



HOMELESSNESS AND CAMPING

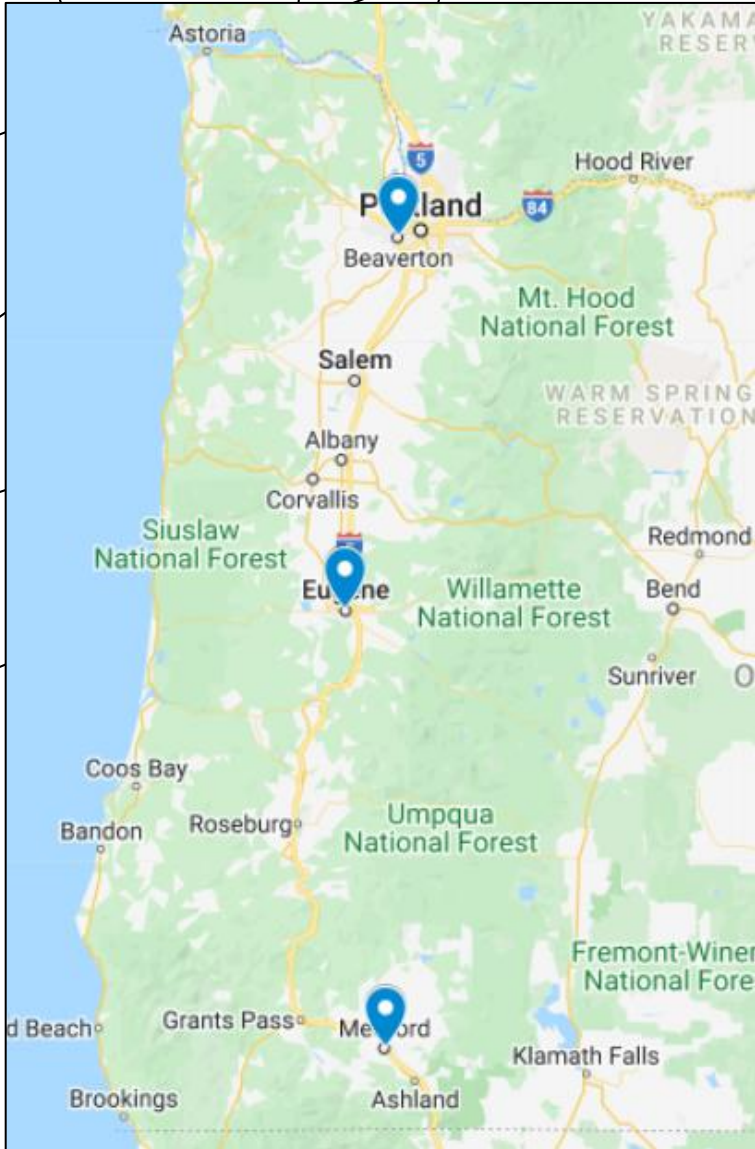
A Panel on Programs and Possible Solutions

Eric Mitton, City of Medford | **Grace Wong**, City of Beaverton | **Regan Watjus**, City of Eugene

OCAA Spring Conference 2022

OVERVIEW

- **Three Case Examples**
 - City of Beaverton
 - City of Eugene
 - City of Medford
- **Key Takeaways**
- **Q&A**



CITY OF BEAVERTON

Safe Parking Program

- Pilot program in 2019 (cont. as a permanent program in 2020).
- Modeled after Eugene's Safe Parking Program
- 5 host sites (up to 3 vehicles each) – city, parks district, and faith-based partners
- Services incl. portable restroom & storage unit
- Case management services by contracted non-profit organization

Safe Parking Pilot Program



Providing a safe, legal
space to park for
people experiencing
homelessness and living
out of their vehicles.

Contact Just Compassion
503-624-4666

safeparkingbeaverton@gmail.com

CITY OF BEAVERTON

Safe Parking Program

	Year 1 Review (2020)	Year 2 Review (2021)	Year 3 Review (2022)
# vehicles in program (total)	17	22	31
# vehicles exited into housing	6	11	12
# vehicles continuing in program	6	4	8
# vehicles that exited program	5	7	11
# individuals exited into housing (total)	12	17	20



CITY OF BEAVERTON

- **Police Bike Team**

- Four police officers (specialized training)
- The first point of contact on the street for many businesses, homeless individuals, and community members
- Offer housing resources and referrals to homeless individuals

- **On-the-Street Navigators**

- New contract
- Will work in parallel with the Bike Team in the downtown area to offer additional housing resources and referrals



