

Feedback on Proposed Sites for Micro-Shelter Village – Online Survey

CENTRAL SALEM: City-owned Peace Plaza at 555 Liberty Street SE

- This might be ideal due to the concrete so there is no erosion around the entrance doors, and reliably level.
- Yes - number 1 choice. Perhaps being so close to City Hall the Micro-Shelter Village will be managed well and kept clean. Also a great reminder for City Council on the city's homeless issues and have it in their backyard!
- Centrally located. Close to resources
- This location is close to services and I am in favor of anything that gets homeless people into safer, more hygienic housing.
- Absolutely Not!!! Peace Plaza is a lovely space and perfect next to library. Setting up a village there would completely ruin its ambiance.
- Don't do it. This is a huge safety issue for City staff.
- Not appropriate. Plaza should remain a public gathering space. People often walk through the plaza between Library and city offices. Micro shelters would add too much congestion.
- Proximity to library is a concern, unless intent is to further repurpose library itself as a primary focus for day-time shelter of the unhoused. Significant care would be needed to ensure the addition of services does not lead to the spread of unsanctioned "camping" in other areas of the civic center complex, blocking accessible access or damaging the extensive public art and installations.
- Glad to see the City has stepped up and taking on the challenges of hosting a site within the view of City Leadership. Hope this works out. Recommended this site almost two years ago.
- I don't believe this is a suitable place for these micro shelters. Families with young kids come to the library often, and utilize this space outside near the fountains. I don't believe these should be at this specific location.
- How will it be monitored? Policed?
- This is fine but where will the showers be? Also will you work with the residents do they can establish their own patrols and litter pick up? Social services?
- This is centrally located, but puts quite a additional burden on the public library, which would need additional support from the city. Is close to services and transport
- I think it makes a bold and positive statement for the city to co-house shelters with city operations. The site is free and makes sense in terms of being near where many unsheltered individuals currently live.
- Good idea to use this location to demonstrate city is sharing the "pain." It also keeps this population visible to voters and policymakers
- Good idea, symbolic of the City's commitment and a reminder that we all own the strategies for overcoming chronic poverty and under usage of our human potential.
- Centrally located to things they could walk to
- I own a small business downtown and support this location.
- This location is ideal, providing micro shelter residents with easy access to many services and opportunities. A perfect tribute to the plaza as well.
- Yes please
- Good location, close to the library and a transit.
- This is a lovely spot which works well with the goal of Peace; IF it is monitored carefully so Library and city hall visitors feel safe and the area is kept clean.

- I think the experts know the best siting spots. I want to know why all these sites are in NE Salem and one near NE instead of spread around the city. It's unfair that some people think they are above solving a problem they complain about
- Very limited parking available, rest rooms in City Hall OK.
- This is a public plaza that has value beyond a homeless camp. With the library newly remodeled and a magnet for children and families, this is a poor choice. Also, it's more valuable to preserve public parks and plazas downtown to enhance the public's experience. Lodging homeless people in downtown - anywhere is a bad idea. This is no way to revitalize our downtown and common spaces. Keep in mind, once in place, these sites will likely be around for years. I'm all for housing the homeless, but every person deserves access to our public spaces. Our parks and plazas are for everyone, not to house anyone, I moved from Portland after 30 years. In large part due to the camping regulations that destroyed livability. I grew up in Salem. I hope we can do better for the houseless without sacrificing our public spaces.
- Lowest preference
- The plaza is such a lovely space for people to visit and enjoy that I think the city should choose a different location, preferably a little farther away from the library. If that's not possible, the city should ensure that the residents at this location are the least likely to experience mental health crises
- This is the only place (other than at the State Capital) I would support this being. While next to children in the library, I look at this as a city council and manager issue that needs to have it next to them to notice it. We have a state mental health crisis and addiction
- I am the owner of Pringle Park Plaza. I am responding to the proposed "micro-shelter community" camp for homeless by the City of Salem. The proposed location at 555 Liberty St is two blocks from the Plaza located in the 300 block on Liberty, quite easy walking distance. My response no different than my response to an earlier proposal for a car camp, also near the Salem Library, slightly edited, which follows. We recognize no one wants to be homeless, and not all homeless are bad people. Yet, it is historically the case with homeless camps that a range of problems associated with the homeless will likely occur at Pringle Park Plaza because of its proximity to the proposed site. They are: trespassing and loitering on our plaza; needles and other hazardous waste at or near our property; vandalism; theft; harassment of our business owners and their staff and, worst of all, business customers; and lewd and lascivious behavior. As an example, several weeks ago, Pringle Park Plaza had a break-in at one of its businesses by a presumed homeless person. Salem Police came, caught the man who was all bloodied from breaking a window with a rock. What happened next was shocking. The man was arrested, fined, and RELEASED. Apparently, EVERYONE is released. The police do not put anyone in jail because the jail is either at capacity or they are protecting the jail officers and staff (and other potential prisoners) from COVID. Moreover, those being arrested KNOW they are going to be released. There is no disincentive to commit a crime. This revelation leaves downtown businesses and those at Pringle Park Plaza with no protection. Our only salvation is to keep the homeless as far away from us as possible. The City of Salem is unique. It has a vibrant downtown. Since the advent of mega-malls introduced in the 1970s, the vast majority of cities have been on a crusade to save or restore their downtowns. This proposed homeless car camp is a slap in the face to those downtown businesses who have stayed downtown despite pressure to relocate. The City of Salem is unique. It is Oregon's capitol city. Oregonians come to Salem to do government business. Tourists come to Salem to visit our state capitol, and its vibrant downtown. A car camp within walking distance taints that uniqueness. South Liberty Street has the second highest traffic

