**Subject:** Re: Proposed homeless shelter on Barclay

I agree with Melissa 100% and also emailed everyone on city council + our mayor and have not received a response. (Please let me know if I missed it, I get a lot of emails)

We have been talking to neighbors and there is mounting concern and opposition to this proposal.

Would be great to know your stance and what the options are.

Kyle Parker

Sent from my iPhone

> On Jul 19, 2023, at 8:27 AM, Melissa Parker <melissa.parker@yahoo.com> wrote:
>
> To follow up even further on this topic… this is the building for the proposed shelter taken from the inside of my house. If you walk along the path next to Laird Superfoods it's 500 feet from my house. My husband walked it yesterday. How is this acceptable?
>
> <image0.jpeg>
> <image1.jpeg>

Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 17, 2023, at 12:31 PM, Melissa Parker <melissa.parker@yahoo.com> wrote:

Hello to the Sisters Mayor & Counsel Members,

Thank you for taking the time to read my email. I love this town and for many years have wanted to be a member of this special community. I am thrilled to finally be here, however, I am a concerned resident of the ClearPine neighborhood. Many of us have left other areas - Bend, Portland, or Troutdale in my case, etc partly due to homeless issues/concerns within our residence area, community and neighborhoods. We sought a small town for safety to allow our children and families to feel safe and thrive.

I want to see people cared for by the community and would never want to see anyone die in the cold weather. That being said, it is **hugely** concerning to me after reading the article in The Nuggest last week and Central Oregon Daily News, to see the location the Sisters Warming Shelter is looking to purchase. I can literally see the building from the front windows of my home. The article in Central Oregon Daily News stated “This may be the best location in the heart of Sisters, away from residential communities, away from where there might be some exposure, say, to children,” he said. **This is an outright lie - as many many children live in the surrounding neighborhoods, including my own child.**

I truly want to see people be supported and helped on their feet for those who truly need that help. However, it would be naive to believe that a homeless shelter that doesn't want its visitors and residents to be close to say, a school and children, shouldn't be allowed to be within visual distance of neighborhoods filled with CHILDREN. We all know people tend to roam.... so where will they go after they leave this shelter location? Seems like a logical conclusion they will wander into all the areas surrounding, including our neighborhoods, filled with our children.

Homeless people come in all shapes and sizes and while many are not violent or on drugs, many indeed are and are suffering from extreme mental health distress. Having potentially violent and unstable individuals being drawn to a location within eyesight and literally so close in walking distance (cut through the parking lot and field by Laird Superfoods and you will run into the building) is unacceptable to anyone who lives in this neighborhood and surrounding homes.

What can we do to stop this from being put into our neighborhood? Is there another location more remote from homes that can be considered? I am a compassionate person and want to see people cared for but in the right ways. I do not trust this is the right way for our families and children.

I do not want to move again. I spent 13 months in Bend while my home here

was being completed dealing with homeless men who frightened me literally on my front porch and walking in front of my house on a daily basis on Boyd Acres. I will not feel unsafe in my home again. This is a big reason we moved from Troutdale to Bend to Sisters. If this sale goes through this will cause a huge problem for these residential areas and the people who live here. I will not endure feeling unsafe in my home again, when it is preventable and no one took action to help us.

Thank you for your time and care for our small wonderful town.

Melissa Parker
ClearPine Resident

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | Kyle Parker |
| **To:** | City Council |
| **Cc:** | Melissa Parker; Paul Basile |
| **Subject:** | Concerned neighbors, Proposed Shelter |
| **Date:** | Wednesday, August 9, 2023 7:53:20 AM |

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Greetings city leaders,
I plan to attend todays workshop and following City Council meeting but wanted to also share my concerns here.

My family of three including our 16 year old high school student moved to Sisters in September 2022. We have often visited here on vacations and are happy to have the opportunity to make our home here. We are so excited to be part of the central Oregon community and lifestyle.

Previous to moving to Sisters, we lived in the Portland-Metro area so we have seen how quickly a city can go from a great, safe, family environment to one overrun with theft, drugs, vandalism, graffiti, violence, etc. Most of the negative changes can be traced to leadership and policy decisions.

I have empathy for our homeless community members and acknowledge many need help, though I am greatly concerned about the prospect of a homeless shelter located at the proposed site on Barclay. My family lives in the Clearpine neighborhood, a mere 500 feet away:

My concerns include safety and quality of life for my family and neighbors as well as for those that such a project would undoubtedly draw to our community. It would be extremely difficult for a small community like Sisters to take on such a project, which will draw from the greater area. Without the appropriate resources to care for those that come, they won't get the help they truly need and associated problems will increase and spiral.

Aside from the worthwhile discussion about whether sisters needs, could support a shelter, and how to truly help, the current proposal simply does not meet at least 3 of the requirements.

Approval would cause undue stress on our city, community, & public resources not equipped to manage the influx. The unavoidable increase in crime would change our city for the worse.

Unmet Requirements:
1)Safety requirement- we do not have the local police support to handle the potential increases in crime.

2)access to medical services requirement-we have neither emergency, nor urgent care, nor sufficient mental health services available

3)operator has not met the time experience requirement for operating such a shelter.

Thank you for your consideration.

Kyle Parker
503-816-7720

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** Michael Preedin
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 19, 2023 1:37 PM
**To:** Kerry Prosser; Jordan Wheeler
**Subject:** FW: Proposed homeless shelter on Barclay

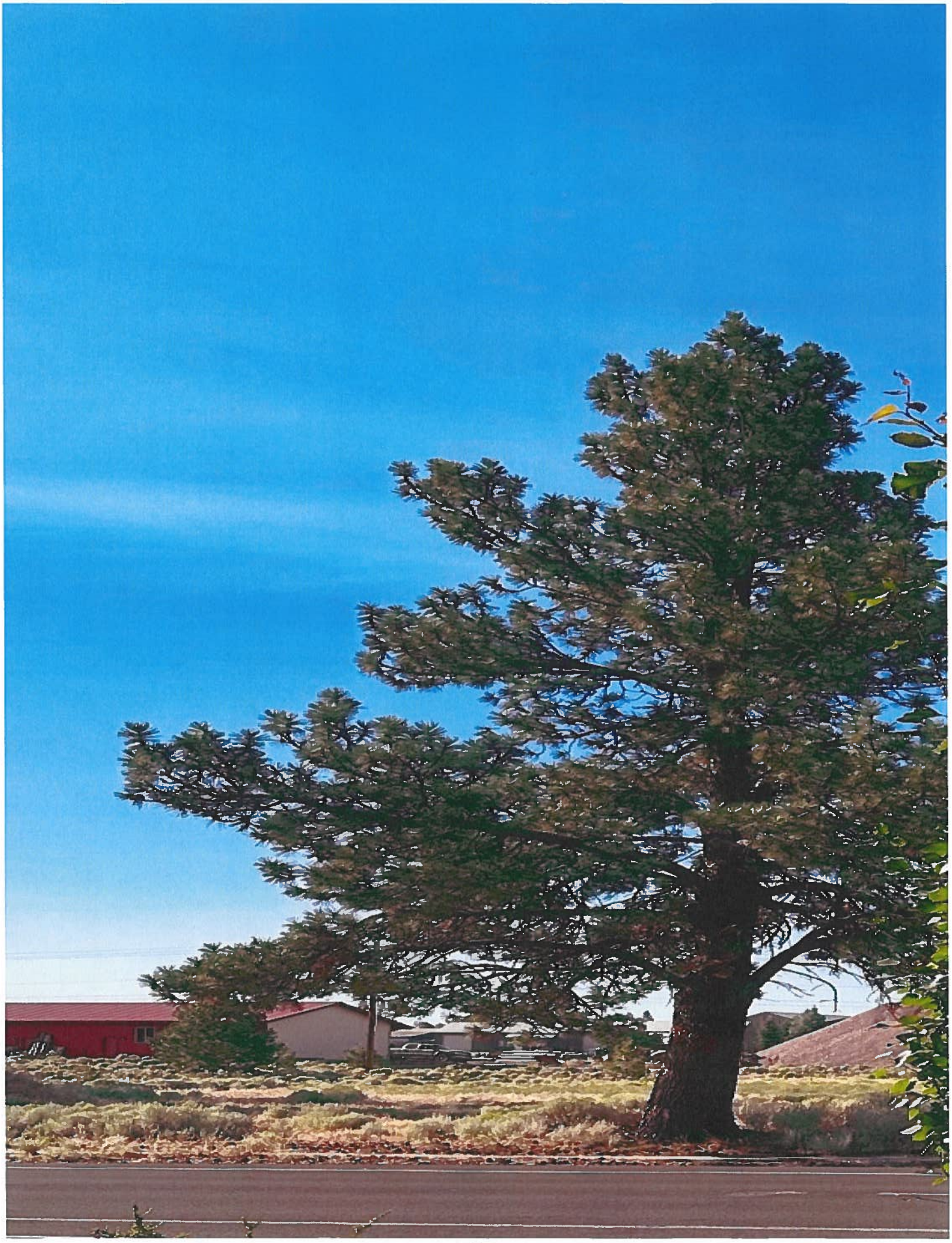
*For the record*

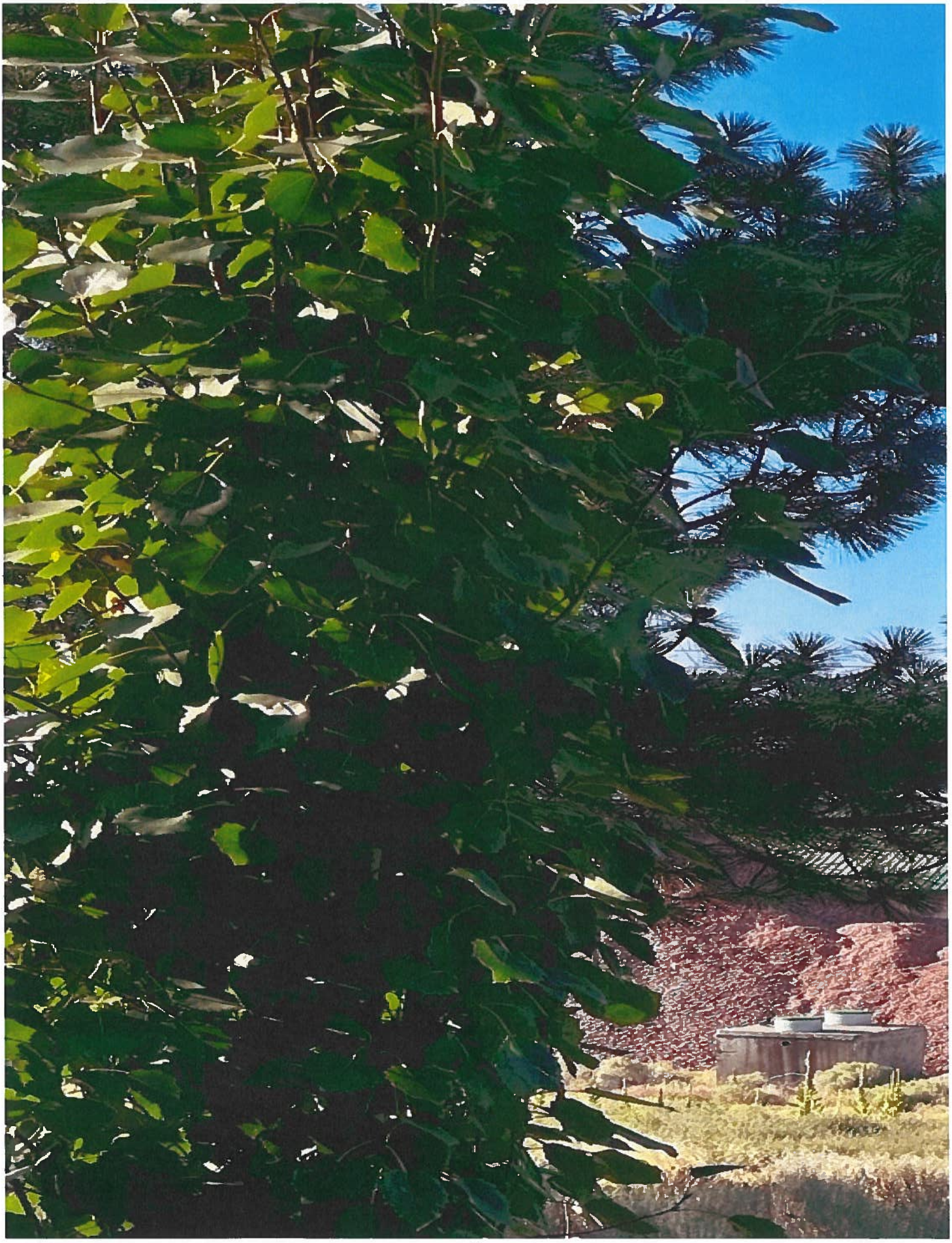
Michael Preedin
Mayor
City of Sisters

mpreedin@ci.sisters.or.us
www.ci.sisters.or.us


**From:** Melissa Parker <melissa.parker@yahoo.com>
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 19, 2023 8:28 AM
**To:** Michael Preedin <mpreedin@ci.sisters.or.us>; Andrea Blum <ablum@ci.sisters.or.us>; Gary Ross <g.ross@ci.sisters.or.us>; Jennifer Letz <jletz@ci.sisters.or.us>; Susan Cobb <scobb@ci.sisters.or.us>
**Cc:** Kyle Parker <kylekparker@yahoo.com>
**Subject:** Re: Proposed homeless shelter on Barclay

To follow up even further on this topic... this is the building for the proposed shelter taken from the inside of my house. If you walk along the path next to Laird Superfoods it's 500 feet from my house. My husband walked it yesterday. How is this acceptable?





Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 17, 2023, at 12:31 PM, Melissa Parker <melissa.parker@yahoo.com> wrote:

Hello to the Sisters Mayor & Counsel Members,

Thank you for taking the time to read my email. I love this town and for many years have wanted to be a member of this special community. I am thrilled to finally be here, however, I am a concerned resident of the ClearPine neighborhood. Many of us have left other areas - Bend, Portland, or Troutdale in my case, etc partly due to homeless issues/concerns within our residence area, community and neighborhoods. We sought a small town for safety to allow our children and families to feel safe and thrive.

I want to see people cared for by the community and would never want to see anyone die in the cold weather. That being said, it is **hugely** concerning to me after reading the article in The Nuggest last week and Central Oregon Daily News, to see the location the Sisters Warming Shelter is looking to purchase. I can literally see the building from the front windows of my home. The article in Central Oregon Daily News stated "This may be the best location in the heart of Sisters, away from residential communities, away from where there might be some exposure, say, to children," he said. **This is an outright lie - as many many children live in the surrounding neighborhoods, including my own child.**

I truly want to see people be supported and helped on their feet for those who truly need that help. However, it would be naive to believe that a homeless shelter that doesn't want its visitors and residents to be close to say, a school and children, shouldn't be allowed to be within visual distance of neighborhoods filled with CHILDREN. We all know people tend to roam.... so where will they go after they leave this shelter location? Seems like a logical conclusion they will wander into all the areas surrounding, including our neighborhoods, filled with our children.

Homeless people come in all shapes and sizes and while many are not violent or on drugs, many indeed are and are suffering from extreme mental health distress. Having potentially violent and unstable individuals being drawn to a location within eyesight and literally so close in walking distance (cut through the parking lot and field by Laird Superfoods and you will run into the building) is unacceptable to anyone who lives in this neighborhood and surrounding homes.

What can we do to stop this from being put into our neighborhood? Is there another location more remote from homes that can be considered? I am a compassionate person and want to see people cared for but in the right ways. I do not trust this is the right way for our families and children.

I do not want to move again. I spent 13 months in Bend while my home here was being completed dealing with homeless men who frightened me literally on my front porch and walking in front of my house on a daily basis on Boyd Acres. I will not feel unsafe in my home again. This is a big reason we moved from Troutdale to Bend to Sisters. If this sale goes through this will cause a huge problem for these residential areas and the people who live here. I will not endure feeling unsafe in my home again, when it is preventable and no one took action to help us.

Thank you for your time and care for our small wonderful town.

Melissa Parker
ClearPine Resident

**From:** Melissa Parker
**To:** Scott Woodford
**Cc:** Kyle Parker
**Subject:** RE: Proposed homeless shelter on Barclay
**Date:** Wednesday, July 19, 2023 11:43:07 AM

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Greetings Mr. Woodford,

Thank you for taking the time to read my email. I love this town and for many years have wanted to be a member of this special community. I am thrilled to finally be here, however, I am a concerned resident of the ClearPine neighborhood. Many of us have left other areas - Bend, Portland, or Troutdale in my case, etc partly due to homeless issues/concerns within our residence area, community and neighborhoods. We sought a small town for safety to allow our children and families to feel safe and thrive.

I want to see people cared for by the community and would never want to see anyone die in the cold weather. That being said, it is **hugely** concerning to me after reading the both articles in The Nuggest last week and this week and Central Oregon Daily News, to see the location the Sisters Warming Shelter is looking to purchase. I can literally see the building from the front windows of my home. The article in Central Oregon Daily News stated “This may be the best location in the heart of Sisters, away from residential communities, away from where there might be some exposure, say, to children,” he said. The Nuggest articles state "This location is away from schools and residential areas". **This is an outright lie - as many many children live in the surrounding neighborhoods, including my own child.**

I truly want to see people be supported and helped on their feet for those who truly need that help. **However, it would be naive to believe that a homeless shelter that doesn't want its visitors and residents to be close to say, a school and children, shouldn't be allowed to be within visual distance of neighborhoods filled with CHILDREN.** We all know people tend to roam.... so where will they go after they leave this shelter location? Seems like a logical conclusion they will wander into all the areas surrounding, including our neighborhoods, filled with our children.

Homeless people come in all shapes and sizes and while many are not violent or on drugs, many indeed are and are suffering from extreme mental health distress. Having potentially violent and unstable individuals being drawn to a location within eyesight and literally so close in walking distance (cut through the parking lot and field by Laird Superfoods and you will run into the building) is unacceptable to anyone who lives in this neighborhood and surrounding homes.