CITY OF BEAVERTON

- **Mental Health Liaison**
 - One mental health specialist housed in Beaverton Municipal Court
 - IGA with Washington County for position
 - Acts as a resource for Bike Team to refer homeless individuals who have mental health issues
- **Housing Referral Specialist**
 - One dedicated housing referral specialist at the library (Community Action) – drop-in; set aside space
 - Acts as a direct housing resource for homeless individuals

CITY OF BEAVERTON



Internal Homelessness Coordinating Committee

- Interdepartmental group of employees
- Share information, obtain feedback on cross-departmental projects and issues
- Standing monthly meetings

CITY OF BEAVERTON

Shelter

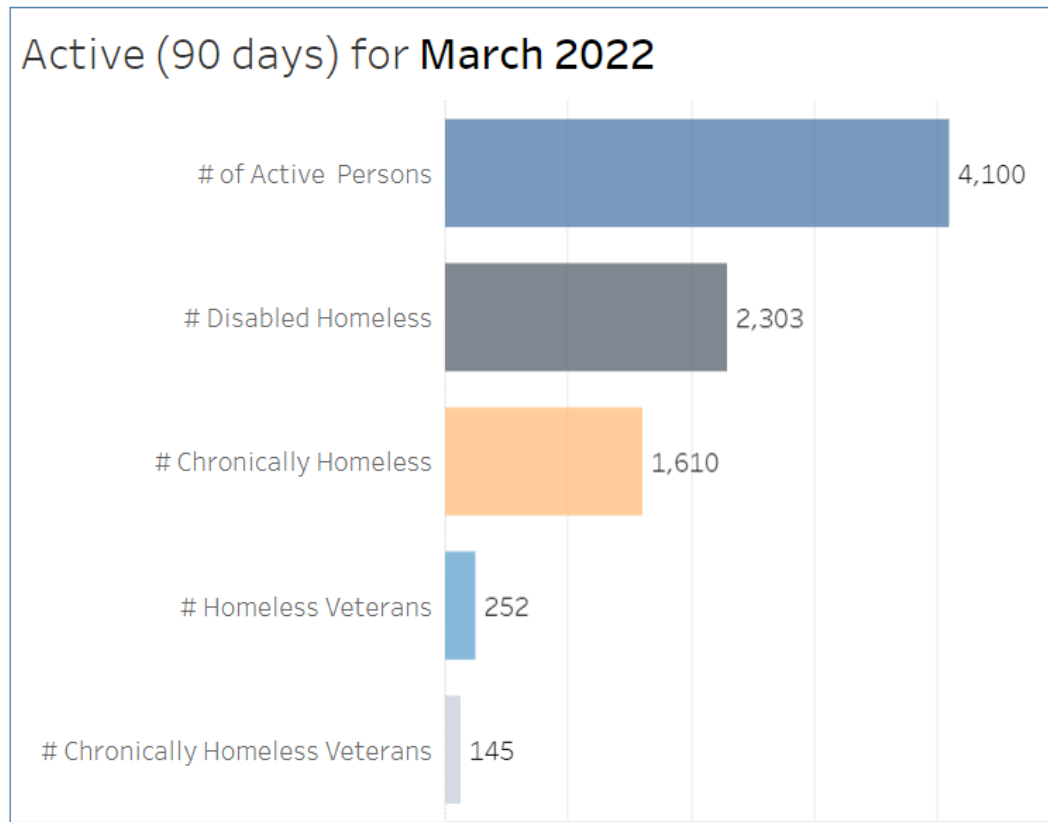
- Currently: Severe weather shelter
- Future: Year-round shelter



CITY OF EUGENE

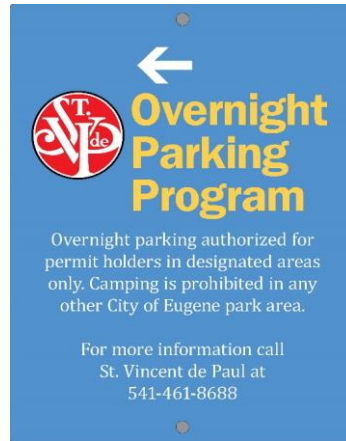
Lane County Homeless By-Name List

Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)



CITY OF EUGENE

Overnight Parking Program



- EC 4.816 Permitted Overnight Sleeping allows overnight sleeping in a vehicle:
 - In the parking lot of a religious institution, place of worship, business or public entity with permission of the property owner; or
 - On a vacant parcel with permission of the property owner – vacant sites must be registered with the City.
- No more than six vehicles used for sleeping at any one time per site.
- Property owner must provide porta-potties, garbage service and a storage area for personal items, and shall not require payment of any fee, rent, or other monetary charge
- Provider: St. Vincent de Paul
- ~60 spots at ~40 addresses
- Most are on private property