count in the city, after the bridge. To place a car camp easily visible along South Commercial seems like an attempt to display an eyesore to everyone using the street. Drivers looking at it may not be watching where they are driving. During its 45 years as a redevelopment urban renewal project, in concert with the City of Salem to reduce downtown blight, Pringle Park Plaza has focused on its reputation. We have found that one negative comment is more impactful than ten positive comments. We strive to treat our tenants fairly to insure they are successful. We have endured a broken water main on Liberty St. that flooded our complex. We have endured inconvenient on-street parking meters that have negatively impacted our businesses. We have endured race riots downtown. We are enduring vandalism in Pringle Parkade. Now we are asked to endure a city-sponsored homeless camp. There has got to be a better place to establish this camp. Please reconsider other options.

- I believe this is the best option. It will allow our city leaders and staff to experience first hand the blight and challenges that come with homeless camps. Hopefully this will encourage and prepare them to find permanent solutions for the betterment of all Salem
- Not sure how this would work, but I would be OK with that.
- This area is fairly easily bypassed by people going between City Hall and the Library; a paved surface, so easier to maintain; and adjacent to services and supervision. Being adjacent to City employees helps ensure it will be well managed.
- This is not ideal. Many school children, young families, etc. use the library and that open space. Please do not add another component to this busy space. Many in Salem have been waiting for construction to end so this space can again be used for events. This is a public space, we deserve access for the entire community!
- I don't want the shelters in Salem at all
- People enjoy the peace plaza, this would take from the community as a whole, the other locations seems more appropriate.
- To Put a homeless encampment next to the library will give children more of an education than any library experience could. "Look out there kids. Stay in school and off of drugs, or you'll end up like them."
- Top choice! Close in, facilities, drainage already taken care of and somewhat private for the residents.
- This location is close to bus stops and to the library. Occupants would have access to public computers at the library for job application processes, etc.
- I am opposed to this as it is too close to the beautiful new Library. This population seems to disregard property and has a definite problem with littering. Our Library must be protected!!! Also, the Library cannot be used as a babysitting place when the total number of patrons are limited to 200. This population would also most likely overstay the 1 hour limit. The tax payers deserve far better from the City. Try to pass another bond? Good luck!
- This would be a perfect village for the micro-shelters because I think it would be better managed & secure since it is so close to City Hall. If anyone doesn't obey rules - out they go. Perhaps this will give City Councilor more incentive to solve our city's ongoing homeless situation. Let the City have it in their yard!
- The neighbors living on Gaiety Hill have repeatedly attempted to get our message across but our comments continue to be deleted from public record and excluded from debate. We have consulted a local law firm. If Peace Plaza is chosen we will take legal action seeking injunction. If

injunction fails we will sue for economic damages and seek recompense for diminished value of our historic real estate and reimbursement for legal expenses. Please expect a lawsuit if you continue to move forward with this site.