What can we do to stop this from being put into our neighborhood? Is there another location more remote from homes that can be considered? I am a compassionate person and want to see people cared for but in the right ways. I do not trust this is the right way for our families and children.

This goes beyond a ClearPine issue. There are apartments and other homes. Grand Peaks and the entire new Woodlands area being developed. There are so many residents within this **small** area. This is unacceptable to me. As a mother and a woman - I do not feel safe with this situation moving forward.

The image below is of the building for the proposed shelter taken from the inside of my house. If you walk along the path next to Laird Superfoods it’s 500 feet from my house. My husband walked it yesterday.

Thank you for your time.

Melissa Parker
ClearPine Resident

**From:** Scott Woodford
**To:** Kerry Prosser; Jordan Wheeler
**Subject:** FW: My statement on the proposed SCWS and why I am against it.
**Date:** Wednesday, August 30, 2023 5:12:42 PM

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**From:** Melissa Parker <melissa.parker@yahoo.com>
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 30, 2023 3:31 PM
**To:** Scott Woodford <swoodford@ci.sisters.or.us>
**Subject:** My statement on the proposed SCWS and why I am against it.

Hello Scott,

I am writing this as requested for the hearing on September 5th.

So sticking to the qualifications and why I don't feel the SCWS meets them:

1. Has adequate transportation access to commercial and medical services. **NO WE HAVE NO MEDICAL RESOURCES HERE. Not to mention that this will create an undue burden on our small amount of law enforcement and ambulance services. We have NO Urgent care, No ER and nowhere for these folks to seek medical treatment. We also have NO mental healthy resources and support.**

(f) Will not pose any **unreasonable** risk to public health or safety. **YES IT WILL. This is a low barrier - no expectations shelter. Let me ask you..... so when an individual comes in with say a weapon or becomes violent and they are asked for forced to leave the shelter.... where will they go? To our neighborhoods? To the retirement facility down the street? To the businesses. HOW WILL YOU PROTECT THE CITIZENS OF THE CITY YOU WORK FOR????**

**The word unreasonable by definition:**

unreasonable
un·rea·son·able
ˌən-'rez-nə-bəl,
-'re-zᵊn-ə-bəl

**Synonyms of *unreasonable***

**: not governed by or acting according to reason**

***unreasonable* people**

**: not conformable to reason : ABSURD**

***unreasonable* beliefs**

**: exceeding the bounds of reason or moderation**

**I think it's fair to say this proposal is UNREASONABLE, ABSURD, exceeding the bounds of reason or moderation and NOT ACTING ACCORDING TO REASON. CHECK CHECK CHECK CHECK.**

(2) An emergency shelter allowed under this section must be operated by:
(a) A local government as defined in ORS 174.116; (b) An organization with at least two years' experience operating an emergency shelter using best practices that is: **Also I am pretty sure this is also an area they do not qualify for based off their tax exemption status. Have you actually done your due diligence here?**

I understand that you are not required to ask for public comments from the community in making your decision, as

you have stated many times.

I understand you want us to feel we were "heard" so that you, Lou and the SCWS can go on about your business of getting this low barrier shelter rushed through the approval process against the wishes of a large portion of this community.

I understand you appear to be working with and guiding Lou Blanchard in his endeavor to get this LOW BARRIER SHELTER opened in our tiny small community that already does not have resources for the tax paying law abiding citizens, who pay your salary, on top of it all.

I would love transparency as to what the city is getting out of this deal? Let's be open and honest about that. Because the majority of the citizens and business owners do not support this.... and we aren't going away. You, the city council and the SWCS are tearing this community apart.

I am so disappointed and disheartened with this entire situation. Many people, myself included, have moved to Sisters to feel safe and secure in a small town. Now I am not naive to the fact that every town has it's problems.... but this. This is a pandora's box that you are about to unleash on our community. A low barrier shelter by definition requires very little for them to enter. And that means no background checks, no drug testing, no weapons checks. And if they are unruly and kicked out - they are released into the community. And where will they go, sir?

Many who have volunteered and worked with SCWS in the past have been open about their bad experiences. And this is while it was being housed in a church location. Why would you ever allow this permanent location to be approved? It's in a terrible location, on a major route, with no sidewalks surrounded by businesses and nearby neighborhoods, my neighborhood, filled with children?! This is by definition, unreasonable.

I feel that we a community have shown you many reasons why this should not be allowed. It's in your hands as we clearly have no voice in it!

Thank you,
Melissa

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | Cheryl Pellerin |
| **To:** | Scott Woodford |
| **Cc:** | City Council |
| **Subject:** | Notice of Public Hearing - Assumption Concern |
| **Date:** | Monday, August 28, 2023 10:10:12 AM |
| **Attachments:** | preview.png |

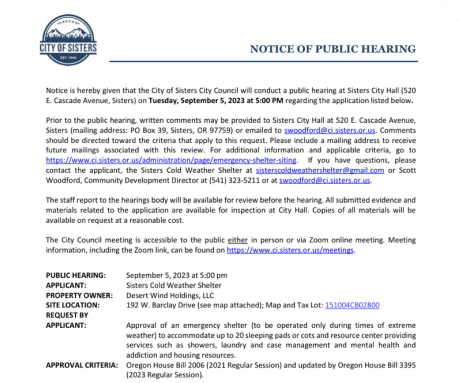
Hi Scott -

The public hearing notice states the applicant is requesting “approval of an emergency shelter **(to be operated only during times of extreme weather)**”. However, the actual application ***does not*** state the shelter is for "extreme weather", rather the description reads “will provide shelter and resources for people experiencing homelessness”. This description leaves the door open to all days and hours regardless of weather and raises concern with the community. The applicant does give winter hours of November through March 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m., but again does not limit that to times of extreme weather. The application also states use as a resource center, but again does not limit that to times of extreme weather.

The public notice is misleading and asserting an assumption that has not been specified by the applicant. It would be more accurate to use the wording found on the actual application, which in this case does **not** limit its operations to extreme weather.

Thank you,

Cheryl Pellerin
1116 E. Creekside Ct.



CITY OF SISTERS

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

Notice is hereby given that the City of Sisters City Council will conduct a public hearing at Sisters City Hall (520 E. Cascade Avenue, Sisters) on **Tuesday, September 5, 2023 at 5:00 PM** regarding the application listed below.

Prior to the public hearing, written comments may be provided to Sisters City Hall at 520 E. Cascade Avenue, Sisters (mailing address: PO Box 39, Sisters, OR 97759) or emailed to swoodford@ci.sisters.or.us. Comments should be directed toward the criteria that apply to this request. Please include a mailing address to receive future mailings associated with this review. For additional information and applicable criteria, go to https://www.ci.sisters.or.us/administration/page/emergency-shelter-siting. If you have questions, please contact the applicant, the Sisters Cold Weather Shelter at sisterscoldweathershelter@gmail.com or Scott Woodford, Community Development Director at (541) 323-5211 or at swoodford@ci.sisters.or.us.

The staff report to the hearings body will be available for review before the hearing. All submitted evidence and materials related to the application are available for inspection at City Hall. Copies of all materials will be available on request at a reasonable cost.

The City Council meeting is accessible to the public either in person or via Zoom online meeting. Meeting information, including the Zoom link, can be found on https://www.ci.sisters.or.us/meetings.

| | |
|---|---|
| **PUBLIC HEARING:** | September 5, 2023 at 5:00 pm |
| **APPLICANT:** | Sisters Cold Weather Shelter |
| **PROPERTY OWNER:** | Desert Wind Holdings, LLC |
| **SITE LOCATION:** | 192 W. Barclay Drive (see map attached); Map and Tax Lot: 151004CB02800 |
| **REQUEST BY APPLICANT:** | Approval of an emergency shelter (to be operated only during times of extreme weather) to accommodate up to 20 sleeping pads or cots and resource center providing services such as showers, laundry and case management and mental health and addiction and housing resources. |
| **APPROVAL CRITERIA:** | Oregon House Bill 2006 (2021 Regular Session) and updated by Oregon House Bill 3395 (2023 Regular Session). |

notice_of_public_hearing_192_w._barclay_dr
PDF Document · 391 KB

**From:** Cheryl Pellerin
**To:** Scott Woodford
**Subject:** HB2006 Application Form Suggestion
**Date:** Friday, August 11, 2023 8:25:56 PM

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Hi Scott -

I'm disappointed our city's Emergency Shelter application form does not ask for more information from the applicant. Other cities, for example, Bend and Monmouth, are requesting the applicant to submit "a capital and operations budget, including descriptions of funds that have been secured, applied for, and any needed funds not yet secured". In addition, a formal strategic plan should be requested.

Please consider requesting this information of future applicants to provide much desired answers to the citizens and city council. Although it may not be a requirement of HB2006, it's vital information. In the August 9th meeting, when City Council asked the Cold Weather Shelter applicant about a strategic plan, their reply was "operate for one year and see how it goes". This is not a viable plan and may result in negative impacts to the homeless, our city and its citizens.

Thank you,

Cheryl Pellerin
714-349-7798
1116 E. Creekside Ct
Sisters, OR 97759

**From:** Cheryl Pellerin
**To:** Jordan Wheeler; Scott Woodford
**Cc:** City Council
**Subject:** City Council Meeting Attendance - Shelter Feedback
**Date:** Wednesday, August 23, 2023 8:50:43 AM

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Hi Scott and Jordan -

I understand the Emergency Shelter application will require disapproval/approval by city staff, not city council. I'm assuming you'll both be making the decision. Based on this process, will you be attending tonight's city council meeting to hear additional citizen feedback and concerns?

Thank you,

Cheryl Pellerin
1116 E. Creekside Ct.

# Homelessness Strategy for Oregon City
## 2022-2026

## INTRODUCTION

In January and February 2021, the City Commission and the City's Executive Team met three times for a series of goal-setting workshops. Our goal was to align around a shared vision, discuss current community projects and issues, and provide City staff with direction regarding the Commission's priorities for the coming years. The City Commission and staff worked closely together to identify goals and strategies for the 2021-2023 biennium that will build on the work and success of previous years, while also addressing new challenges and/or shifting community needs.

The Commission wrapped up the goal-setting process by identifying eight goals for the 2021-2023 biennium. With a set of Commission Goals and Priorities in place, staff then created a biennial work plan that aligns specific actions to implement the Goals with proposed funding for each item. All of this work is combined to create a City budget that supports the Commission Goals while also maintaining high-quality core City services.

This Homelessness Strategy is a product of City Commission *Goal #4: Adopt and implement a homelessness strategy for Oregon City*. While we acknowledge that we cannot solve the homelessness problem in the Metro region, the City is committed to a focused approach that partners with local, regional, and state resources to help those that are houseless or at risk of losing their home within our community.

Our vision is…

> *To create a five-year homelessness strategy (2022-2026) that is designed to support current and future City activities and investments that are focused on partnerships, service delivery, and enforcement to reduce homelessness and the impact on Oregon City.*

This document provides a summary of the current homelessness landscape in Oregon City, known partners, existing constraints, and potential opportunities. It outlines a set of priorities and strategies that are based on what we've learned over the past 8 years working on this issue, and what we've heard from our partners who provide on-the-ground assistance to houseless persons in Oregon City. The plan is focused on helping people in our community while also reducing the negative impact of homelessness on Oregon City.

# CURRENT ENVIRONMENT

The Homelessness Program at Oregon City is currently established within the Oregon City Police Department (OCPD). It is led by the police chief and two full-time staff: a homeless services specialist and a behavioral health specialist. Staff are not sworn police officers or experts in homelessness; their knowledge comes from working on the street every day with the homeless population for the past 8 years. Staff continue to learn from a network of local service providers who help us via coordination and thoughtful problem-solving. The extent and shape of homelessness in Oregon City is affected by our proximity to and dynamics of the City of Portland and neighboring communities. Homelessness is a regional problem and the population in Oregon City changes daily. Our priorities and strategies acknowledge our limitation of resources, the need for regional coordination, and the opportunities that are most reasonable to pursue.

## DEMOGRAPHICS

The homeless population in Oregon City is as diverse as any other sector of our society and is growing at a steady pace. Located within the Portland metropolitan area, Oregon City is part of a larger, regional homeless problem. Many of the individuals who are homeless in Oregon City travel throughout the Portland Metro region, living in different areas for varying periods of time. Oregon City has the highest concentration of homeless individuals in Clackamas County. Oregon City saw an immediate and overwhelming increase in homelessness around Oregon City at the beginning of 2013, when a day shelter opened to provide homeless services. The presence of this shelter made Oregon City a destination for unhoused people seeking services.

According to the 2019 point-in-time count for Clackamas County[1], 75% of the homeless population are single adults and 15% are single adults with children. Eight percent of the homeless population are under 18 years of age. Finally, unaffordable rent, unemployment, eviction, interpersonal conflict, and mental or emotional health issues were the most common problems faced by those who reported what caused them to leave their last living arrangement. A number of people experiencing homelessness are additionally challenged with substance dependence.

[1] Clackamas County 2019 Point-In-Time County, August 2019

## COMMUNITY IMPACTS

The growing homeless population has had an impact on Oregon City neighborhoods and businesses. The presence of tents and some of the behaviors exhibited by some of the people experiencing homelessness have resulted in complaints and concerns about safety from members of the community.

Crime reports from the Oregon City Police Department indicate the most common incidents that occur by homeless individuals are trespassing, theft, drinking in public places, criminal mischief, and possession of controlled substances. Community members often report piles of trash, materials associated with homeless camps, abandoned shopping carts, and human waste around businesses and homes. Citizens also voice safety concerns for individuals traveling on foot or bicycle along streets, state highways, and Interstate 205.

Businesses, neighborhoods, and City buildings have seen an increased presence of people who suffer from mental illness in the community. While many of these behaviors are completely harmless, they can be unsettling to some. This has resulted in an increased number of emergency calls to the police department. People call because they are either worried about their own safety or concerned about the safety of the individuals whose behaviors they find alarming.

## CHALLENGES AND CONSTRAINTS

The City of Oregon City and our employees do not discriminate against people because they are homeless; we serve all members of this community, whether they are housed or not. Our employees work to solve issues and concerns that are tied to behaviors, not people based on their status. The following issues are the top challenges facing the City in its response to the current homelessness environment.

### Mental Health Services

The biggest challenge is the lack of available mental health services for homeless people in need. The majority of the calls received are usually linked to someone suffering from untreated mental illness. City staff have nowhere to take individuals who need behavioral health services. If an individual is an immediate danger to themselves or others, they are taken to the hospital but are generally released within hours. The lack of mental health treatment is a national problem. Officers respond and have no services or options to offer these members of the community. There are a number of people with whom we have worked for months to get services and even housed, only to find them back on the streets after having gone off their medication.

## Camping, Trash and the Law

The City receives numerous complaints about camping and trash on public property and requests to 'make a person or persons leave an area'. There are several court cases and an Oregon law that address camping on public property and guide cities in their response to these issues. Oregon House Bill 3115 was passed in 2021 and requires city ordinances that regulate sitting, lying, sleeping, or keeping warm and dry outdoors on public property must be objectively reasonable. In other words, the city is not allowed to target homeless individuals if they are sitting, lying, sleeping, or trying to keep warm and dry in outdoor areas. In 2020, the City Commission updated the Oregon City Municipal Code to ensure compliance with the *Martin v. Boise* ruling, a Ninth Circuit case, upon which House Bill 3115 was written. The Bill also requires notification and posting of camps prior to removal, as well as a requirement that the City store personal property and debris removed from camps for 30 days. Finally, the Bill states that local governments cannot punish people for camping if the City cannot offer an alternative, such as a bed in a shelter. Therefore, City staff maintain a list of shelter options to offer homeless individuals who are willing to go to a shelter.

An additional challenge are jurisdictional issues related to camping and trash. Several of the areas where the public report refuse are public areas controlled by government entities other than Oregon City; such as METRO, the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT), and Clackamas County. We work with these governments to keep the environment clean and free of unwanted trash. But the City does not have the authority to remove camps or trash from properties adjacent and outside of the city limits.

## Housing Services

Getting people into housing is one of the biggest challenges faced by City staff. The majority of the people staff contact on the street are not ready or willing to accept services that would lead them to housing. To get some people housed, it takes time and a process of building trust before they are ready to engage the services necessary to get housed. Additionally, the number of available shelter spaces in the Portland Metro area is limited.

Housing services in our area are managed by Clackamas County. Housing a person or family experiencing homelessness requires a coordinated, regional effort across the County, Portland, and greater Metro area. Coordination needs to be improved to better address housing options and to provide targeted, wraparound services that effectively prepare people to come off the street and return to housing.

Homelessness is a complex issue and requires a collaborative approach. There are no silver bullet solutions or individual solutions that will be successful in all scenarios.

# FIVE-YEAR STRATEGY: 2022-2026

The City has identified a set of priorities and associated strategies that will focus City operations and budget considerations for the next five years. The City has already made great strides in addressing homelessness in Oregon City. These priorities will continue to support the existing Homelessness Program while building new strategies that will further our ability to assist those individuals and families most in need.

## PRIORITY 1: CONNECT HOMELESS PERSONS TO RESOURCES


In order for homeless persons to transition to permanent housing, health and social services are often required for success. Oregon City has hired two staff members within the Oregon City Police Department that currently work every day with the homeless community in Oregon City by providing information, determining needs, making connections between people and needed services, and working toward getting them housed. The City of Oregon City does not provide shelters or transitional housing. We work with different shelters and Clackamas County to connect people with these providers. Our staff will do whatever it takes to connect people with housing opportunities, including arranging transportation and temporary lodging until an opportunity becomes available. In addition, the City has taken advantage of grant opportunities that allow us to help people who are about to become homeless with assistance to keep them housed. This priority is centered on increasing services and resources for people at risk of or experiencing homelessness. Oregon City will support this priority by implementing the following strategies:

- Continue to fund and support the Oregon City Homeless Services Specialist and the Behavioral Health Specialist positions (2 permanent FTE).
- Build and use a network of social service providers in Oregon City and the region to provide wraparound services to homeless persons.
- Provide training to Oregon City staff to best serve the homeless community.
- Coordinate state, regional, and local resources to streamline and improve service provision and the availability of housing solutions for people experiencing homelessness.