CITY OF EUGENE

Rest Stop Program



- Up to 20 people per site (sites start with 15 people & may increase after 6 months)
- Sites must be approved by City Council; City enters into agreement with an operator
- All of our rest stops utilize Conestoga huts for the sleeping units
- Sites have portable restrooms, garbage containers, hand washing stations, perimeter fencing, gravel pathways, common space, and additional storage
- Currently 9 sites & 2 providers/operators
- 50+% positive exits
- Programmatic

CITY OF EUGENE

Opportunity Village

- Authorized as homeless shelter under conditional use permit in 2013
 - 29 units
 - On City property

Microsites

- Allowed under EC 4.816 Permitted Overnight Sleeping
 - For purposes of this subsection, the term “vehicle” includes a car, tent, camper, trailer, and Conestoga hut.
 - 6 sleeping units
- City funds 4 microsites



CITY OF EUGENE

Dusk to Dawn Program



- Congregate, drop-in site
- Site provides heated, multi-person tents
- Provider: St. Vincent de Paul
- Capacity: 125 beds
- Sites must be approved by City Council, and City Manager can authorize number of individuals allowed to sleep at the site
- Restrooms, garbage services required
- Case management provided, as well as other supportive services through partnerships



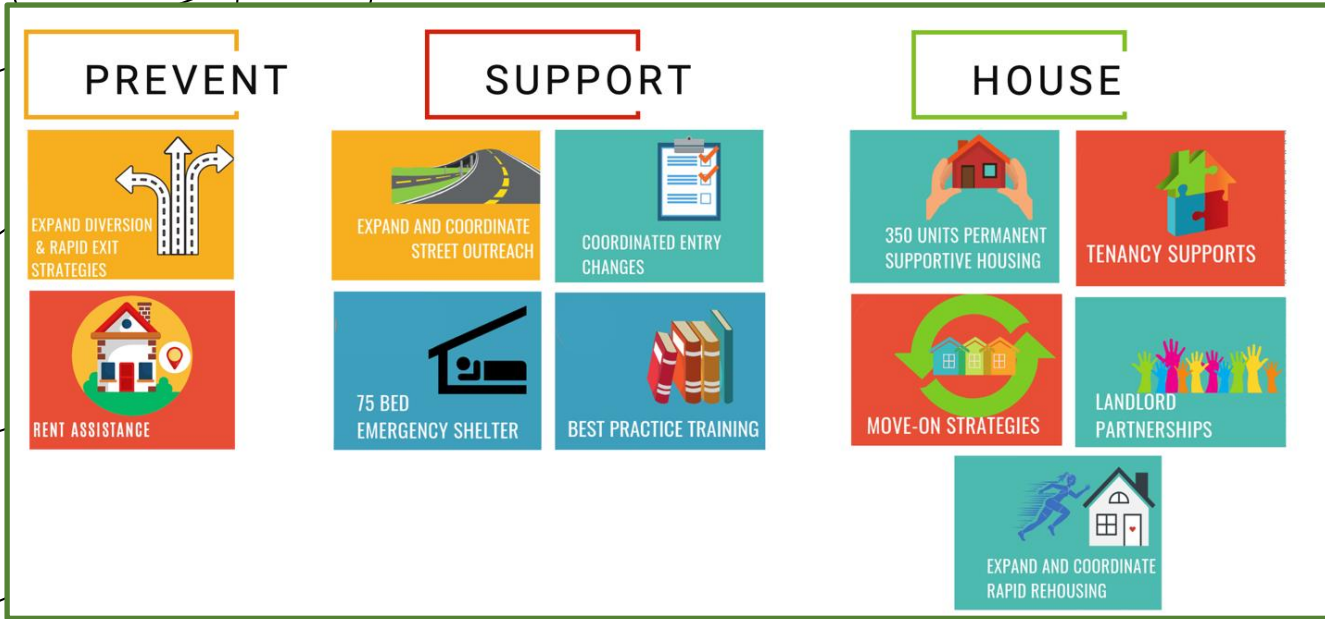
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Safe Sleep Sites



- “Safe Parking” & “Safe Tent” sites
- Ordinance approved April 2021; sunsets May 2023
- To accommodate more tents or vehicles on a site than was previously allowed by code → up to 60 vehicles or up to 40 tents or approved hut structures
- 3 sites currently open, with two different operators
- Supportive services provided
- 2 more sites have been approved