- A group of neighbors - including homeowners, CPA firm, Attorney firm and Architectural firm are concerned about the existing zoning of Peace Plaza. Any development for micro shelter would need to pass land-use changes. We have consulted with a local law firm and a local land use specialist and believe this will be a costly - and ultimately fruitless - endeavor. Consideration of this site should be abandoned.
- 490 Oak Street SE: Now that the library has reopened after the seismic upgrade, we should expect it to become the new day center for the homeless residents tired of their micro houses in the Plaza. Our historic neighborhood already has been hostage to vandalism, theft, and litter, courtesy of homeless people wandering the streets looking for opportunity. Now we can expect more of the same with a micro village on its western fringe. This proposed location is an affront to adjacent residential zoning. And where is the state's support in this homeless matter? Oregon closed the State Hospital to people desperately in need, those now occupying our city with aimless motivation. The city's 95% citizenry are now hostage to solving and financing the plight of the 5% homeless, or accepting the encroachment into public places and neighborhoods. Unacceptable civic planning
- The Peace Plaza is across the street from a residential neighborhood, the Gaiety Hill Historic Neighborhood. Protecting the availability of street parking within the neighborhood has been a years-long effort. When the city installed parking meters in the Library parking garage, the residential streets became the parking place of choice for Library patrons. While those are short term stays, the day-long parking by Library staff & City Hall workers resulted in the development of a permit process. Only neighborhood residents can obtain permits to park their cars on the street or to give to their guests. The people who would live in the micro-shelters at the Peace Plaza will live in the neighborhood so, no doubt, would be eligible for parking permits for their vehicles, campers & RV's, operable or not. One need only drive by the existing micro-shelter locations to observe how many vehicles are there. In selecting a site, I ask that the Council consider the livability of the people who take great pride in maintaining the historic beauty of their neighborhood.
- My main concern with this site is that residents of the village not receive parking permits that would work in the historic Gaiety Hill neighborhood across the street, as parking is a major and ongoing issue in the neighborhood which many residents have worked very hard to address. We already have someone illegally renting a room in their house to someone who drives an old mini school bus. If shelters were placed at this site and it resulted in more trash in the surrounding areas, especially the parks, I hope the city would address this with additional garbage cans and services. I say this only because we already deal with lots of trash related to the unsheltered, both in the Gaiety Hill neighborhood and surrounding parks (take a look under the bridge in Pringle Park for just one example) and it seems like there are an ever decreasing number of garbage cans. For example, the one just at the entrance to the parking garage that abuts city hall on one side and the small park (the one with the great blue heron statue) on the other is gone. As are several that used to be on the walkway between SAIF and this park.

SOUTH SALEM: Non-profit owned property at 2410 Turner Road SE.

- This might appeal to people who have been unhoused in this area - if they don't have to move far they may be more likely to take advantage of the buildings.
- Any and all available sites should be used. Humans shouldn't sleep outside in Oregon

- Support.
- Remote and not near services but also not near housing
- Repeat. .. How & who is monitoring?
- So you have the ONLY South Salem location far away from neighborhoods while the other 4 are in the midst of Central and North Salem. Apparently money talks.
- This is fine but where will the showers be? Also will you work with the residents so they can establish their own patrols and litter pick up? Residents need to have self accountability. Place needs to not be an eyesore.
- Too far from services and bus service. Noisy area and harder to supervise.
- Shelter sites should be distributed across Salem. A site in South Salem would be tremendously useful
- This site seems satisfactory, but far from services.
- Great location, with some natural beauty and nearby services, on a bus line.
- This location would have much noise pollution from the nearby runway, especially with such poorly insulated structures. Eventually I hope that electric planes will ameliorate this effect, but for now it would be hard to relax or sleep and may trigger PTSD.
- I think the park is actually the better location . It's close to Walmart . I picked this choice because it's the closest to that park
- This is too close to the freeway, too far away from all services that would support the process of the micro shelter residents building their lives. I cannot understand why this location was chosen other than to try to banish them from town and that is shameful.
- Yes please
- It is time for south Salem to share a part of the homeless crisis. I do not think that the location between City Hall and the Library makes sense. Isn't that a historic marker/area? Also, I heard the state provided money to restore that area? If that is the case, it doesn't make sense to put a shelter there. Finally, how long would this site be there? The city has been taking about a bond measure which includes civic center area. How does a shelter fit into that narrative?
- Proximity to CITP is a positive, but distant from other services.
- Not quite as convenient for the residents, but a nice quiet area.
- A spacious location, large paved site, near restaurants, parking available.
- Good.
- Close proximity to Church At The Park for coordination of vital services. I'd like to also see unhoused living on private lands (south of Terrace Lake Park 55+ community located at 2120 Robins Ln SE) encouraged to relocate here!
- This is the best site because it's located in a non-residential area other than central Salem which already hosts most of the homeless shelters. I think it's helpful to have them dispersed throughout Salem, not just concentrated in one single area.
- This is owned by Church at the Park. Seems like it would be easiest to implement. Just concerned about camping "spillover" into Cascades Gateway (again), with the attendant trash some of which enters the nearby waterways - ending up in the ocean, probably!
- Spent some time investigating various sites. This would work though we are aware this lies in a flood zone and code changes would have to be made.
- I believe this a bit far from bus lines and facilities for education and assistance
- Basically already one. Traffic moves awfully fast out there. Gonna be some folks hit on their bikes or wandering around in a heroin haze.
- Since services are being brought to the residents, these seems like an area that would work well. It looks like there is plenty of space for 40 houses, not too crowded.