## Priority 2: Reduce the Impact on Oregon City Neighborhoods and Businesses

As discussed earlier in this document, Oregon City experiences a variety of impacts due to the growing homeless population both inside and outside the city limits. We are limited in both resources and our ability to house homeless individuals who are living in the City. We must work with a trauma informed approach to enforce local and state laws legally and ethically as they relate to behaviors that have a negative impact on the community. This is demonstrated in the following strategies:

- Enforce laws and City municipal code with compassion and prioritize alternative solutions. This is done through our partnership with the Clackamas County Community Court which diverts people from the criminal justice system and requires an individual to engage with needed services, such as behavioral health or substance dependance services.
- Continue to clean up abandoned campsites, waste, and trash.
- Work with partner agencies such as the Oregon Department of Transportation, Metro, and Clackamas County to keep the community clean and safe.

## Priority 3: Increase Communications And Community Engagement

Oregon City has a community base that is consistently concerned about homeless-related issues and the growing homeless population in general. Many individuals have offered to help, have requested more information about the situation and what the City is doing to reduce the homeless population in Oregon City, and serve as a dependable resource for alerting OCPD of issues and areas of concern.

Staff must improve communications with our community and engage residents and businesses who are willing to provide time and resources. Finally, staff must be internally coordinated to strengthen the City's Homelessness Program and improve government processes.

The City will implement the following strategies:

- Create a centralized web site to communicate Homelessness Program priorities and strategies with the community at-large; streamline the ability to report concerns to OCPD; provide a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) page to provide information to the community on commonly asked questions.
- Create an internal Homeless Solutions task force with representatives from all departments to coordinate City activities and to assist with targeted problem-solving; consider programmatic or municipal code modifications to support the Homelessness Program.
- Coordinate with local partners to leverage community members who would like to assist with homeless-related issues.

## Priority 4: Leverage Other Funds to Support Priorities

Outside funding sources can be used to supplement and advance Oregon City homeless priorities and strategies. The City will leverage outside funding opportunities to the extent reasonably possible while also partnering with other government and non-profit organizations to increase service delivery and housing options for the homeless community. Oregon City will implement the following strategies:

- Leverage outside funding sources to the greatest extent possible; monitor grant opportunities for alignment with City priorities and strategies.
- Partner with other government and non-profit organizations to increase service delivery and housing options for the homeless community.
- Consider homelessness strategy priorities each biennium during the City's budget process to determine where and how much funds should be allocated to the Homelessness Program.

**From:** Cheryl Pellerin
**To:** City Council
**Subject:** Oregon City Report - Homeless Services
**Date:** Sunday, August 27, 2023 10:01:07 AM
**Attachments:** preview.png

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***Sisters City Council -***

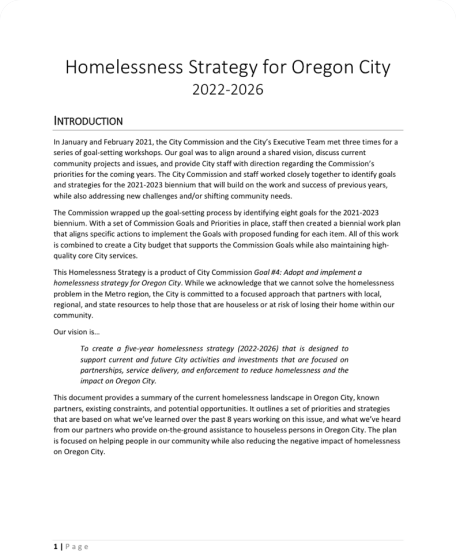
***Thank you for providing a public hearing for the Emergency Shelter topic on 9/5. In the meantime, I'd like to provide you a link to a report by Oregon City with findings that are a great concern of many Sisters residents regarding the proposed shelter. The report states:***

> ***"Oregon City saw an immediate and overwhelming increase in homelessness around Oregon City at the beginning of 2013, when a day shelter opened to provide homeless services. The presence of this shelter made Oregon City a destination for unhoused people seeking services."***

***Please consider this when making the tough decision regarding approval or disapproval of the Emergency Shelter application.***

***Thank you,***

***Cheryl Pellerin***
***1116 E. Creekside Ct.***



Homelessness Strategy for Oregon City
2022-2026

INTRODUCTION

In January and February 2021, the City Commission and the City's Executive Team met three times for a series of goal-setting workshops. Our goal was to align around a shared vision, discuss current community projects and issues, and provide City staff with direction regarding the Commission's priorities for the coming years. The City Commission and staff worked closely together to identify goals and strategies for the 2021-2023 biennium that will build on the work and success of previous years, while also addressing new challenges and/or shifting community needs.

The Commission wrapped up the goal-setting process by identifying eight goals for the 2021-2023 biennium. With a set of Commission Goals and Priorities in place, staff then created a biennial work plan that aligns specific actions to implement the Goals with proposed funding for each item. All of this work is combined to create a City budget that supports the Commission Goals while also maintaining high-quality core City services.

This Homelessness Strategy is a product of City Commission *Goal #4: Adopt and implement a homelessness strategy for Oregon City*. While we acknowledge that we cannot solve the homelessness problem in the Metro region, the City is committed to a focused approach that partners with local, regional, and state resources to help those that are houseless or at risk of losing their home within our community.

Our vision is...

> *To create a five-year homelessness strategy (2022-2026) that is designed to support current and future City activities and investments that are focused on partnerships, service delivery, and enforcement to reduce homelessness and the impact on Oregon City.*

This document provides a summary of the current homelessness landscape in Oregon City, known partners, existing constraints, and potential opportunities. It outlines a set of priorities and strategies that are based on what we've learned over the past 8 years working on this issue, and what we've heard from our partners who provide on-the-ground assistance to houseless persons in Oregon City. The plan is focused on helping people in our community while also reducing the negative impact of homelessness on Oregon City.

1 | Page

homelessness_strategy_for_oregon_city_2022-2026
PDF Document · 898 KB

**From:** Jordan Wheeler
**To:** Kerry Prosser
**Subject:** Fw: Shelter
**Date:** Friday, August 18, 2023 11:14:38 AM

---

**From:** Jon prince <princejon@icloud.com>
**Sent:** Thursday, August 17, 2023 12:50 PM
**To:** Jordan Wheeler <jwheeler@ci.sisters.or.us>
**Subject:** Shelter

Hello, I stand with Paul on this. The community and their opinions should be a strong consideration in the decisions made by the city council that affect all of us. Thank you, Jon Prince

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** Susan Cobb
**To:** Kerry Prosser
**Cc:** bpruett@reagan.com; Jordan Wheeler
**Subject:** Fw: Homeless shelter Questions
**Date:** Thursday, August 10, 2023 4:12:22 PM

---

Hello Kerry,

I received this list of questions directly from citizen, Beth Pruit - cc'd above.

It's too bad our residents are not aware of the readily accessible information about the proposed cold weather shelter that is on our City of Sisters website and that all one needs to do is click on What's Happening on the home page to peruse the documents on the topic.

I have forwarded to you, for a reply to Beth from the City and to also to share her questions with the Mayor and Councilors.

Thank you.

---

**From:** Beth's Email <bpruett@reagan.com>
**Sent:** Thursday, August 10, 2023 3:47 PM
**To:** Susan Cobb <scobb@ci.sisters.or.us>
**Subject:** Homeless shelter Questions

The community of Sisters has to know?

The "workshop" meeting last night was interesting. It would have been useful for you and your board of directors to have taken the opportunity last night to address public concerns and questions after meeting with the city council.

Following are some of the many questions that concern myself and my husband.

1. The Sisters Cold Weather Emergency Shelter has been presented to the community as an "emergency shelter" for use during extreme cold weather, extreme hot weather, and during periods of heavy smoke from local wildfires. Are there temperature ranges that would warrant opening the shelter? What criteria will used to evaluate concerning smoke conditions? Will the shelter be open for service 24/7 during these events and closed when these criteria are not met?
2. What is the absolute maximum capacity of the shelter?
3. Does the shelter anticipate accepting referrals from other communities or counties seeking to shelter individuals when that agency no longer has available beds?
4. What is the plan when there is not adequate staffing to manage open bed capacity?
5. Will staff be on site 24 hours when the shelter is open?
6. What are the anticipated staffing needs?
7. How will staff be screened, vetted, and credentialed?
8. Will staff be paid or voluntary?
9. Will staff be required to pursue continuing education to maintain and develop skills required to provide to safely staff and provide shelter services?
10. Who are the board members?

11. What specifically is your training and skillset to manage and lead this project?
12. What is the training and skillset of your board of directors?
13. How are positions for the board determined?
14. How many members make up the board of directors?
15. What is your salary?
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18. Has the building already been purchased?
19. What is the anticipated rehab construction budget to make the facility useful and safey for staff and residents?
20. How much of your grant remains?
21. What are the long-term plans for the shelter?
22. What is the business plan for the facility?
23. Where will long-term funding come from?
24. What selection criteria and exclusion criteria will be used to determine eligibility for residence at the shelter?
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26. How will your staff effectively screen for drugs, alcohol, unstable mental health issues, and criminal history?
27. There is no walk-in urgent / emergency medical care or acute mental health care available in Sisters. How will your staff safely manage urgent medical conditions or acute flares of mental health problems?
28. How will your staff manage acute withdrawal events from residents with undisclosed alcohol or drug addiction?
29. What is the maximum amount of time a resident can stay at the shelter?
30. Are beds only available for local Sisters homeless?
31. How will the shelter determine if someone seeking shelter has migrated from another locale?
32. Sisters is a small tourist town with limited resources and a short tourist season. How will you and your board address the concerns of the business community.
33. What assurances can you provide to the public that have safety concerns regarding the shelter?

**From:** Michael Preedin
**To:** Kerry Prosser; Jordan Wheeler
**Subject:** Fwd: Homeless Shelter
**Date:** Friday, August 11, 2023 1:08:26 PM

---

Just in case you didn't get it
---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: Beth's Email <bpruett@reagan.com>
Date: Aug 11, 2023 12:50
Subject: Homeless Shelter
To: Beth Pruett <bpruett@reagan.com>
Cc:

It is fair to say that no one in Sisters has a cold heart or lacks compassion. Unfortunately, discussion regarding the Sisters Cold Weather Shelter (SCWS) Application for a homeless shelter located at 192 W Barclay Drive has galvanized those participating in the conversation into "opposing camps." The reality is that "those in opposition" to the application have expressed concerns over shelter operations, public safety, and the overall impact on the community and local businesses.

Many of the concerns expressed on Facebook and during the community comment section of the recent City Council meeting are very reasonable and valid questions that deserve answers and clarification from the Sisters Cold Weather Organization Board of Directors.

Public sentiment should be assessed before committing to a program of this magnitude. However, it is essential to note that because the Oregon state law (HB2006, later amended in HB3395) governing the establishment of an "emergency shelter" is not a land use decision, requirements for "noticing, soliciting comments, and public hearings" do not apply. This law requires local governments to approve an application "regardless of other state or local land use laws" if the application meets the specific approval criteria outlined in HB2006 / HB3395.

Removing the application process from a land use decision and thereby removing the requirement for "noticing, soliciting comments, and public hearings" essentially represents a shall-approve process that effectively squelches any dissenting voice because there is no need, and arguably, no interest in a differing point of view.

The bill further states that the application approval cannot be appealed to the City Council or Land Use Board of Appeals. Therefore, the only remaining remedy available to the public after approval is the Circuit Court.

For clarity, the following is an excerpt from the City of Sisters' official website outlining specific approval criteria required for granting application approval.

- Includes sleeping and restroom facilities
- Complies with applicable building codes

- Is located within a UGB [Urban Growth Boundary]
- Will not result in a new building that is sited within an area designated under a statewide land use planning goal relating to natural disasters and hazards
- Has adequate transportation access to commercial and medical services
- Will not pose any unreasonable risk to public health or safety.

Further, the proposed emergency shelter must be operated by:
- A local government; or
- An organization with at least two years' experience operating an emergency shelter using best practices that is:
- A housing authority
- A religious corporation
- A public benefit corporation whose charitable purpose includes the support of homeless individuals and that has been recognized as exempt from income tax under section 501(a) of the Internal Revenue Code on or before January 1, 2018; or
- A nonprofit corporation partnering with any of those entities.

Those opposing the application approval would submit that the application does not meet the abovementioned criteria, specifically:
- Represents an UNREASONABLE risk to health and safety
- No ADEQUATE transportation to medical services
- Not a QUALIFIED operator or AUTHORIZED organization

The small town of Sisters lacks appropriate access to urgent/emergent medical care, urgent/emergent mental health care, and immediate law enforcement response, all required for maintaining public safety, staff safety, and proper care for shelter residents. Additionally, SCWS has not offered an operating plan, resident screening criteria, or staff qualifications required for a safe shelter environment.

An "emergency shelter," as stipulated in the bill, provides "shelter on a temporary basis for individuals and families who lack permanent housing." The houseless shelter project, as presented by Sisters Cold Weather Shelter (SCWS), is anything but "shelter on a temporary basis."

The intended shelter use description, as outlined by the Sisters Cold Weather Shelter (SCWS) Application posted on the official City of Sisters webpage, states: "the shelter is intended to serve the houseless individuals and families in the Sisters area. SCWS plans to operate as an overnight emergency shelter only during cold, hot, and wildfire smoke events, as well as provide daily services such as laundry, shower, and food. However, state law does not preclude the shelter from operating a year-round overnight emergency shelter in the future."

This statement raises questions of what qualifies as "hot, cold, and wildfire events" and at what point the community could anticipate SCWS "operating a year-round overnight emergency shelter." Additionally, shelter capacity and, by extension, the long-term impact on the community needs to be clarified. The number of beds reported in various venues ranges from 8-10 to 20 and as high as 40.

The mission statement on the Sisters Cold Weather Shelter (SCWS) website states, "Our primary mission is to provide shelter, advocacy, and resources for the Unhoused Community in Sisters Country." It would be naive not to recognize the increased likelihood that this shelter, as described, will attract individuals currently not in our also seeking additional unhoused individuals to the community seeking shelter, advocacy, and resources.

Concerns regarding granular details of day-to-day operations, public safety, community impact, long-term funding, and sustainability are all reasonable discussion points for a concerned citizenry. Unfortunately, consent by the public and appeal are removed from the process by the very law that "obligates" approval of the shelter. If you share these concerns, your only recourse is to illuminate the City Council of application defects that disqualify approval. If unsuccessful, the sole remedy that remains is the Circuit Court.

**From:** Beth Pruett
**To:** Susan Cobb
**Cc:** Kerry Prosser; Jordan Wheeler
**Subject:** Re: Homeless shelter Questions
**Date:** Wednesday, August 16, 2023 10:42:57 AM

---

If you build it they will come!
https://oregoncatalyst.com/70778-ny-times-quote-people-flock-portland.html

> On Aug 10, 2023, at 4:12 PM, Susan Cobb <scobb@ci.sisters.or.us> wrote:
>
> Hello Kerry,
>
> I received this list of questions directly from citizen, Beth Pruit - cc'd above.
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> I have forwarded to you, for a reply to Beth from the City and to also to share her questions with the Mayor and Councilors.
>
> Thank you.
>
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> **From:** Beth's Email <bpruett@reagan.com>
> **Sent:** Thursday, August 10, 2023 3:47 PM
> **To:** Susan Cobb <scobb@ci.sisters.or.us>
> **Subject:** Homeless shelter Questions
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**From:** Jordan Wheeler
**To:** Kerry Prosser
**Subject:** Fw: Revised Emergency Shelter Site Application
**Date:** Friday, August 18, 2023 11:17:11 AM

---

**From:** Beth Pruett <bpruett@reagan.com>
**Sent:** Friday, August 18, 2023 10:05 AM
**To:** Jordan Wheeler <jwheeler@ci.sisters.or.us>
**Subject:** Re: Revised Emergency Shelter Site Application

This is very bad news

https://oregoncatalyst.com/70865-oregons-largest-shelter-close-taxes-65m-unspent-fund.html

On Aug 17, 2023, at 9:05 PM, Jordan Wheeler <jwheeler@ci.sisters.or.us> wrote:

Hi Beth,

Another community member had a similar question about the decision-making authority and here was my response:

> The law is ambiguous on the decision-making body for emergency shelter siting applications. It states that "a local government shall approve an application for the development or use of land for an emergency shelter..." if it meets the requirements and criteria. We have not yet found a case where a City Council approved or denied an application rather than a staff level decision. We based our application and application review process on how other cities have been processing these applications but with enhancements such as noticing, holding the Council workshop with the applicant, and taking public comments. At the meeting and in the staff report, we stated that we were processing it as a staff level decision taking into account the public comments and Council input and the evidence submitted by the applicant that addresses the criteria.
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In short, our approach was that this was a staff level decision since that has been the practice in other communities and the law is unclear on the process. However that does not mean that a City Council couldn't decide to make the decision.

I hope that helps clarify. Thanks for all your continued involvement and input on the proposal

and your passion for the community.