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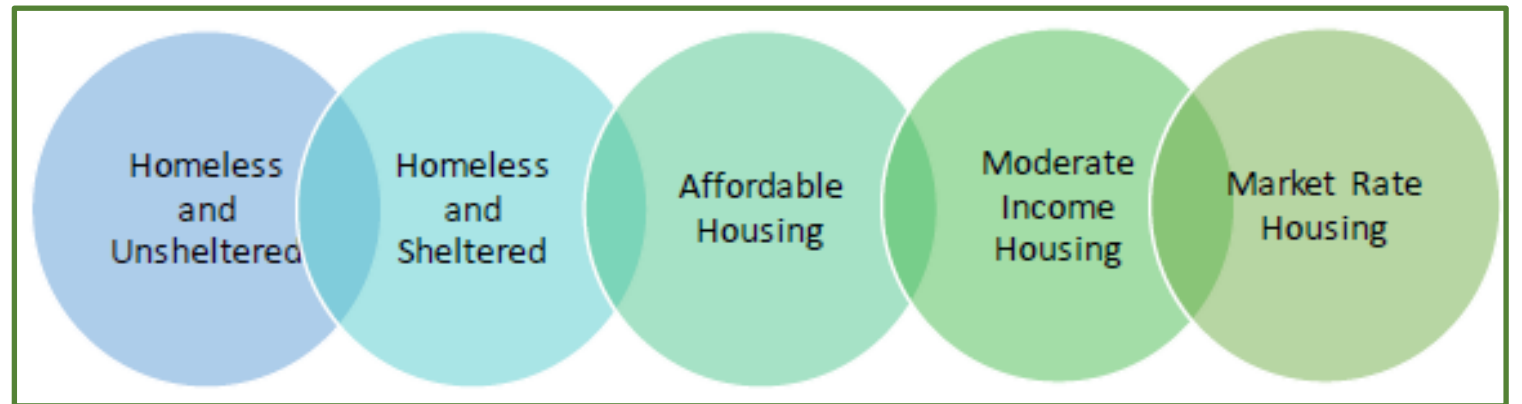


System Transformation efforts

In partnership with Lane County

Housing Implementation Pipeline

Internal, cross-departmental, 5-year work plan



CITY OF MEDFORD

Hope Village (started 2017)

Low-barrier tiny home operation operated by nonprofit Rogue Retreat

Sited largely on City property leased for \$1 per year

Total of 34 units, shared facilities include kitchen trailer, restroom and shower trailer, laundry, community center, dog park, vegetable garden



CITY OF MEDFORD

Medford Police Department Livability Team (mobilized 2019)

- Not bound to calls for service
- Balances enforcement and outreach
- Connect individuals with services and/or shelter opportunities through partnerships with local service providers





CITY OF MEDFORD

"Options Mental Health Outreach (MHO) would like to express our support of the Livability team and the invaluable partnership forged in service of Medford's unhoused and unsheltered residents.

In 2021 with the support of the Livability team Options MHO was able to make contact with and begin to build relationships with 175 individuals; many with complex presentations such as serious and persistent mental illness, chronic substance use, serious medical conditions, families with young children and others with developmental disabilities such as Down Syndrome.

We were able to successfully connect over 100 people to needed services; 38 of which engaged with Mental Health support including medication management, targeted case management and individual therapy. Many of these individuals have high utilization of local emergency departments, crisis services and law enforcement calls.

The Livability team does an incredible job organizing community outreach, among many other things, which provide the opportunity for houseless individuals to work with community partners to stabilize and become productive members of society and effectively reduce the cost and burden on these systems. MHO looks forward to continuing this very important partnership in services of our community."

--Options Mental Health Outreach

CITY OF MEDFORD

Urban Campground (started 2020)

- Property is provided by the City, operated by nonprofit Rogue Retreat
- Phase 1: tent sites and meals
- Phase 2: Pallet shelters and rigid tents
- Other partners support, help provide wrap-around supportive services on-site such as alcohol and drug counseling, mental health services, housing services, job readiness, and legal aid