CENTRAL SALEM: Privately-owned property at NW Corner of Front and Hood Streets NE

- There are few commercial businesses in the immediate area who might have concerns about security, as they have when there are more people unhoused closer to the center of town.
- Any and all available sites should be used. Humans shouldn't sleep outside in Oregon
- Support
- probably the best option- near some services (Arches etc) and not near residential area
- 630 Leffelle Street SE
- Same thing...who & how will it be monitored.
- Seems to be an area with high level of homeless and close to services.
- This is fine but where will the showers be? Also will you work with the residents so they can establish their own patrols and litter pick up? Residents need to have self accountability. Place needs to not be an eyesore.
- Also closer to services needed for health care, employment, food, bus transport
- This site seems appropriate
- A bit stark and noisy with trains but the "any port in the storm" cliché applies. Having a micro shelter village there is better than none at all.
- As a nearby neighbor in Grant neighborhood (near Grant elementary school), I welcome this location and think it's proximity to services and entry level jobs is wise. Looking forward to the new neighbors! I'm sure the neighborhood association will say NIMBY but they are not representative of the Grant community and overemphasize their own myopic view.
- Already close to other homeless resources .
- I live near this location in the Highland neighborhood and support this location
- I would worry about the traffic in this location being potentially harmful to a community of primarily pedestrians within the shelter housing. This is not ideal
- Yes please
- Close to services and transit.
- Good use of this area, though noisy and near the SPD which is good.
- Ditto
- Poor sidewalk access along Front Street. Noisy, dangerous Railroad traffic. Not close to most services.
- Move it to the Gov mansion
- Very good
- Residents will be close to active train tracks so that's a concern here
- This site is adjacent to Portland and Western Railroad tracks. Establishing a housing site adjacent to active rail lines poses a significant risk for injuries and fatalities.
- This seems too close to the river and a busy street.
- This site would be an excellent spot for microshelters due to its location.
- Good choice, and my first choice. Close to the new Salem Police offices! Also close the bus lines, not too far from stores and parks... enough space, and not too noisy either. This would be a really good atmosphere.
- Not sure if the people that live in the apartments to the northwest want their bikes stolen...
- This area also looks like it could accommodate 40 houses. It is also a walkable distance to UGM services.

CENTRAL SALEM: Privately-owned property at 1280 Center Street NE

- Poor choice due to proximity of residential area, unless the installation was permanent and aesthetically similar to other properties in the area.
- Too close to Willamette University and Forum Apartments where WU students live. I fear for WU and North HS student safety as they walk to & from Safeway or walk to WU & North HS.
- Any and all available sites should be used. Humans shouldn't sleep outside in Oregon
- This would be a good location as it is centrally located with easy access to a variety of services.
- No. Many group homes for mentally ill in this area amidst private residential homes. Putting village there would lower property value which is unfair to tax-paying homeowners.
- This seems like a great location it has close proximity to services including food and pharmacy (Safeway) not to mention being only several blocks from existing house less services.
- Support
- Adjacency to several multi-family housing developments will maximize impact on the largest number of current residents, relative to other sites.
- Too close to apartments and shopping- already borderline area that would get far worse
- This is too close to the Court Chemeketa historic district and the neighboring neighborhoods which already have a lot of crime due to the proximity to the state hospital
- 630 Leffelle Street SE
- Same question... who & how will it be monitored.
- Not by the trains!!!
- This is fine but where will the showers be? Also will you work with the residents so they can establish their own patrols and litter pick up? Residents need to have self accountability. Place needs to not be an eyesore. Also if they bug the neighbors what happens then?
- It's close to safeway and to transit routes so it seems like a good location. I'm not sure it would be the safest spot since it's so close to the train tracks and Center is a highly used road, but some protective fencing and signage should help. I like that it is on a main street which makes it VISIBLE instead of hidden away -- we need to stop trying to hide the problem we have with our lack of housing for the unhomed.
- This site is closer to needed services: health care, employment, bus transport etc
- This is a good, central location.
- This site and the Fairgrounds road site seem least appropriate
- Not familiar with the property but, from the standpoint of spreading the villages out, in all city wards, this is a good idea, and, again, on a bus line.
- Great spot- right next to Safeway for groceries if needed and perhaps employment opportunities. Noise pollution from 12th street might be a nuisance for residence, unfortunately. Traffic-calming devices there are recommended.
- No input.
- This is the second best option after Peace Plaza, close to downtown services and opportunities of building the residents' lives plus a grocery store nearby
- Yes, please.
- Good location. Close to services and transit.
- Not a good location. This neighborhood has struggles and is trying hard to clean up. From Parrish and North and Willamette students to local residents, State workers, and downtown workers this is a busy, challenging location. Give it up~ better to make a park or add a highrise of housing.
- Ditto
- A urban vacant lot across from Safeway, easy to access, next to multifamily housing and offices. Parking available.
- Move it to the Gov mansion