Best,
Jordan

---

**From:** Beth's Email <bpruett@reagan.com>
**Sent:** Thursday, August 17, 2023 6:03 PM
**To:** Jordan Wheeler <jwheeler@ci.sisters.or.us>
**Subject:** Re: Revised Emergency Shelter Site Application

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Beth Pruett

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> **Jordan Wheeler**
> City Manager | City of Sisters
> PO Box 39 | 520 E. Cascade Ave., Sisters, OR 97759
> 541-323-5205
> jwheeler@ci.sisters.or.us | www.ci.sisters.or.us
>
> <Outlook-ozswol4c.png>
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> 

**From:** Jordan Wheeler
**To:** Kerry Prosser
**Subject:** Fw: Revised Emergency Shelter Site Application
**Date:** Friday, August 18, 2023 11:17:34 AM

---

**From:** Beth Pruett <bpruett@reagan.com>
**Sent:** Friday, August 18, 2023 10:03 AM
**To:** Jordan Wheeler <jwheeler@ci.sisters.or.us>
**Subject:** Re: Revised Emergency Shelter Site Application

Hot off the press:

https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-12406201/US-spike-homeless-people-record.html

If you build it they will come
Beth and David Pruett

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> <Outlook-ozswol4c.png>
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> 

**From:** Jordan Wheeler
**To:** Kerry Prosser
**Subject:** Fw: Revised Emergency Shelter Site Application
**Date:** Monday, August 21, 2023 12:30:21 PM

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**From:** Beth Pruett <bpruett@reagan.com>
**Sent:** Sunday, August 20, 2023 10:30 AM
**To:** Jordan Wheeler <jwheeler@ci.sisters.or.us>
**Subject:** Re: Revised Emergency Shelter Site Application

If Portland can't fund one. How can Sisters?
https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-12417411/Portlands-sanctioned-homeless-park-just-NINE-residents-despite-having-room-55-month-opened-shocking-images-drug-addled-people-taking-sidewalks.html

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> 

**From:** Kerry Prosser
**To:** Kerry Prosser
**Subject:** FW: Homeless Shelter
**Date:** Wednesday, August 9, 2023 3:59:00 PM

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-----Original Message-----
From: Carhy Sewall <clhsewall@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 9, 2023 1:27 PM
To: Matt Martin <mmartin@ci.sisters.or.us>
Subject: Homeless Shelter

I am not able to attend tonight's meeting regarding the Homeless Shelter but my husband will be there and will definitely comment.

I am truly surprised at the number of people who are opposing the shelter. Our town is known to be caring and welcoming. In the 10 years that we have lived here this has definitely changed for the worse. Both of us are appalled at the attitudes of the people who are opposing this. They are scared of what? Helping others who do not have a warm place to live nor do many of them have enough food. People forget that there are also children who are homeless as well.

One of the basis tenants of Christianity us that we care for others who have nothing. Jesus taught us that we are indeed our brother's keepers. Local churches including my Episcopal Church have hosted the Shelter in the past and always step up to help others in need. We do need a homeless shelter in Sisters. Has the opposition forgotten how cold our winters are here? Guess so.

I hope and pray that people will understand how important it is for the members of our community to realize that when they are sitting in their nice warm houses with food to eat that the homeless are out there in the single digits and below zero weather, often with nothing to eat. Have a little compassion for our fellow man.

Good luck tonight.

Cathy Sewall

Life is Good

August 16, 2023

(VIA USPS MAIL)
City of Sisters
P.O. Box 39
Sisters, OR 97759

(All BELOW VIA EMAIL)
Scott Woodford
Community Development Director
swoodford@ci.sisters.or.us

Jordan Wheeler
City Manager
jwheeler@ci.sisters.or.us

Kerry Prosser
Assistant City Manager
kprosser@ci.sisters.or.us

City Council Members:
Mayor Michael Preedin
mpreedin@ci.sisters.or.us
Councilor Andrea Blum
ablum@ci.sisters.or.us
Councilor Gary Ross
g.ross@ci.sisters.or.us
Councilor Jennifer Letz
jletz@ci.sisters.or.us
Councilor Susan Cobb
scobb@ci.sisters.or.us

Letter in **OPPOSITION to Emergency Shelter Site Application for Sisters Cold Weather Shelter**

We attended the August 9, 2023 workshop presentation of the proposed emergency shelter site application at 192 Barclay Drive and community comments at the beginning of the City Council meeting. We were discouraged that the Council did not ask direct questions of the applicant to learn, if not air out in public, the specific plans the applicant has formally developed to address community concerns while also complying with state law. The workshop, at best, was a perfunctory exercise.

**This application must be denied for the following reasons as it is not in compliance with HB 2006:**

1. **SCWS is NOT a qualifed operator**. It does not have the required 2 year experience operating an emergency shelter nor supporting documentation to prove so.
2. **SCWS is NOT an authorized organization**. It must have received IRS tax exemption on or before January 1, 2018. SCWS does not meet this criteria. The IRS determination letter issued January 22, 2021 shows an effective date of exemption of August 12, 2020. This is 2 1/2 years after the January 1, 2018 deadline.

3. **SCWS IS an unreasonable risk to the public health or safety**. There are no written rules of conduct for review. There will be a draw of houseless individuals from other locations. SCWS does not "expect" it, but at the same time is not prepared for this anticipated influx and they **will not** be able to handle it. There are no specific hours of operation submitted. The community of Sisters is at high risk for vagrancy and crime. There will be unintended consequences. Hardworking taxpaying residents and business owners will be left unfairly holding the bag from this ill conceived project. As for the availabiity of Public Safety coverage, a formal study should be undertaken in conjuction with the Country Sheriff and a report from the Sheriff should be submitted to the Council and the public.
4. **There is NO adequate transportation access to Medical and Commercial Services**. What plans are in place to address this? There is **no urgent care nor emergency room in Sisters**. SCWS has not provided proof of having qualified medical personnel such as an M.D or D.O. on their staff or means to handle a crisis.

**Additional items of high concern:**

1. There is no business plan to address the operation of SCWS.
2. What provisions are in place for companion animals (example: dogs) of the homeless individuals seeking shelter at SCWS during extreme weather conditions? Will the human be allowed in, but not their companion? Who is going to care for their animal?
3. It was stated in the workshop by Mr. Blanchard that funding is expected to last for the first 3 years. But there is no long-term plan for funding. Just "strategic fundraising for the 1st year". What happens if everything fails? Meanwhile, the influx of homeless will remain, and become even more of a problem for Sisters and the community at large.
4. The financial information on SCWS' website is vague and inconclusive. Has anyone from the City reviewed this 501C3 on Guidestar? The information about SCWS is minimal at best and not transparent.
5. Has anyone from the City asked for and received all the required IRS disclosure documents from SCWS? The information below is from: https://www.stayexempt.irs.gov/home/existing-organizations/required-disclosures

"In return for being tax exempt and receiving tax deductible contributions, Congress requires Section 501(c)(3) organizations to disclose information about their organization to the public. You're required to share the following documents with the public when requested: • Annual returns for three years after the due date. This includes returns like your Form 990, 990-EZ, 990-PF, and any Forms 990-T filed after August 17, 2006, including your extensions. • All Form 990 schedules (except portions of Schedule B), attachments and supporting documents. • Your application for exemption and all supporting documents, like Form 1023, if you filed it on or after July 15, 1987. • And the determination letter from the IRS that shows your organization has tax-exempt status."

These documents are required to be released **when requested** or posted publicly by the 501C3, or face significant penalties for non-compliance.

The only document attached to the application is the determination (exemption) letter.

In summary, SCWS has failed to meet the basic criteria of the law, and the application should be denied on that basis alone.

Please place discussion continuation on the agenda for the August 23, 2023 City Council Meeting.

Respectfully,

Kenneth and Margaret Snow
16080 Foothill Loop
Sisters, OR

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | Eric Spor |
| **To:** | Scott Woodford; Michael Preedin; Andrea Blum; Gary Ross; Jennifer Letz; Susan Cobb; Jeff Seymour; Cris Converse; Vikki HIckmann; Jeremy Dickman; Sarah McDougall; Art Blumenkron; Tom Ries; eric@edcoinfo.com; Jordan Wheeler; Kerry Prosser; Matt Martin; Jacob Smith; Emelia Shoup; Carol Jenkins; Paul Bertagna; Jackson Dumanch; paul2004@mac.com |
| **Subject:** | Fwd: letter to the city |
| **Date:** | Wednesday, August 16, 2023 8:20:03 AM |

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**Date:** August 16, 2023 at 7:41:09 AM PDT
**To:** sporfour@gmail.com
**Subject: letter to the city**

I am writing the City of Sisters with concerns and disapproval of the homeless shelter proposed at the Barclay property. As one of the few lifetime residents I have seen more changes in the last ten years than in the 47 I have been here. This is the first real damaging change that I felt required speaking my voice. The first issue I see is when this fails, and it will fail there is no turning back or exit plan that will reverse the damage. Don't underestimate the network of communication the homeless have created will bring in more than the current numbers we are dealing with. This puts the City of Sisters and its residents in a position of taking care of anyone that chooses to travel here with no limitations or guidelines. Our surrounding forest can't take any more of the abuse, littering, and potential fire damage witch we have already seen. I know there is a very small select few that are good people and need help, but the majority do not want to comply with society whether it's drugs, alcohol, sex offenders, or other. They will show up for all the freebies and handouts but continue to pollute and seek residence in the forest. The second issue is at the rate the homeless will multiply the city will have to increase medical and law enforcement services. If you don't believe me spend some time talking to bend and Redmond fire districts. Look at the call rates to these camps for overdose, alcohol related accidents, domestic abuse, stabbings, rape, fires, dogs at large killings, and much more. I hope everyone at the city council and the understand this will be on them. I hope all of you realize it's still ok to say "NO!", not in our town, not in our community. We have something great here and we have the right protect it. I already have travelers and vacationers come into my place of work and are appalled by all the homeless camps and tents from Black Butte to town. They say I never thought I would see this here. They are speaking of just the camps they can see, and there are many more they can't. Again, remember it will be your names and faces that pushed this on us or chose to have no backbone and say no.

When there is more break in's, needles laying in the parks and ball fields, drugged out people making scenes, or physical violence don't be surprised when your names are called out. At a minimum I think this is something that should go to vote and let the people of sisters decide.

Thank you,
Eric Spor

## Kerry Prosser

**From:** Chris Ogren <Chris.Ogren@deschutes.org>
**Sent:** Monday, July 24, 2023 11:09 AM
**To:** Kerry Prosser
**Subject:** Fw: Sisters cold weather shelter - COIC

FYI

**Chris Ogren, MPP | Houseless Response Analyst**
Coordinated Houseless Response Office (CHRO)
Serving Residents of Deschutes County and the Cities of Bend, Redmond, Sisters, and La Pine
Phone: (458) 202-0905 | Email: Chris.Ogren@deschutes.org
1300 NW Wall St., Suite 200, Bend, OR 97701

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**From:** Madelyn Stasko <madelynclearpine@gmail.com>
**Sent:** Thursday, July 20, 2023 8:17 AM
**To:** Chris Ogren <Chris.Ogren@deschutes.org>
**Cc:** Madelyn Stasko <mzstasko2014@gmail.com>; Madelyn Stasko <mzstasko@comcast.net>
**Subject:** Re: Sisters cold weather shelter - COIC

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

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Tx Chris.

On Jul 20, 2023, at 8:15 AM, Chris Ogren <Chris.Ogren@deschutes.org> wrote:

Good Morning Madelyn,

I believe that SCWS will be the building's owner.

I'm not sure of the exact process for SCWS to get the shelter up and running, but all my interactions with Luis have been stellar and i'm really excited to see such a dedicated group get selected for this opportunity. I tend to believe that SCWS is committed to finding a solution that fits within the Sisters community. I encourage you to attend SCWS's Q&A event and continue to provide feedback on what should be done to get things right in Sisters.

Let me know if you have any further questions!

Chris

<Outlook-gvalrmk4.png>

**Chris Ogren, MPP | Houseless Response Analyst**
Coordinated Houseless Response Office (CHRO)
Serving Residents of Deschutes County and the Cities of Bend, Redmond, Sisters, and La Pine

Phone: (458) 202-0905 | Email: Chris.Ogren@deschutes.org
1300 NW Wall St., Suite 200, Bend, OR 97701

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**From:** Madelyn Stasko <madelynclearpine@gmail.com>
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 19, 2023 7:01 PM
**To:** Chris Ogren <Chris.Ogren@deschutes.org>
**Cc:** Madelyn Stasko <mzstasko2014@gmail.com>; Madelyn Stasko <mzstasko@comcast.net>
**Subject:** Re: Sisters cold weather shelter - COIC

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

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Hi Chris. I do have a question. I asked Luis Blanchard same questions and below is her/his reply. Question. After SCWS gets approval for siting is it a done deal? So if there are legitimate concerns, there can be no turning back? Or does the community still able to give feedback for evaluation?

And who will own the building?SCWS?

Tx.
Dear Madeline, this is Luis Blanchard the President of SCWS. We will be inviting folks such as your community to a Q&A once we've received our approval for siting our shelter under the legislation HB-2006. We expect to host this within the building. Just know our operations will not be much different than they were for the 6-7 years we operated in our facilities like Wellhouse church, Sisters Community church etc. We want nothing but to be a good neighbor and to discreetly serve our vulnerable community in and about the town of Sisters.
Please stay tuned and we thank you for your patience.

On Jul 19, 2023, at 5:22 PM, Chris Ogren <Chris.Ogren@deschutes.org> wrote:

Hi Madelyn,

I'm happy to help! Please feel free to reach out if you have any further questions. I know some of this is complicated, so i'm here to help offer any clarity I can.

Have a great evening,

Chris

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**Chris Ogren, MPP | Houseless Response Analyst**
**Coordinated Houseless Response Office (CHRO)**
Serving Residents of Deschutes County and the Cities of Bend, Redmond, Sisters, and La Pine
Phone: (458) 202-0905 | Email: Chris.Ogren@deschutes.org
1300 NW Wall St., Suite 200, Bend, OR 97701

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**From:** Madelyn Stasko <madelynclearpine@gmail.com>
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 19, 2023 3:26 PM
**To:** Chris Ogren <Chris.Ogren@deschutes.org>
**Cc:** Madelyn Stasko <mzstasko2014@gmail.com>; Madelyn Stasko <mzstasko@comcast.net>
**Subject:** Re: Sisters cold weather shelter - COIC

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

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Thanks you so much for your guidance in helping me understand the organizational structure. Coming from financial industry, I'm use to larger organizations and have experience in weaving way through—with help from people like you!!!!

*Madelyn Stasko*
Sent from my iPad

On Jul 19, 2023, at 3:22 PM, Chris Ogren <Chris.Ogren@deschutes.org> wrote:

Hi Madelyn,

Yes, COIC is the "lead agency" responsible for facilitating the MAC group and helping Central Oregon meet the requirements of EO 23-02. COIC organizes the process, but does not make decisions on its' own. The MAC group has a voting structure for key decisions.

Tammy Baney, COIC's Executive Director, is the MAC lead (non-voting). I have had a hand in the process, as well as a few other COIC staff.

Her contact information can be found at the bottom of this page: www.coic.org/eo2302/

Best,

Chris

<Outlook-qvrllgto.png>

**Chris Ogren, MPP | Houseless Response Analyst**
**Coordinated Houseless Response Office (CHRO)**
Serving Residents of Deschutes County and the Cities of Bend, Redmond, Sisters, and La Pine
Phone: (458) 202-0905 | Email: Chris.Ogren@deschutes.org
1300 NW Wall St., Suite 200, Bend, OR 97701

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**From:** Madelyn Stasko <madelynclearpine@gmail.com>
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 19, 2023 2:22 PM
**To:** Chris Ogren <Chris.Ogren@deschutes.org>
**Cc:** Madelyn Stasko <mzstasko2014@gmail.com>; Madelyn Stasko <mzstasko@comcast.net>
**Subject:** Re: Sisters cold weather shelter



[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

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Hi Chris—when i google it brings me back to COIC. Is Central Oregon's MAC a part of COIC. Who is the person who is overseeing this piece? Thanks.

https://www.coic.org/2023/03/03/eo-23-02-multi-agency-coordination-group-meetings/

*Madelyn Stasko*
Sent from my iPad

On Jul 19, 2023, at 9:55 AM, Chris Ogren <Chris.Ogren@deschutes.org> wrote:

Hi Madelyn,

I currently work for the Coordinated Houseless Response Office (CHRO) comprised of Deschutes County and representatives from it's respective cities. In the past, I worked for Central Oregon Intergovernmental Council (COIC). I transitioned over to the CHRO in April, in the middle of the EO 23-02 process and am contracting my time to COIC to continue to assist with the process.

In early 2023, Governor Kotek announced EO 23-02, which allocated $13.9m to Central Oregon's MAC group to address unsheltered homelessness in Central Oregon. The funding has to be spent to increase shelter beds and/or rapidly rehouse unsheltered individuals. The money has to be spent by January 10th, 2024. COIC's role in this process is facilitating the MAC group, which is comprised of over 20 experts from across Central Oregon (Crook, Jefferson, and Deschutes Counties).

COIC's link to Sisters Cold Weather Shelter (SCWS) is that they were awarded about $1m in funding from the EO 23-02 process, which was decided by the MAC group, not COIC. I believe that 13 other projects throughout Central Oregon were funded, and there may be opportunities for others as well. COIC will be checking in on them on a monthly basis as to their progress on having the shelter open and fully operational by January 10th, 2024. COIC may also provide technical assistance to SCWS or request technical assistance from the State on their behalf.

Please let me know if you have any other questions I can be helpful in answering!

Chris

<Outlook-j4hyi34i.png>

**Chris Ogren, MPP | Houseless Response Analyst**
Coordinated Houseless Response Office (CHRO)
Serving Residents of Deschutes County and the Cities of Bend, Redmond, Sisters, and La Pine
Phone: (458) 202-0905 | Email: Chris.Ogren@deschutes.org
1300 NW Wall St., Suite 200, Bend, OR 97701

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**From:** Madelyn Stasko <madelynclearpine@gmail.com>
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 19, 2023 8:09 AM
**To:** Chris Ogren <Chris.Ogren@deschutes.org>
**Cc:** Madelyn Stasko <madelynclearpine@gmail.com>; Madelyn Stasko <mzstasko2014@gmail.com>
**Subject:** Fwd: Sisters cold weather shelter



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*Chris—I also reached out to Sisters Cold Weather Shelter and this is their response. How is your organization linked with Sisters Cold Weather Shelter? I want to ask them the same questions i am asking you.*

*Are there other organizations that are involved with this project too?*

*Thanks. Madelyn*

On Jul 18, 2023, at 8:14 AM, SCWS <sisterscoldweathershelter@gmail.com> wrote:

Good morning Madelyn,

Thank you for reaching out to us. Here is the link for more information about our shelter

<Xz9ybi8a-480.jpg.jpeg>

▶ Sisters getting cold weather shelter for homeless
centraloregondaily.com

Tran
Coordinator
Sisters cold weather shelter

> On Jul 17, 2023, at 8:55 PM, Madelyn Stasko <mzstasko2014@gmail.com> wrote:
>
> I just have read about the shelter in Barclay in the Sisters nugget. I looked at the website to find more information about this shelter. I could not see any. Can you tell me how I can get additional information about the shelter. I would like to understand the project more fully. Thank you. Madelyn Stasko

**From:** Madelyn Stasko
**To:** Scott Woodford; Jennifer Letz; Kerry Prosser; Jordan Wheeler
**Cc:** Madelyn Stasko
**Subject:** Re: August 9, 2023 City Council Meeting - Homeless shelter
**Date:** Saturday, August 12, 2023 11:33:58 AM

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I want to add information that i just learned yesterday -
I was under the impression that there were only 20 homeless in the forest surrounding sisters. The situation may be much bigger than this.