CITY OF MEDFORD

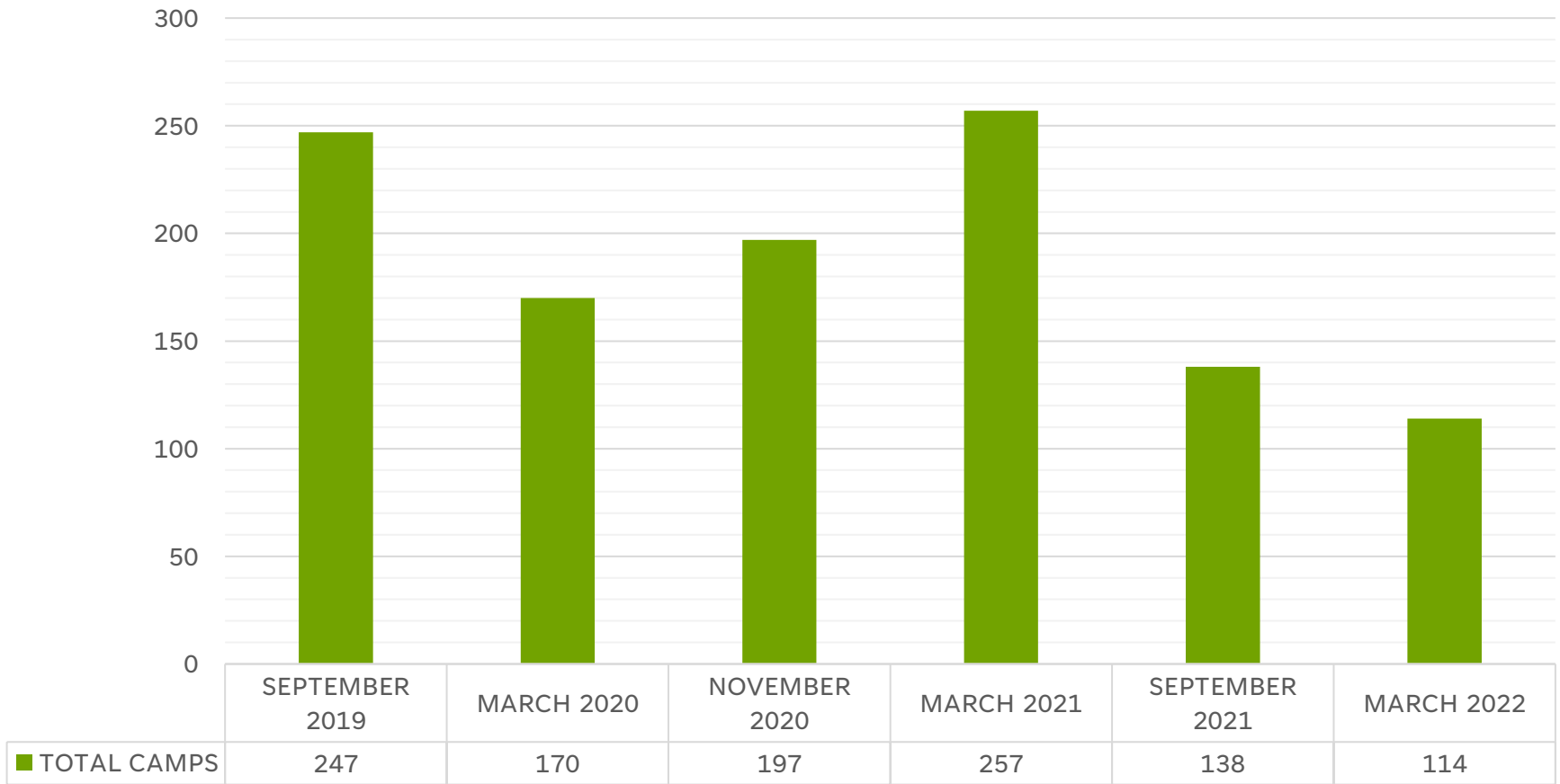
Prohibited camping ordinance (adopted April 2021)

- Post-*Blake* ordinance built around time-place-manner regulations
- Implemented by Livability Team with a services-first approach
- 72-hour posting window used to bring service providers to posted campsites, seek voluntary compliance and engagement with services
- First eight months (data from 11/19/2021):
 - 218 camps cleaned
 - 89 individuals accepted shelter
 - 9 occupants cited/arrested
 - 840 cubic yards of garbage removed



CITY OF MEDFORD

Encampment Survey





CITY OF MEDFORD

Navigation Center (opening July 2022)

- City-owned building, operated by one non-profit with many different service providers on-site
- Congregate shelter for approximately 100 individuals
- Individuals will not have to travel to other locations to get services
- Grant support for building acquisition, renovation

COMING SOON

UNDER CONSTRUCTION



TAKEAWAYS

- **Evaluate existing resources** – A program that works for one jurisdiction may not work for you. Cities do not have the same providers available to assist cities in offering housing resources.
- **Different projects have different start-up and ongoing costs** – Some projects require minimal start-up costs; others have more involved costs. Ongoing (operating) costs should also be considered.
- **Strive to provide a selection of options for people experiencing homelessness** – People experiencing homelessness have very different needs and may need a variety of options depending on their circumstances.



THANKS FOR LISTENING

ANY QUESTIONS?

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