I talked with a downtown business owner yesterday. He said he talked with a forest service ranger. He said that the forest service ranger said there were 270 encampments in the surrounding forest at the beginning of May. Currently, in August, there are approximately 400.

If this is true (and it probably needs to be checked out), the need for a shelter is greater than I thought. And the potential congestion and blockage and disruption on W Barclay Drive could be much larger. Barclay Drive is the bypass to the downtown area. Is it safe to put a homeless shelter that, if serving the unhoused/unsheltered population, could possibly bring more people into this area—which would be the intent—especially with the current rate of growth of encampments?

I understand another community member suggested a collaborative approach to use the monies to build a shelter in a safer, more protective area. Perhaps city property. Who knows—maybe the gentleman whose family has given so much to Sisters over the generations would help if asked to collaborate on this project.

While i understand the City has no obligation to consider the communities' opinions outside of those pertaining to the regulations, a win win is preferable than going into this project with so many negative feelings. And this is understandable—there isn't much positive information in the news where shelters have been a shining star in a community; the majority negative with crime, drugs and trash being top issues.

I saw a few people stand up in support for the shelter and was curious why more didn't show up to support SWCS. SWCS certainly needed their support. I'm not sure if this is indicative of the level of care for the project or not.

Thanks again for listening. Madelyn
*Madelyn Stasko*
Sent from my iPad

> On Aug 10, 2023, at 7:00 AM, Madelyn Stasko <madelynclearpine@gmail.com> wrote:
>
> Scott.
>
> I want to add point 5 below.
>
> Additionally, I looked at GuideStar which is a public site that shows non profits' financials I don't have a subscription that gives more details (a bank will)—only high level summary. Sisters Cold Weather Shelter shows gross receipts of $80,392 and gross assets of $59,264. This is a MUCH different type of entity with far less operational and business experience than what will be required for the proposed shelter operations. Concern about the business experience level to handle this project was mentioned several times in the meeting last night.

Can you point me to the specific place in the regulations that outlines how monies can be spent? The board president mentioned SWCW has three years to spend the monies.

If the city council is uneasy about approving the project as it stands, could part of the the monies be used to work with the churches to set up space for sisters homeless for this winter to satisfy a requirement that a shelter is in place before the January date in order to secure funds? And, in the meantime, the City, SWCW and the community collaborate on ways the monies best spent to manage the homeless situation that currently exists in Sisters and not risk making sisters homeless situation even more problematic for the City (as it will come back to the council to fix the situation. It would be even more challenging to figure out if the problem worsens as evidenced by other cities' homeless problems—-with more need and no source of funding. )

If the funds can be used creatively, people will probably be more interested in working on finding solutions as there is substance in having funding to support a plan. Plus the board president said getting grants is not an issue. Another plus. I proposed below a collaboration with community members to brainstorm and expand potential ways within the regulation's guideline to secure funding that is good for the 20 or so homeless in the Sisters community. I will be happy to participate in this discussion. There are most likely other community members interested in finding a solution with deep business experience who could bring expertise to this discussion. And could help SWCW put together a sound 3 - 5 year business plan that is sellable to the community.

Thanks again for listening. Madelyn

On Aug 9, 2023, at 9:25 PM, Madelyn Stasko <madelynclearpine@gmail.com> wrote:

I participated in the City Meeting on 8/9 via ZOOM. I thank the City for holding this meeting.

Comments:

1. First, SWCS proposal is a business endeavor to operate an emergency shelter. This is a business. I have not heard of a successful business not having a business plan. Running by the seat of the pants is NOT a way to run a viable business. A bank would not lend monies to a business without a well thought out business plan. Running a business is much different than serving dinners and tending to the homeless in an established organization. This comment was shared by several speakers.
2. Second, the council member on ZOOM asked about whether the shelter at some point can be used for purposes others than emergency shelter needs. There was not a clear answer. It does not sound like the City could offer surety that the facility will not be used for purposes other than emergency shelter needs. Approving this proposal is opening the doors for which the City has no control over. This concern was shared by many speakers.
3. Third, security. Is there a way to make a stipulation that, should problems arise, SWCS need to put monies aside to hire a security guard. Does the City have the monies to hire additional law enforcement if need be.
4. Fourth, nearby medical assistance. There is no nearby medical facility. Is depending on the the SWCS board members a viable or acceptable solution?
5. Fifth, a person on ZOOM mentioned the website. It is very sketchy and does not include mention of this project. Lack of communication and lack of transparency with this project on SWCS part is concerning. (When I inquired about a community meeting, the board president emailed me that his intent was to have s community meeting after approval.) We know the homeless situation is very sensitive. My 30+ years commercial financial experience has shown that over communication and getting buy in helps smooth the way for support of projects like this.
6.

In the meeting, I heard great support for helping the homeless already living in Sisters. I agree— we need to find a solution for the 20 or so people in the sisters area. It sounds like there are less than that who come into the shelters during extreme weather and, that for the most part, they are very respectful of the rules. This issue is not providing support—it is the concern for a program with the potential of attracting homeless individuals not a part of this community who cannot be served by the community they live in now and are bussed in/dropped off/ or come to Sisters for an easier life.

I applaud SWCS for getting the grant. I am not sure of how the monies can be used—it sounds like it's very open. I think a collaborative approach will help bring community support. Is there the possibility to bring together community members to explain

how the monies can be used and we brainstorm ideas to help the City of Sister's homeless situation. I know time is of the essence and it seems like there are enough interested folks who would be willing to quickly come together to work on this project.

As a side note, one of my friends who lives in Longview, Washington said that there is an emergency shelter in a neighborhood in Longview that has been very successful. it is used ONLY for severe weather conditions, hired security people are on site and drive throughout the night in the neighborhood to ensure safety, and the shelter has a lot of volunteer help. She said another shelter was opened in Longview and did not have these provisions and the site was closed within the year due to drugs, crime and litter.

Thank you for listening.

On Aug 7, 2023, at 1:45 PM, Scott Woodford <swoodford@ci.sisters.or.us> wrote:

Madelyn,

I wanted to confirm receipt of this email and thank you for your comments. We will forward them to the Council. Your questions will be addressed at the Council meeting on Wednesday evening.

Thanks,

**Scott Woodford**
Community Development Director
City of Sisters | Community Development Dept.
PO Box 39 | 520 E. Cascade Ave., Sisters, OR 97759
Direct: 541-323-5211 | City Hall: 541-549-6022
swoodford@ci.sisters.or.us | www.ci.sisters.or.us

<image001.png>



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**From:** Madelyn Stasko <madelynclearpine@gmail.com>
**Sent:** Friday, August 4, 2023 5:28 PM
**To:** Scott Woodford <swoodford@ci.sisters.or.us>
**Cc:** Madelyn Stasko <madelynclearpine@gmail.com>
**Subject:** Re: August 9, 2023 City Council Meeting

Hi Scott

I read Luis Blanchards editorial from the NUGGET—It does appear that SCWS has expansion plans. This sounds different than what the City originally anticipated. Is there a way to get a 5 year plan with expected expansion plans and budget for funding and expenses? Can the community get more specifics as to how security and cleanliness will be addressed. I have a friend in Longview Washington who said

has a very successful neighborhood shelter. She said that paid security helps keep the neighborhood safe, residents comfortable, and volunteers help with the program successful. There was an another shelter in Longview that did not have these and because of crime, drugs, and litter, the shelter was closed. Again, I'm not sure if the City needs to approve the expansion plans, but it does look like more than taking care of 20 homeless individuals and families. I hope that this is addressed in the meeting on Wednesday and more comprehensive plans laid out. I would really like to support this initiative and, as a business professional and community resident, want to ensure a sound plan in place to help ensure its success. Thanks. Madelyn

To the Editor:

The proposed Sisters Shelter and Resource Center has been approved for funding by Central Oregon Intergovernmental Council (COIC). Our city should be proud that we are the benefactors of an amazing gift to solidify the operations of an entity that has been assisting the most vulnerable in our community. This body of volunteers has given so much of themselves over the years, caring and walking alongside individuals who could be you or me.

Sisters Cold Weather Shelter began operations in 2017 and became a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization in 2020. We started with guidance and support from seasoned shelter providers like Shepherd's House, NeighborImpact, Bethlehem Inn. The shelter is well-versed in running a healthy, safe, and respectful operation.

Current plans call for an overnight emergency shelter for our unhoused community members in the winter months, November through March. We will also be available to open in the summer during times of extreme heat or substantial smoke for not only the unhoused but housed members of the Sisters community. Our facility was approved by fire marshals for up to 40 beds, but historically we've had a dozen or less.

**In addition, our shelter will be open year-round as a resource center. The vision is a place where individuals can access services and connections to help keep them safe and make strides toward more stable housing solutions. The Resource Center's knowledgeable staff and volunteers will create meaningful connections while providing lifesaving and life-changing support. We currently have a coordinator who is helping to connect individuals and services. With the help of the COIC grant we expect to hire additional staff in the coming months.**

As always, the shelter will expect the cooperation of the guests we serve to adhere to a code of conduct ensuring mutual respect and safety for our neighbors and each other. Experienced staff will strictly enforce the agreed-upon code and take swift action if there is a violation.

**We hope the building on Barclay can serve as a location for other service providers to broaden their services in the community. We have begun discussions with Deschutes**

**County Behavioral Health and Family Kitchen and are open to other possibilities as well.**

We are grateful for the support and collaboration of local and regional leaders who made it possible to secure grant funding to make this much-needed resource available for our community. It is heartwarming to see people coming together to assist and overcome obstacles. I am very proud of the positive overtones and desire to be a part of this operation. It is a blessing to be part of our caring community.

To find out about volunteering with the shelter, email sisterscoldweathershelter@gmail.com.

Luis Blanchard

Board President, Sisters Cold Weather Shelte

*Madelyn Stasko*
Sent from my iPad

> On Aug 4, 2023, at 4:43 PM, Madelyn Stasko <madelynclearpine@gmail.com> wrote:
>
> Thanks Scott for forwarding me this information. I plan on attending—probably by ZOOM.
>
> **Question—**the attached document says that the City has been told the shelter will be used only for extreme weather events. Will this be verified in the meeting. I have heard and read that the use will be much more expanded than this. I'm not sure how this will impact the request, but if it expands to a full shelter for homeless, will there be adequate funds to support the needs. Will SCWC need additional approval if it wants to extend beyond the intent the City understands it to be?
>
> **Question**—The application said that the shelter is in ONLY a commercial area. This is not correct. The shelter is in a neighborhood-with multiple new residential developments in surrounding area, including ones currently in construction. Has the application been corrected—I'm not sure if it makes a difference or not. However, it should be correct.
>
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**To:** Scott Woodford
**Cc:** Jennifer Letz; Kerry Prosser; Jordan Wheeler; Madelyn Stasko
**Subject:** Re: August 9, 2023 City Council Meeting - Homeless shelter
**Date:** Wednesday, August 16, 2023 7:45:27 PM
**Attachments:** companylogo_facebook.png

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To the Editor:

The proposed Sisters Shelter and Resource Center has been approved for funding by Central Oregon Intergovernmental Council (COIC). Our city should be proud that we are the benefactors of an amazing gift to solidify the operations of an entity that has been assisting the most vulnerable in our community. This body of volunteers has given so much of themselves over the years, caring and walking alongside individuals who could be you or me.

Sisters Cold Weather Shelter began operations in 2017 and became a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization in 2020. We started with guidance and support from seasoned shelter providers like Shepherd's House, NeighborImpact, Bethlehem Inn. The shelter is well-versed in running a healthy, safe, and respectful operation.

Current plans call for an overnight emergency shelter for our unhoused community members in the winter months, November through March. We will also be available to open in the summer during times of extreme heat or substantial smoke for not only the unhoused but housed members of the Sisters community. Our facility was approved by fire marshals for up to 40 beds, but historically we've had a dozen or less.

**In addition, our shelter will be open year-round as a resource center. The vision is a place where individuals can access services and connections to help keep them safe and make strides toward more stable housing solutions. The Resource Center's knowledgeable staff and volunteers will create meaningful connections while providing lifesaving and life-changing support. We currently have a coordinator who is helping to connect individuals and services. With the help of the COIC grant we expect to hire additional staff in the coming months.**

As always, the shelter will expect the cooperation of the guests we serve to adhere to a code of conduct ensuring mutual respect and safety for our neighbors and each other. Experienced staff will strictly enforce the agreed-upon code and take swift action if there is a violation.

**We hope the building on Barclay can serve as a location for other service providers to broaden their services in the community. We have begun discussions with Deschutes County Behavioral Health and Family Kitchen and are open to**

**other possibilities as well.**

We are grateful for the support and collaboration of local and regional leaders who made it possible to secure grant funding to make this much-needed resource available for our community. It is heartwarming to see people coming together to assist and overcome obstacles. I am very proud of the positive overtones and desire to be a part of this operation. It is a blessing to be part of our caring community.

To find out about volunteering with the shelter,
email sisterscoldweathershelter@gmail.com.

Luis Blanchard

Board President, Sisters Cold Weather Shelte

*Madelyn Stasko*
Sent from my iPad

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> Thanks Scott for forwarding me this information. I plan on attending—probably by ZOOM.
>
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**To:** Scott Woodford
**Cc:** Jennifer Letz; Kerry Prosser; Jordan Wheeler; Madelyn Stasko
**Subject:** Re: August 9, 2023 City Council Meeting - Homeless shelter
**Date:** Wednesday, August 30, 2023 3:53:49 PM
**Attachments:** companylogo_facebook.png

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Hi Scott—Will the 9/5 meeting be a ZOOM meeting too? Thanks.

Another question, if the City approves the shelter, under the State regulations, will the City have the power on its own to close down the shelter should the City find that the shelter or neighborhood does experience increase in drug, crime or littering/parking etc. and the sheriff office finds that it cannot keep the area/neighborhood safe or it hinders the downtown bypass plans? Or does the state need to be involved in the decision since it is providing the funding?

Did the City get a business plan—i am still curious how this is going to be a sustainable project - how much the upgrading will cost, operating expenses and salary expenses.

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> Barclay Drive improvements on track
> nuggetnews.com

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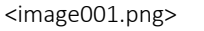



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the summer during times of extreme heat or substantial smoke for not only the unhoused but housed members of the Sisters community. Our facility was approved by fire marshals for up to 40 beds, but historically we've had a dozen or less.

**In addition, our shelter will be open year-round as a resource center. The vision is a place where individuals can access services and connections to help keep them safe and make strides toward more stable housing solutions. The Resource Center's knowledgeable staff and volunteers will create meaningful connections while providing lifesaving and life-changing support. We currently have a coordinator who is helping to connect individuals and services. With the help of the COIC grant we expect to hire additional staff in the coming months.**

As always, the shelter will expect the cooperation of the guests we serve to adhere to a code of conduct ensuring mutual respect and safety for our neighbors and each other. Experienced staff will strictly enforce the agreed-upon code and take swift action if there is a violation.

**We hope the building on Barclay can serve as a location for other service providers to broaden their services in the community. We have begun discussions with Deschutes County Behavioral Health and Family Kitchen and are open to other possibilities as well.**

We are grateful for the support and collaboration of local and regional leaders who made it possible to secure grant funding to make this much-needed resource available for our community. It is heartwarming to see people coming together to assist and overcome obstacles. I am very proud of the positive overtones and desire to be a part of this operation. It is a blessing to be part of our caring community.

To find out about volunteering with the shelter, email sisterscoldweathershelter@gmail.com.

Luis Blanchard

Board President, Sisters Cold Weather Shelte

*Madelyn Stasko*
Sent from my iPad

> On Aug 4, 2023, at 4:43 PM, Madelyn Stasko <madelynclearpine@gmail.com> wrote:
>
> Thanks Scott for forwarding me this information. I plan on attending—probably by ZOOM.
>
> **Question—**the attached document says that the City has been

told the shelter will be used only for extreme weather events. Will this be verified in the meeting. I have heard and read that the use will be much more expanded than this. I'm not sure how this will impact the request, but if it expands to a full shelter for homeless, will there be adequate funds to support the needs. Will SCWC need additional approval if it wants to extend beyond the intent the City understands it to be?

**Question**—The application said that the shelter is in ONLY a commercial area. This is not correct. The shelter is in a neighborhood- with multiple new residential developments in surrounding area, including ones currently in construction. Has the application been corrected—I'm not sure if it makes a difference or not. However, it should be correct.

**Question**—Will community members be able to ask questions in the meeting—i think there could be a lot of misinformation swirling around and it is important that the community understand the short and long-term plan and management of the facility and surrounding areas. The press shows the downside of homeless with drugs, litter and crime; the more information presented to help the community feel safe, the better the chances of the shelters' success. Over communication with projects like this is better than under communication.

From the attached document:
"As identified in their application, the proposed emergency shelter at 192 Barclay Drive would have up to 20 beds with additional space for families with children and offer other services such as food, showers, laundry, and other resources. The facility will be operated by SCWS and individuals who access the services will be required to agree to rules for ensuring a safe and clean environment for the facility and surrounding neighborhood.
While not specified in their application, the applicant has verbalized to the city of their intent to only be a shelter during extreme weather events, including extreme heat, cold, or smoke events."

*Thanks. Madelyn*
*Madelyn Stasko*
Sent from my iPad

> On Aug 4, 2023, at 2:45 PM, Scott Woodford <swoodford@ci.sisters.or.us> wrote:
>
> Hello,

Please note that there will be a work session on the proposed shelter at 192 W. Barclay Avenue with City Council. The meeting agenda and a short staff report is attached.

You are receiving this email because you've previously submitted comments on the proposal.

Thank you,

**Scott**
**Woodford**
Community Development Director
City of Sisters | Community Development Dept.
PO Box 39 | 520 E. Cascade Ave., Sisters, OR 97759
Direct: 541-323-5211 | City Hall: 541-549-6022
swoodford@ci.sisters.or.us | www.ci.sisters.or.us

<image001.png>

**From:** Kerry Prosser
**To:** Kerry Prosser
**Subject:** FW: Homeless shelter in Sisters
**Date:** Thursday, August 10, 2023 3:02:30 PM

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**From:** Ann Thompson <anndthompson13@msn.com>
**Sent:** Thursday, August 10, 2023 10:48 AM
**To:** moreedin@ci.sisters.or.us <moreedin@ci.sisters.or.us>; Andrea Blum <ablum@ci.sisters.or.us>; Gary Ross <g.ross@ci.sisters.or.us>; Jennifer Letz <jletz@ci.sisters.or.us>; Susan Cobb <scobb@ci.sisters.or.us>
**Subject:** Homeless shelter in Sisters

I read with some dismay about the City Council meeting that was held to discuss the proposed homeless shelter in Sisters. There was a lot of feeling that the Council had already made up its mind and there was no use debating the pluses, or more specifically, the minuses.

I have many concerns about this proposal.
1. How will it be funded in the future (beyond years one or two)
2. How will it be monitored? How will staff be trained and paid? Will there be full-time, 24-hour, on site staff? If not, how will the facility and neighbors be protected?
3. What facilities does Sisters have, to deal with medical and/or police emergencies arising from the shelter?
4. How will it operate? I've read 12 beds, 40 beds, winter only, all year, etc. I've seen no clear and honest answer.
5. How will drug and alcohol be monitored? Will there be testing done? Who does it and how is it paid for? If not, it seems to only be enabling.
6. Families with children and those who work in Sisters should have priority, but I've seen nothing about this. How do we keep beds open and not use them for drug-addicted singles who have no desire for rehab? Will we steer those who want help to local (Bend? Redmond?) agencies that will help them? Is there a referral program in place for this? Have agencies signed on to help?
7. Is there a plan to keep the businesses and homes nearby free from vagrants and to keep the neighborhood clean?
8. How long will "inhabitants" be allowed to stay? During what hours? All year around or only in winter? During the day or only to sleep at night?

These are only a few of the many questions that have arisen. I'd like some specifics, and not just a reply that thanks me for my email. I don't believe the Council has given this concrete, logical thought or planning. Please don't tell me your hands are tied by State rules, etc. We all know that's not true; exceptions are made all the time.
The people who live and work in and around Sisters deserve the right to vote on this issue, although I have little faith that the Council will agree to that. There's always an easy excuse. Homelessness is a huge problem nation-wide, but providing free housing is not always (or often) the best answer. Sisters is not equipped to handle a shelter of this kind, and it will draw other homeless folks. Let's be rational and reasonable and try to find other answers. Perhaps partial City funding for local area churches to provide beds and meals, as has happened in the past? I'm sure the citizens and Council could come up with some answers if given a real chance. Let's take the time to think it through very

carefully and move forward slowly with a long-range plan that everyone can buy into.

Thank you.

Ann Thompson
Sisters resident for 30 years
Sent from my iPad

**From:** Admin Sister"s Rental
**To:** Scott Woodford; Michael Preedin
**Subject:** Council Meeting Substance
**Date:** Friday, August 11, 2023 3:12:49 PM
**Attachments:** image001.png

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Mr. Mayor and Community Development Director,

Thanks for putting up with the extended Council Meeting Wednesday night. Personally, I'm glad the opposition didn't show up in the magnitude that I hear daily. That gave the SCWS group the opportunity to show you and everyone, how very little planning they have done and how far out of touch they are with reality. Some of their answers and statements should absolutely scare the City and everyone in it. "the board has been trained for medical emergencies" "I can do sutures" "I would like to try it for a year and then decide" It is obvious that they are just filling in the blanks as they go. They have no real plan. The have no long-range goal. They have no partnerships established. They have no documentation, data or analysis to support what they say they are "thinking about doing" or "have talked about doing" We all know what this really looks like and where it leads. This decision is just a foot in the door to what they will do next when they really do get a plan and more funding. The alternate route will be done in a couple of years, and this isn't what we need on the main thorough fair through town. A TSP that is 15 years in the making!!! This is just something that fell into their laps and they thought would slide through with no one watching. If they had really worked to get the money, they would have a plan and an organization that would be qualified and proactive in the community and the media. You have listened to their sketchy dream, now is the time to stand up for the long term, stable, dedicated tax paying citizens of the Sisters community. Please deny their application for all the reasons we already presented and allow our community to continue moving forward. I suggest the City start looking into some type of actual EMERGENCY shelter with buy in from the community members without the State handouts that make ordinary citizens feel like they are being blindsided.

Thanks, Pat

**Pat Thompson**
Owner

SISTERS RENTAL

**Office 541-549-9631**
Cell 541-610-3780
Admin@SistersRental.com

331 Barclay Drive
Sisters, Oregon 97759
**www.SistersRental.com**

EQUIPMENT ⊙ STORAGE ⊙ REPAIR

**From:** Rosemary Vasquez
**To:** Scott Woodford
**Subject:** Homeless Shelter
**Date:** Thursday, August 3, 2023 8:30:17 AM

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I attended the “Community” meeting on 8/1 because someone put a flyer on my car windshield.
I support the cold weather shelter.
I was astounded by the vitriolic, unfounded comments made by many. I was embarrassed. I was ashamed of this Sisters community who claimed to be voices of the community and who attacked our City of Sisters staff.
Respectfully,
Rosemary Vasquez

Sent from my iPad

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | Debora Wattenburg |
| **To:** | Eric Knirk |
| **Cc:** | Michael Preedin; Kerry Prosser; Scott Woodford; rod@robinsonandowen.com; Dave Helm; mike@robinsonandowen.com; jeff ponderosaforge.com; Ghosttreeranch@gmail.com; Jeff Frink; Darin Burgstahler; Jim Cornelius; Cary Kiefer; Matt Cyrus; pam@aspenlakes.com; Snowigloo6@gmail.com; Bearyman@aol.com; Daly Haasch; Karalappe@gmail.com; Drtewalt@gmail.com; Julia Knirk; Jmkapp@renreal.net; angela@sistersselfstorage.net; jon@tintingoregon.com; patrica@villageinteriorsdesign.com; Wendy Johnson; ed@lodgeinsisters.com; Christopher Gulick; cole.cote@pwl.com; julie Bartolotta; Vito Bartolotta; mike@solidrockoregon.com; curtkallberg1@gmail.com |
| **Subject:** | Re: Cold Weather Shelter |
| **Date:** | Saturday, August 5, 2023 7:15:02 AM |

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Well said Eric!  Thank you for all your effort!

Debora Wattenburg
Cell:  541-639-1260
Sent from my iPhone

> On Aug 4, 2023, at 4:23 PM, Eric Knirk <evknirkfremontp970@gmail.com> wrote:
>
>
> Mr. Preedin, Mr. Woodford and Ms. Prosser:
>
> In light of the attached  letter presented to the city yesterday, how can the staff justify continuing on with the consideration of the applicant?
>
> There are several facts that should cause the application to be rejected immediately. The letter needs to be responded to in writing.
>
> Can the city please explain why any meetings are occurring, or work is being done by staff on this application until the issues pointed out in the letter are addressed.?
>
> At the same time, there is a great deal more public disclosure from the applicant needed before staff time is spent on this.
>
> Sincerely,
>
> Eric Knirk
>
>
>
> <43O7600-Emergency Shelter Opposition Statement.docx>
> <08.09.23 Emergency Shelter Siting (1).pdf>

To: City of Sisters:
City Manager
City Council Members
Director Scott Woodford

From: JK Wells (Sisters resident)

Date: 24 August 2023

Re: The homeless shelter.



I'm a long time Sisters resident and a retired California police officer of 26 years. My view is from those years working with homeless on the streets.

In studies, 70 percent of single homeless admit they are homeless because of substance abuse - in my street experience, the percentage was much higher.

Nearly all of the homeless I contacted had substance abuse problems. Some had drug and alcohol induced psychosis that is untreatable until the addict agrees to detox. Many had serious diseases like hepatitis and drug resistant MRSA that required expensive medical attention. Many were from normal middle class or upper class families that kicked the addict out of the house because of theft and violent acts against family members.

I offered many homeless of all ages the opportunity to get into a treatment program and they all refused, because it would require them to go to detox, attend a treatment program and find employment

The quality of life in the city I worked, declined quietly over a period of years. The following is what my city experienced:

-A shelter started with volunteers.

-The shelter received funds from government grants and hired staff.

-The shelter had a constant need to expand because it was always at capacity - and the more it expanded, the more tax proposals for funding.

-Citizens and business owners became angry about the crime and not feeling safe in the community.

-Once out of control, attempts by law enforcement to restrict the homeless from camping, sidewalk loitering, public drug use and public indecency, were met with federal lawsuits by pro bono attorneys for the homeless - that resulted in a federal injunction and decree.

-The owner/operators of the shelters and rehabs profit greatly but do not incur the actual cost of the public services they consume.

-The actual costs of homeless programs and the negative impact to the community turned out many times greater than originally projected.

-State lawmakers ignored requests for action because there is no easy solution to the problem they helped create.

-The city was left with no option but to increase taxes and reduce services.

-The quality of life and tourism suffered.

Crime is a concern. A RAND corporation study determined that winter homeless shelters cause a 53% increase in property crime. How many felons or sex offenders will be guests in the Sisters shelter? The state of Oregon is home to the most sex offenders per capita in the U.S. There are currently 772 sex offenders per every 100,000 people in Oregon. The national average is 237 per 100,000. There are hundreds of sexual predators (the most serious offenders) not listed in the data base because of backlog. Oregon's public sex offender website currently only lists approximately five percent of the state's nearly 33K registered sex offenders. To date, Oregon has never had a complete public list of sex offenders - denying citizens the legal right to be informed.

Billons of tax dollars are funneled to nonprofits every year in the name of homelessness. Portland and Multnomah County combined, spend over $150 million per year on their homeless addict problem. The result? Out of control addiction, homelessness and record high crime. The reason? Nonprofits for the homeless can

only service addicts, not effect change - the problem grows worse every year and is snow balling regardless of the money spent.

Street homelessness has alway been, primarily, an addiction problem. Many street homeless are unemployable and welfare dependent because they chose to abuse drugs and alcohol - and most addicts will admit that. There are more jobs available than the total US homeless population.

Oregon became a national laughing stock after it made addiction socially acceptable by decriminalizing drug use and personal possession. Portland, once a thriving tourist destination, is now a thriving destination for drug addicts and serves as the poster child for the nation's homeless addict crisis. Oregon not only enables addiction and street homelessness, but provides for the addicts daily needs at taxpayer expense with no requirement for personal responsibility or change on the part of the addict. Oregon is currently examining a way to slap every hard working tax payer in the face by giving $1000 a month to "low income" individuals.

In conclusion - housing transient strangers in a small community with minimal law enforcement presence and within walking distance of our schools and day cares is dangerous in my opinion. The City of Sisters does not have the law enforcement, the medical facilities or the EMS to support homeless and addiction programs.

I recently learned from the Nugget, the SCWS somehow received $1.46 million of tax payor money in the from of a grant, but SCWS does not qualify under the law to operate as a permanent shelter - that begs the question, how were they approved for the grant? SCWS then applied to City of Sisters under a law they did not meet the qualifications for, but were not denied by the City - why? Now we learn, again from the Nugget, the SCWS has not been a non profit long enough to meet the requirements for a second application under a different law, but the City, instead of denying the second application as it should have, may ignore the law by using the IRS filing date for becoming a non profit as qualifying instead of the effective date - this after meeting with "representatives" from Salem.

Playing fast and loose with the rule of law is a slippery slope that can cause irreparable harm to the City's image and undermine the public trust - this entire process is suspect in my opinion, and there appears to be a concerted effort by politically driven activists to force a permanent shelter on our community. This leaves me with little confidence

the shelter will be properly managed if approved and our quality of life will suffer as a result.

Sisters is a beautiful community - following in the footsteps of Portland will be a disaster for our city. I strongly oppose the shelter.

Sincerely
JK Wells

**From:** Michael Preedin
**To:** Kerry Prosser; Jordan Wheeler
**Subject:** Fwd: Homeless Shelter
**Date:** Friday, August 11, 2023 10:21:05 AM

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For your records.
---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: "jeff ponderosaforge.com" <jeff@ponderosaforge.com>
Date: Aug 11, 2023 07:31
Subject: Homeless Shelter
To: Michael Preedin <mpreedin@ci.sisters.or.us>
Cc:

Hi Micheal,

As I look back at the history of our industrial park from the time I built my shop in 1991 to the present and think of how hard so many business people worked to create businesses, buildings, and a livelihood for many employees I would never have imagined that our Industrial Park would have turned into a place of commerce like it is now. It has evolved into a community where people work, live, and even get to enjoy other amenities like coffee shops, cafes, and brew pubs.

Until a couple weeks ago I imagined all of that to keep going in a positive direction with even more businesses, live/work buildings, and possibly more places to eat or grab a cup of coffee. What a cool place!!!!

Now I am imagining our industrial park in a few years with tents set up on the city's right of way, people wandering the streets with shopping carts, and visions of places in Bend and Redmond that used to be wonderful vibrant areas that are now trashed by the influx of people without a reason for being there except for wanting a handout and a place to hang!

I admit that I miss the days of seeing a boy in front of my shop catching a fish out of the ditch that ran through the industrial park, and I miss walking my dog through the woods where the new Woodlands development is, but I still have the memories, and this place was destined to grow, and it has grown in a very positive way so I am fine with what has happened since I had my first dreams of being a business person in Sisters 35 years ago.

I am not fine with a homeless shelter sitting dead center in the middle of a development that has grown from nothing more than pastures and barb wire fences to a thriving community that is providing a place to live and work for so many that have moved here with the same dream I had long ago.

From the mouths of the people that are all for this so called "Cold Weather Shelter" I hear words like compassion, sympathy, and empathy. I believe that those same words need to be directed towards the people who live and work in this beautiful community that we have created over the last few decades.

I have plenty of compassion for those who are struggling to live and work in our town and I am aware of how expensive it is to live here. That problem is real and needs to be addressed, however, there are a lot of people just looking for a free handout these days and to invite them to our town is not a step in a positive direction.

Sincerely,

-Jeff Wester
Sent from my iPad

## EXHIBIT D: STAFF RECOMMENDED CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL

If the Council decides to approve the application with conditions, staff recommends at least the following:

1. The approval is limited to the submitted application which includes an emergency shelter accommodating up to 20 guests per night during instances of extreme weather and may provide the services permitted under HB 2006 (as amended). Any material modification from the submitted application from the will require submission and approval of a new application to allow for review of the modified emergency shelter under the criteria of HB 2006 (as amended). A substantial alteration includes, but is not limited to, expanding the shelter to accommodate more persons or permitting any outdoor camping (including allowing persons to occupy vehicles overnight). Any non-emergency shelter use of the facility, including any accessory use not permitted under HB 2006 (as amended) will require separate application and approval consistent with applicable land use laws and regulations.

2. The proposed emergency shelter must begin operations within two years from the date of this approval or it shall be voided. Additionally, this authorization shall be voided if the use of the subject property as emergency shelter is interrupted or abandoned for any period of more than two years.

3. The applicant shall obtain all required building permits, approvals, and inspections from the Deschutes County Building Department and State Fire Marshall prior to commencing the use or HB 2006 (as amended) permitted accessory use that requires such building permit, approval, or inspection and shall otherwise comply at all times with the requirements of the County Building Department and State Fire Marshall.

4. Applicant will only charge for services in a manner consistent with HB 2006 (as amended

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4. Applicant will only charge for services in a manner consistent with HB 2006 (as amended

## EXHIBIT E: RESOLUTIONS AUTHORIZING TEMPORARY COLD WEATHER SHELTER

**RESOLUTION NO. 2018-16**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF SISTERS DECLARING A STATE OF EMERGENCY AND AUTHORIZING TEMPORARY SHELTER FACILITIES DURING SEVERE COLD WEATHER CONDITIONS.**

WHEREAS, City of Sisters ("City"), an Oregon municipal corporation, has all powers that the constitutions, statutes, and common law of the United States and Oregon expressly or impliedly grant or allow City; and

WHEREAS, under City Ordinance No. 483 (the "Emergency Ordinance") an emergency is defined to include, without limitation, a natural event that threatens the health, safety, and/or welfare of City and its citizens and/or causes or may cause damage, injury, and/or death to persons and/or property in City; and

WHEREAS, Section 5.1 of the Emergency Ordinance provides that City may adopt procedures to prevent, prepare for, minimize, respond to, and/or recover from an emergency, including, without limitation, granting temporary exemptions from applicable Sisters Municipal Code provisions for emergency shelters, and/or such other measures and/or actions necessary for the protection of the health, safety, and/or welfare of persons, property, infrastructure, and/or the environment; and

WHEREAS, commencing November 1, 2018, City anticipates severe weather conditions that may threaten the health, safety, and/or welfare of City and its citizens and/or cause or may cause damage, injury, and/or death to persons and/or property in City; and

WHEREAS, City finds that there is a need for local assistance to respond to severe cold weather conditions and City has received information from existing homeless shelter and cold weather service provides that there is a need for additional shelter resources during severe cold weather; and

WHEREAS, City finds that temporary cold weather shelter facilities are necessary for local residents when temperatures are at or below 25°F; and

WHEREAS, the Sisters City Council (the "Council") finds that anticipated severe cold weather conditions may threaten the health, safety, and welfare of City and its citizens and thereby necessitate a state of emergency declaration.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that City of Sisters resolves as follows:

1. Findings. The above-stated findings contained in this Resolution No. 2018-16 (this "Resolution") are hereby adopted.

2. Emergency Declaration; Notice. Council finds that severe cold weather conditions may threaten the health, safety, and/or welfare of City and its citizens and/or cause or may cause damage, injury, and/or death to persons and/or property in City. In accordance with Section 4.1 of the Emergency Ordinance, the mayor and Council hereby declare a state of emergency commencing November 1, 2018 and ending March 31, 2019 during any period that outside temperatures in City are at or below 25°F. The emergency declared in this Resolution applies to all areas within the geographic boundaries of City. City will give notice of the declaration through such public media as the mayor and/or city manager deems reasonable under the circumstances.

3. Temporary Regulations. For purposes of preventing, preparing for, minimizing, responding

to, and/or recovering from the emergency declared herein, City adopts the following temporary regulations:

3.1 City hereby designates the Sisters Community Church, Sisters Episcopal Church, and Westside Sisters Church as temporary cold weather shelter facilities. City's city manager and/or mayor may designate one or more facilities, buildings, and/or shelters as temporary cold weather shelter facility(ies). City's city manager and/or mayor will coordinate with the community development director and the fire safety manager concerning any waiver of applicable code provisions and/or additional regulations, including, without limitation, waiver(s) of temporary use permit(s) for temporary cold weather shelter facilities and/or allowing temporary uses (temporary cold weather shelter facilities) in the Urban Area Reserve District.

3.2 During the state of emergency declared herein, from the period commencing at 10:00 p.m. until 7:00 a.m. the following day, each designated temporary cold weather shelter facility is authorized to shelter persons in excess of City's applicable occupancy requirements, but in no event exceeding the number of persons identified by City's city manager and/or mayor; provided, however, a 24-hour fire watch will be maintained at all times.

4. Miscellaneous. All pronouns contained in this Resolution and any variations thereof will be deemed to refer to the masculine, feminine, or neutral, singular or plural, as the identity of the parties may require. The singular includes the plural and the plural includes the singular. The word "or" is not exclusive. The words "include," "includes," and "including" are not limiting. The provisions of this Resolution are hereby declared severable. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, and/or portion of this Resolution is for any reason held invalid, unenforceable, and/or unconstitutional, such invalid, unenforceable, and/or unconstitutional section, subsection, sentence, clause, and/or portion will (a) yield to a construction permitting enforcement to the maximum extent permitted by applicable law, and (b) not affect the validity, enforceability, and/or constitutionality of the remaining portion of this Resolution. This Resolution may be corrected by order of the Council to cure editorial and/or clerical errors.

ADOPTED by the City Council of City of Sisters and signed by the mayor this 24th day of October, 2018.

Chuck Ryan, Mayor

ATTEST:

Kerry Prosser, City Recorder

**RESOLUTION NO. 2019-17**

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WHEREAS, Section 5.1 of the Emergency Ordinance provides that City may adopt procedures to prevent, prepare for, minimize, respond to, and/or recover from an emergency, including, without limitation, granting temporary exemptions from applicable Sisters Municipal Code provisions for emergency shelters, and/or such other measures and/or actions necessary for the protection of the health, safety, and/or welfare of persons, property, infrastructure, and/or the environment; and

WHEREAS, commencing November 1, 2019 and ending on March 15, 2020, City anticipates severe weather conditions that may threaten the health, safety, and/or welfare of City and its citizens and/or cause or may cause damage, injury, and/or death to persons and/or property in City; and

WHEREAS, City finds that there is a need for local assistance to respond to severe cold weather conditions and City has received information from existing homeless shelter and cold weather service provides that there is a need for additional shelter resources during severe cold weather; and

WHEREAS, City finds that temporary cold weather shelter facilities are necessary for local residents when temperatures are at or below 25°F; and

WHEREAS, the Sisters City Council (the "Council") finds that anticipated severe cold weather conditions may threaten the health, safety, and welfare of City and its citizens and thereby necessitate a state of emergency declaration.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that City of Sisters resolves as follows:

1. Findings. The above-stated findings contained in this Resolution No. 2019-17 (this "Resolution") are hereby adopted.

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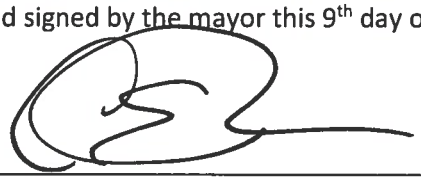
3. Temporary Regulations. For purposes of preventing, preparing for, minimizing, responding to, and/or recovering from the emergency declared herein, City adopts the following temporary regulations:

3.1 City hereby designates the Sisters Lutheran Church, Sisters Community Church, Westside Sisters Church, and Sisters Episcopal Church, as temporary cold weather shelter facilities. City's city manager and/or mayor may designate one or more facilities, buildings, and/or shelters as temporary cold weather shelter facility(ies). City's city manager and/or mayor will coordinate with the community development director and the fire safety manager concerning any waiver of applicable code provisions and/or additional regulations, including, without limitation, waiver(s) of temporary use permit(s) for temporary cold weather shelter facilities and/or allowing temporary uses (temporary cold weather shelter facilities) in the Urban Area Reserve District.

3.2 During the state of emergency declared herein, from the period commencing at 10:00 p.m. until 7:00 a.m. the following day, each designated temporary cold weather shelter facility is authorized to shelter persons in excess of City's applicable occupancy requirements, but in no event exceeding the number of persons identified by City's city manager and/or mayor; provided, however, a 24-hour fire watch will be maintained at all times.

4. Miscellaneous. All pronouns contained in this Resolution and any variations thereof will be deemed to refer to the masculine, feminine, or neutral, singular or plural, as the identity of the parties may require. The singular includes the plural and the plural includes the singular. The word "or" is not exclusive. The words "include," "includes," and "including" are not limiting. The provisions of this Resolution are hereby declared severable. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, and/or portion of this Resolution is for any reason held invalid, unenforceable, and/or unconstitutional, such invalid, unenforceable, and/or unconstitutional section, subsection, sentence, clause, and/or portion will (a) yield to a construction permitting enforcement to the maximum extent permitted by applicable law, and (b) not affect the validity, enforceability, and/or constitutionality of the remaining portion of this Resolution. This Resolution may be corrected by order of the Council to cure editorial and/or clerical errors.

ADOPTED by the City Council of City of Sisters and signed by the mayor this 9th day of October, 2019.



Chuck Ryan, Mayor

ATTEST:

Kerry Prosser, City Recorder

**RESOLUTION NO. 2021-20**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF SISTERS DECLARING A STATE OF EMERGENCY AND AUTHORIZING TEMPORARY SHELTER FACILITIES DURING SEVERE COLD WEATHER CONDITIONS.**

WHEREAS, City of Sisters ("City"), an Oregon municipal corporation, has all powers that the constitutions, statutes, and common law of the United States and Oregon expressly or impliedly grant or allow City; and

WHEREAS, under City Ordinance No. 483 (the "Emergency Ordinance") an emergency is defined to include, without limitation, a natural event that threatens the health, safety, and/or welfare of City and its citizens and/or causes or may cause damage, injury, and/or death to persons and/or property in City; and

WHEREAS, Section 5.1 of the Emergency Ordinance provides that City may adopt procedures to prevent, prepare for, minimize, respond to, and/or recover from an emergency, including, without limitation, granting temporary exemptions from applicable Sisters Municipal Code provisions for emergency shelters, and/or such other measures and/or actions necessary for the protection of the health, safety, and/or welfare of persons, property, infrastructure, and/or the environment; and

WHEREAS, commencing December 1, 2021, and ending on February 28, 2022, City anticipates severe weather conditions that may threaten the health, safety, and/or welfare of City and its citizens and/or cause or may cause damage, injury, and/or death to persons and/or property in City; and

WHEREAS, City finds that there is a need for local assistance to respond to severe cold weather conditions and City has received information from existing homeless shelter and cold weather service provides that there is a need for additional shelter resources during severe cold weather; and

WHEREAS, City finds that temporary cold weather shelter facilities are necessary for local residents when temperatures are at or below 35°F; and

WHEREAS, the Sisters City Council (the "Council") finds that anticipated severe cold weather conditions may threaten the health, safety, and welfare of City and its citizens and thereby necessitate a state of emergency declaration.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that City of Sisters resolves as follows:

1. Findings. The above-stated findings contained in this Resolution No. 2021-20 (this "Resolution") are hereby adopted.

2. Emergency Declaration; Notice. Council finds that severe cold weather conditions may threaten the health, safety, and/or welfare of City and its citizens and/or cause or may cause damage, injury, and/or death to persons and/or property in City. In accordance with Section 4.1 of the Emergency Ordinance, the mayor and Council hereby declare a state of emergency commencing December 1, 2021, and ending on February 28, 2022, during any period that outside temperatures in City are at or below 35°F. The emergency declared in this Resolution applies to all areas within the geographic boundaries of City. City will give notice of the declaration through such public media as the mayor and/or city manager deems reasonable under the circumstances.

3. Temporary Regulations. For purposes of preventing, preparing for, minimizing, responding to, and/or recovering from the emergency declared herein, City adopts the following temporary regulations:

3.1 City hereby designates the Sisters Community Church, Sisters Wellhouse Church, and Sisters Episcopal Church, as temporary cold weather shelter facilities. City's city manager and/or mayor may designate one or more facilities, buildings, and/or shelters as temporary cold weather shelter facility(ies). City's city manager and/or mayor will coordinate with the community development director and the fire safety manager concerning any waiver of applicable code provisions and/or additional regulations, including, without limitation, waiver(s) of temporary use permit(s) for temporary cold weather shelter facilities and/or allowing temporary uses (temporary cold weather shelter facilities) in the Urban Area Reserve District.

3.2 During the state of emergency declared herein, from the period commencing at 6:00 p.m. until 7:00 a.m. the following day, each designated temporary cold weather shelter facility is authorized to shelter persons in excess of City's applicable occupancy requirements, but in no event exceeding the number of persons identified by City's city manager and/or mayor; provided, however, a 24-hour fire watch will be maintained at all times.

4. Miscellaneous. All pronouns contained in this Resolution and any variations thereof will be deemed to refer to the masculine, feminine, or neutral, singular or plural, as the identity of the parties may require. The singular includes the plural, and the plural includes the singular. The word "or" is not exclusive. The words "include," "includes," and "including" are not limiting. The provisions of this Resolution are hereby declared severable. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, and/or portion of this Resolution is for any reason held invalid, unenforceable, and/or unconstitutional, such invalid, unenforceable, and/or unconstitutional section, subsection, sentence, clause, and/or portion will (a) yield to a construction permitting enforcement to the maximum extent permitted by applicable law, and (b) not affect the validity, enforceability, and/or constitutionality of the remaining portion of this Resolution. This Resolution may be corrected by order of the Council to cure editorial and/or clerical errors.

ADOPTED by the City Council of City of Sisters and signed by the mayor this 17th day of November 2021.

Michael Preedin, Mayor

ATTEST:

Kerry Prosser, City Recorder

**RESOLUTION NO. 2022-03**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF SISTERS DECLARING A STATE OF EMERGENCY AND AUTHORIZING TEMPORARY SHELTER FACILITIES DURING SEVERE COLD WEATHER CONDITIONS.**

WHEREAS, City of Sisters ("City"), an Oregon municipal corporation, has all powers that the constitutions, statutes, and common law of the United States and Oregon expressly or impliedly grant or allow City; and

WHEREAS, under City Ordinance No. 483 (the "Emergency Ordinance") an emergency is defined to include, without limitation, a natural event that threatens the health, safety, and/or welfare of City and its citizens and/or causes or may cause damage, injury, and/or death to persons and/or property in City; and

WHEREAS, Section 5.1 of the Emergency Ordinance provides that City may adopt procedures to prevent, prepare for, minimize, respond to, and/or recover from an emergency, including, without limitation, granting temporary exemptions from applicable Sisters Municipal Code provisions for emergency shelters, and/or such other measures and/or actions necessary for the protection of the health, safety, and/or welfare of persons, property, infrastructure, and/or the environment; and

WHEREAS, commencing February 1, 2022, and ending on March 31, 2022, City anticipates severe weather conditions that may threaten the health, safety, and/or welfare of City and its citizens and/or cause or may cause damage, injury, and/or death to persons and/or property in City; and

WHEREAS, City finds that there is a need for local assistance to respond to severe cold weather conditions and City has received information from existing homeless shelter and cold weather service provides that there is a need for additional shelter resources during severe cold weather; and

WHEREAS, City finds that temporary cold weather shelter facilities are necessary for local residents when temperatures are at or below 35°F; and

WHEREAS, the Sisters City Council (the "Council") finds that anticipated severe cold weather conditions may threaten the health, safety, and welfare of City and its citizens and thereby necessitate a state of emergency declaration.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that City of Sisters resolves as follows:

1. Findings. The above-stated findings contained in this Resolution No. 2022-03 (this "Resolution") are hereby adopted.

2. Emergency Declaration; Notice. Council finds that severe cold weather conditions may threaten the health, safety, and/or welfare of City and its citizens and/or cause or may cause damage, injury, and/or death to persons and/or property in City. In accordance with Section 4.1 of the Emergency Ordinance, the mayor and Council hereby declare a state of emergency commencing February 1, 2022, and ending on March 31, 2022, during any period that outside temperatures in City are at or below 35°F. The emergency declared in this Resolution applies to all areas within the geographic boundaries of City. City will give notice of the declaration through such public media as the mayor and/or city manager deems reasonable under the circumstances.

3. Temporary Regulations. For purposes of preventing, preparing for, minimizing, responding to, and/or recovering from the emergency declared herein, City adopts the following temporary regulations:

3.1 City hereby designates the property located at 141 W. Main Avenue (upstairs only), as temporary cold weather shelter facilities. City's city manager and/or mayor may designate one or more facilities, buildings, and/or shelters as temporary cold weather shelter facility(ies). City's city manager and/or mayor will coordinate with the community development director and the fire safety manager concerning any waiver of applicable code provisions and/or additional regulations, including, without limitation, waiver(s) of temporary use permit(s) for temporary cold weather shelter facilities and/or allowing temporary uses (temporary cold weather shelter facilities) in the Urban Area Reserve District.

3.2 During the state of emergency declared herein, from the period commencing at 6:00 p.m. until 7:00 a.m. the following day, each designated temporary cold weather shelter facility is authorized to shelter persons in excess of City's applicable occupancy requirements, but in no event exceeding the number of persons identified by City's city manager and/or mayor; provided, however, a 24-hour fire watch will be maintained at all times.

4. Miscellaneous. All pronouns contained in this Resolution and any variations thereof will be deemed to refer to the masculine, feminine, or neutral, singular or plural, as the identity of the parties may require. The singular includes the plural, and the plural includes the singular. The word "or" is not exclusive. The words "include," "includes," and "including" are not limiting. The provisions of this Resolution are hereby declared severable. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, and/or portion of this Resolution is for any reason held invalid, unenforceable, and/or unconstitutional, such invalid, unenforceable, and/or unconstitutional section, subsection, sentence, clause, and/or portion will (a) yield to a construction permitting enforcement to the maximum extent permitted by applicable law, and (b) not affect the validity, enforceability, and/or constitutionality of the remaining portion of this Resolution. This Resolution may be corrected by order of the Council to cure editorial and/or clerical errors.

ADOPTED by the City Council of City of Sisters and signed by the mayor this 26th day of January 2022.

Michael Preedin, Mayor

ATTEST:

Kerry Prosser, City Recorder

# Sisters Shelter Proposal

**Review:** House Bill 2006 (and as revised by HB 3395)

**Applicant:** Sisters Cold Weather Shelter

**Owner:** Desert Wind Holding, LLC

**Address:** 192 W. Barclay Drive

# LOCATION


**Project Area:**

0.53Acres

**Zoning:**
Light Industrial

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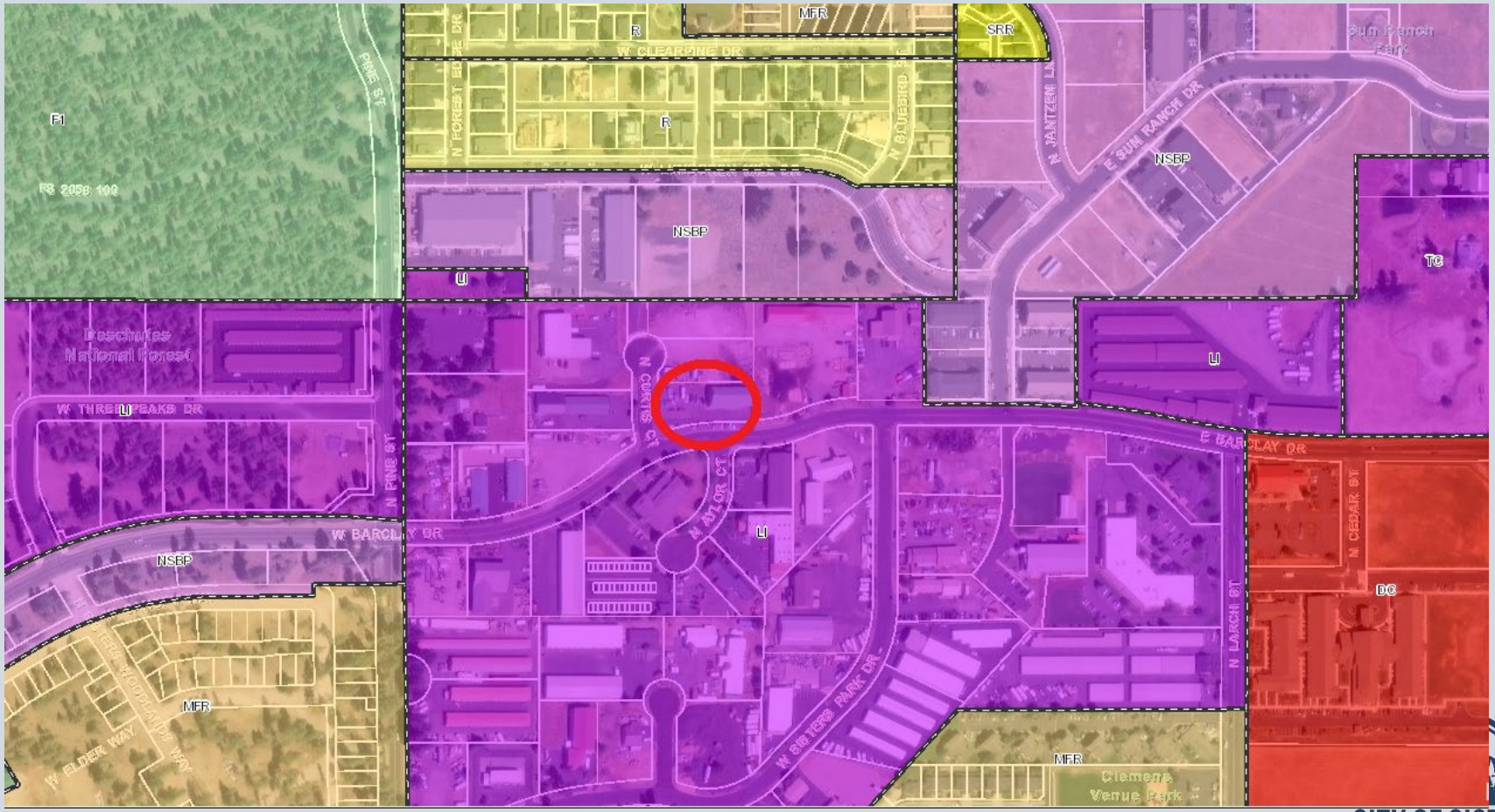
# LOCATION

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# APPLICANT REQUEST

Approval of an emergency shelter to accommodate up to 20 sleeping pads or cots and resource center providing services such as showers, laundry and case management and mental health and addiction and housing resources.

- Winter Operations: November – March 6 pm – 7 am
  - Volunteers to serve food and monitor 6 pm – 10 pm
  - Paid staff to monitor 10 pm – 7 am

- Summer Operations: On an as needed basis (from extreme heat or smoke)

- Resource Center: to provide “essential services” (showers and laundry) and counseling resources
  - Paid staff and volunteers to operate for “limited” hours each week (specific times not disclosed)
  - Code of conduct

# LEGISLATIVE HISTORY

**HB 2006** (2021) signed into law to remove barriers for the siting of emergency shelters.

- Requires local governments to approve an application for an emergency shelter, regardless of conflicts with other state or local land use regulations, if the application meets specific approval criteria outlined in the bill.

**HB 3395** (June 30, 2023): extended HB 2006 until the state homeless population falls below certain thresholds and made several amendments to HB 2006:

- Changed the operator requirement timeline as exempt from income tax on or before January 1, 2018, to "at least three years before the date of the application for a shelter";
- Clarified that approval or denial of an emergency shelter can be made with or without a hearing; and
- Specified when attorney fees are awarded as part of any "Writ of Review" of a local government decision on an emergency shelter.

# PROCEDURAL HISTORY

- Original Application Submitted June 27, 2023
- Applicant withdrew its prior application for an emergency shelter on August 14, 2023
- Applicant then filed a new application on August 15, 2023
- The re-filed application purports to be filed under HB 3395, which staff understands as intending to take advantage of amendments to HB 2006 contained within HB 3395

# DECISION MAKING PROCESS

1. HB 2006 controls over any conflicting statewide land use planning goals, LCDC rule or any local zoning ordinance or comprehensive plan.

2. A decision on an emergency shelter is not a “land use decision” and is not subject to appeal to the LUBA (Oregon Land Use Board of Appeals).

3. HB 2006 (as amended) does not provide any direction on the procedures for processing an application for an emergency shelter.

4. Given the level of public attention to the application, City Council elected to hold a public hearing.

# CITY COUNCIL DECISION

City Council options:

1. Approve the application as submitted
2. Deny the application as submitted
3. Approve the application with conditions.

HB 2006 (as amended) does not expressly address conditions of approval.

If the Council decides to approve the application subject to conditions, staff recommended conditions are provided in Exhibit D.

# PUBLIC COMMENT

- 142 total comments (92 different individuals)
- Notice sent to property owners within 250 feet of subject site.
- Full record to comments at: https://www.ci.sisters.or.us/administration/page/emergency-shelter-siting

# HB 2006/3395 REVIEW CRITERIA

1) **A local government shall approve an application for the development or use of land for an emergency shelter, as defined in ORS 197.782, on any property, notwithstanding this chapter or ORS chapter 195, 197A, 215 or 227 or any statewide land use planning goal, rule of the Land Conservation and Development Commission or local land use regulation, zoning ordinance, regional framework plan, functional plan or comprehensive plan, if the emergency shelter:**

a) **Includes sleeping and restroom facilities for clients;**

***Staff Analysis:***

- Per the application, the proposed shelter will include sleeping and restroom facilities for clients,
- Large, open area on the first floor of the building where sleeping mats or cots can be laid down. The building already includes restrooms that can be used by shelter clients.
- No floor plans were submitted, but city staff did conduct a site visit and can confirm that the sleeping space and restroom facilities.

# HB 2006/3395 REVIEW CRITERIA

b) **Will comply with applicable building codes;**

***Staff Analysis:***

- The applicant has coordinated with the County and State Fire Marshal
- A variety of building/fire code related approval will be required for various uses of building.
- Building code administrators indicate that the proposal could comply with applicable codes.
- Criteria satisfied as long as the applicant pursues and receives applicable building permits and approvals, and otherwise meets requirements of the Deschutes County Building Department and State Fire Marshal
- Should City Council approve the emergency shelter, staff recommends a condition of approval that the applicant obtain all applicable building permits.

# HB 2006/3395 REVIEW CRITERIA

a) **Is located inside the urban growth boundary or in an area zoned for rural residential use as defined in ORS 215.501;**

***Staff Analysis:*** According to the Sisters Zoning Map, the subject property is located within the City's Urban Growth Boundary.

# HB 2006/3395 REVIEW CRITERIA

a) **Will not result in the development of a new building that is sited within an area designated under a statewide planning goal relating to natural disasters and hazards, including flood plains or mapped environmental health hazards, unless the development complies with regulations directly related to the hazard;**

***Staff Analysis:***

- Will not result in a new building proposed
- Subject property is not located with a floodplain
- Not designated under the City's comprehensive plan as mapped for a natural disaster or environmental health hazard.

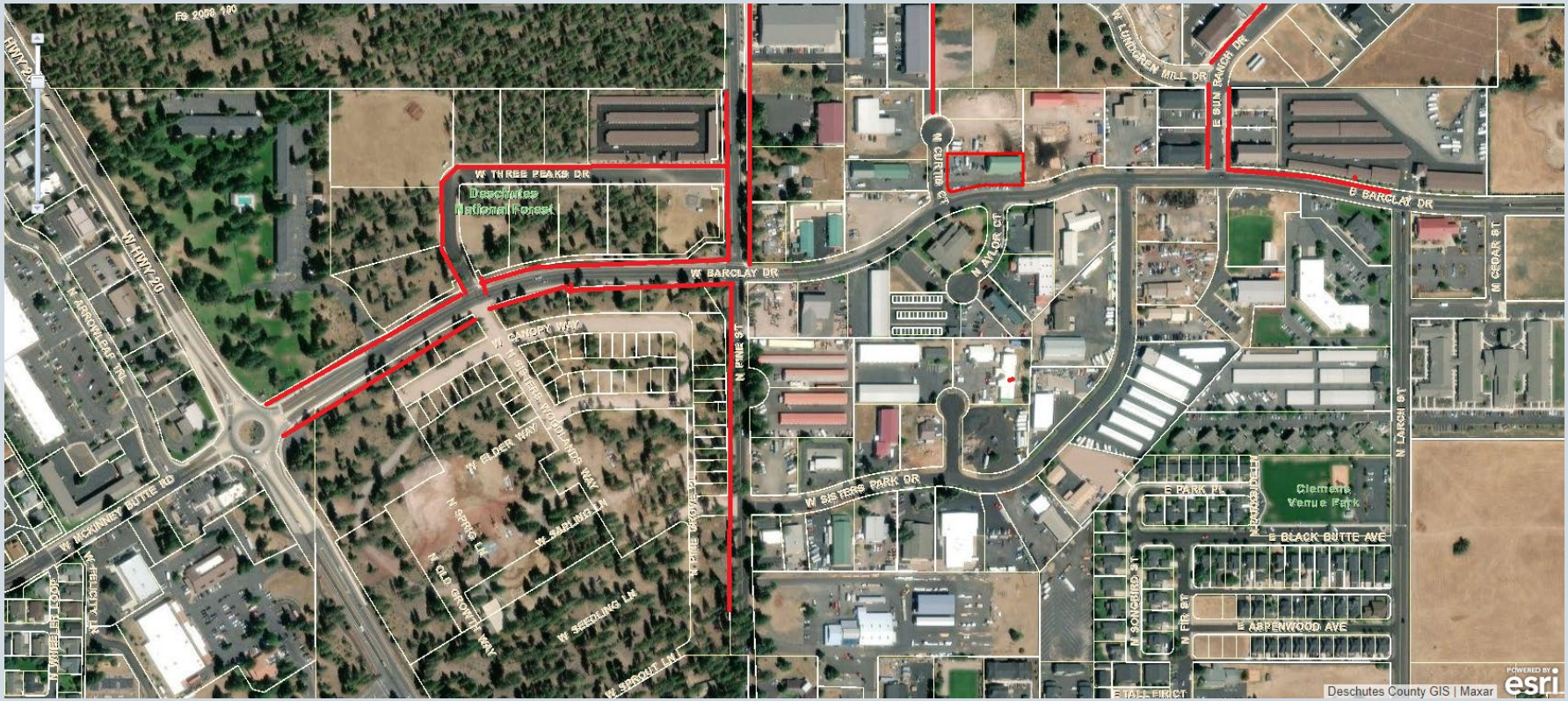
# HB 2006/3395 REVIEW CRITERIA

a) **Has adequate transportation access to commercial and medical services; and**

***Staff Analysis:***

- Criterion: adequacy of transportation access *to* commercial and medical services - not whether the commercial and medical services themselves are adequate.
- No guidance what constitutes "adequate transportation access". Staff assumes that this provision requires at least some consideration of the various modes of transportation.
- Public commenters have noted:
  - No emergency department or urgent care facility within the City
  - No sidewalks/lighting on Barclay Drive
  - No on-street parking nearby facility

# HB 2006/3395 REVIEW CRITERIA

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# HB 2006/3395 REVIEW CRITERIA

a) **Has adequate transportation access to commercial and medical services; and**

***Staff Analysis:***

- The city has plans to add multi-use paths on both sides of Barclay Drive,. The start date is TBD.
- Transit: Cascade East Transit has transit stop on Main Avenue with regular service to Bend, Redmond and other Central Oregon communities, in addition to Dial-A-Ride services.
- Parking: no on-street parking, but available on-street parking (20-25 spaces)
- This plausibly provides access to additional commercial and medical services at destinations within the service area.

# HB 2006/3395 REVIEW CRITERIA

a) **Will not pose any unreasonable risk to public health or safety.**

***Staff Analysis:***

- The criterion does not set the bar at *any* risk to public health and safety rather whether risk is "unreasonable".
- HB 2006 (as amended) does not set out any further guidance as to what constitutes an "unreasonable risk".
- Public comments have identified concerns, including:

  - Proximity to businesses and homes where children play and along school routes
  - Insufficient law enforcement staffing and availability to serve the shelter or its clients
  - Shelter guests under the influence of drugs/alcohol and who may have violent tendencies.
  - Lack of sidewalks and lighting along Barclay and the risk posed to pedestrians/bicyclists
  - Concern about vandalism to neighboring businesses where expensive equipment is stored
  - Inadequate planning or resources to accommodate an emergency facility of this scale.
  - Inadequate staffing (either numbers or experience).
  - Lack of monitoring of emergency shelter guests outside of shelter operational hours
  - Concern that the facility will morph into full-time shelter with other services
  - Will attract new houseless people from other communities

# HB 2006/3395 REVIEW CRITERIA

a) **Will not pose any unreasonable risk to public health or safety.**

***Staff Analysis:***

- The applicant contends that the proposed emergency shelter will not pose any unreasonable risk to public health or safety due to:
  - Paid staff on site from 10 pm-7 am to monitor the guests and volunteers on site from 6 pm-10 pm.
  - Code of conduct:
  - Behave in a respectful manner
  - Prohibit the use of drug and alcohol use on premises
  - No loitering near the building or in the neighborhood before and after open hours
  - May not re-enter the emergency shelter once they arrive for the evening
  - Few incidents during its prior emergency shelter operations.

# HB 2006/3395 REVIEW CRITERIA

a) **Will not pose any unreasonable risk to public health or safety.**

***Staff Analysis:***

- Deschutes County Sheriff's Office offices located a ¼ mile away
  - The force consists of 4 personnel with a 5th to start January of 2024. There is 24-hour coverage.
  - Lieutenant state the Sheriff's Office is not unable to serve the proposed emergency shelter.
- The Sisters-Camp Sherman Fire District Fire is also located within a mile of this facility.

Similar to the previous criterion, HB 2006 does not provide any guidance as to what constitutes "unreasonable risk". City Council will have to resolve whether (a) any of the identified risks are "unreasonable" in nature given conflicting arguments/evidence in the record, and (b) whether the mitigation proposed by the applicant is sufficient to reduce any "unreasonable risks" to the realm of "reasonable".

# HB 2006/3395 REVIEW CRITERIA

**2) An emergency shelter allowed under this section must be operated by:**

- **a) A local government as defined in ORS 174.116;**
- **b) An organization with at least two years' experience operating an emergency shelter using best practices that is:**
  - **A. A local housing authority as defined in ORS 456.375;**
  - **B. A religious corporation as defined in ORS 65.001; or**
  - **C. A public benefit corporation, as defined in ORS 65.001, whose charitable purpose includes the support of homeless individuals, that has been recognized as exempt from income tax under 501(a) of the Internal Revenue Code for at least three years before the date of the application for a shelter; or**
- **c) A nonprofit corporation partnering with any other entity described in this subsection.**

# HB 2006/3395 REVIEW CRITERIA

***Staff Analysis (Operational Experience):***

- Criterion unclear: does it require at least 730 days of operation in the aggregate (365 days/year x 2 years) or operation for part of at least two calendar years?
- HB 2006 does not address what constitutes “best practices”
- Applicant: we have size seasons of experience operating cold weather shelter, starting in 2017 (but provide no further details on days in operation or whether best practices were implemented).
- City Records: Four Resolutions approved:
  - Nov. 1, 2018 to March 31, 2019
  - Nov. 1, 2019-March 15, 2020
  - Dec 1, 2021 to Feb 28, 2022
  - Feb. 1, 2022 to March 31, 2022

# HB 2006/3395 REVIEW CRITERIA

***Staff Analysis (Tax Exemption):***

- Applicant registered with the state as a domestic public benefit corporation on August 12, 2020

- Applicant asserts its charitable purpose is to support homeless persons by providing shelter during periods of extreme weather.

- The applicant supplied a letter from the IRS dated 1/22/21 that says applicant is "exempt from federal income as a "public charity".

- Criterion is ambiguous as to how to measure the duration of tax exemption: From date of letter or from "effective date of exemption"?

- Staff inclined to support "effective date" as it measures "tenure' of organization, not arbitrary date IRS issued letter.

# HB 2006/3395 REVIEW CRITERIA

***Staff Analysis (Partner):***

- Applicant can meet criterion if partnering with a qualifying organization

- HB 2006 provides no guidance as to what constitutes "partnering" with another qualified entity.

- Applicant has made reference to "operating under the umbrella", receiving "technical assistance", and even an intent to "partner" in the provision of certain emergency shelter related services from third parties.

- Staff is unclear whether the applicant made these statements for purposes of demonstrating "partnering" under this criterion

- Staff notes that the applicant has not provided any evidence demonstrating that third parties acknowledge any partnership arrangement or that such third parties would independently qualify.

# HB 2006/3395 REVIEW CRITERIA

***Staff Analysis (Eligibility):***

City Council will have to resolve whether:

(a) applicant has “two years” of experience operating an emergency shelter using “best practices”, and

(b) whether the applicant has been “recognized” as tax exempt for the requisite period, and

(c) if the intent is to establish partnership with a qualifying organization, whether there is sufficient evidence to establish a partnership and whether the partner would independently qualify.

# NEXT STEPS

At the conclusion of the testimony, the Council can consider the following options:

1. Continue the hearing to a date certain;
2. Close the hearing and leave the written record open to a date certain;
3. Close the hearing and set a date for deliberations; or
4. Close the hearing and commence deliberations

# QUESTIONS?

# RESERVE SLIDES

# CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL

If the Council decides to approve the application with conditions, staff recommends at least the following:

1. The approval is limited to the submitted application which includes an emergency shelter accommodating up to 20 guests per night during instances of extreme weather and may provide the services permitted under HB 2006 (as amended). Any material modification from the submitted application from the will require submission and approval of a new application to allow for review of the modified emergency shelter under the criteria of HB 2006 (as amended). A substantial alteration includes, but is not limited to, expanding the shelter to accommodate more persons or permitting any outdoor camping (including allowing persons to occupy vehicles overnight). Any non-emergency shelter use of the facility, including any accessory use not permitted under HB 2006 (as amended) will require separate application and approval consistent with applicable land use laws and regulations.

2. The proposed emergency shelter must begin operations within two years from the date of this approval or it shall be voided. Additionally, this authorization shall be voided if the use of the subject property as emergency shelter is interrupted or abandoned for any period of more than two years.

3. The applicant shall obtain all required building permits, approvals, and inspections from the Deschutes County Building Department and State Fire Marshall prior to commencing the use or HB 2006 (as amended) permitted accessory use that requires such building permit, approval, or inspection and shall otherwise comply at all times with the requirements of the County Building Department and State Fire Marshall.

4. Applicant will only charge for services in a manner consistent with HB 2006 (as amended).

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