- Low preference
- The Safeway across the street from this location already faces challenges. Again, this location is part of a neighborhood, so residents should be least likely to experience mental health crises and area should be monitored carefully for garbage/waste
- This site is adjacent to Union Pacific Railroad tracks and one of the busiest rail lines in North America. Establishing a housing site adjacent to active rail lines poses a significant risk for injuries and fatalities. According to Operation Lifesaver, a national railroad safety
- This would be a good option because then the homeless issue would be visible.
- This location is along the "promenade" where the City recently removed all the benches because of homeless congregating on them and harassing people using the promenade, en route to schools or Safeway or work. How is putting a camp in the same location going to do anything but damage an already-struggling area?
- This location would also work due to its location
- Although this is a good amount of space, I worry about the neighborhood. This is not a great location. Each day, hundreds of middle school, high school, and college students walk through this area on their way to shop and study. It seems problematic.
- No, the shelters should be on city land
- Worry about the train tracks
- Far too many residential units in the area. The desire to steal will be to great
- This seems like a pretty high traffic area, adding 40 houses with 40+ residents might be a tight fit. The Front St area and Turner RD location seem larger - at least on Google maps.
- This property is too close to a small neighborhood Safeway. The parking is already quite limited and the store would be sandwiched between the 1280 address and the School property (the old swimming pool & former Straub Environmental Learning Center). I can just see the drug dealing, prostitution & robbery crimes skyrocket, and the problems with student involvement. There is already a serious problem with litter. Whoever proposed this site is in it for the money and has absolutely no regard for the neighborhood!
- Too close to Willamette University & North Salem HS - unsafe for those students

Would you like to suggest other locations? Please enter the addresses or specific locations below.

- Yes, the Northeast corner of Mission and 25th Street.
- Fairgrounds did great with a pallet shelter last year. Could this be reinstated?
- Area near Silverton Road.
- Just remember there is nothing as permanent as temporary housing, so choose sites that are not just convenient for the moment but also appropriate for the long term. I appreciate Salem's thoughtfulness on these issues. Good luck!
- Why does the ARCHES not house a site on their parking lot. They have so many living around the edge now. Let them have a time to deal with the issues.
- I like the area near the library. That seems unobtrusive.
- I favor all of the above sites and additional sites elsewhere in the Salem-Keizer area. The Salem community needs to have more sites to address the needs of those without homes
- I am happy with any location, just want to be sure someones are monitor & policy? How long do they live rent & tax free?
- Share the load. I'm sure there are a number of locations south of Mission Street.
- How about WEST Salem? Of course they might be too good for homeless folks. We all know that's why people live in west Salem is to get away from those kinds of urban problems. Even though they want their own private bridge into their urban utopia
- I have no ideas and trust city staff to be thoughtful and smart about recommendations.

- West Salem and South Salem (not far Southeast Salem) should be forced to share the obligation to house less fortunate people.
- There's a Salem Housing Authority site on Fisher Rd. NE. Perhaps there?
- A map with all proposed locations would have been helpful, so we didn't have to look at each without the relation to each other in the city. Similarly, an insert map of each site would help this feedback. Make it as easy as possible for the public to be informed.
- Cascade park . It's a large location . It's close to Walmart . It's away from homes that may not want the camps near homes. It's honestly past the stage of reviving it to anything else past a source for houseless
- One in each ward is great
- No
- No, thank you.
- 895 Court St. NE, Salem. Capitol Mall with nearby enclosed public restrooms, central urban location, lots of open space in the closed splash pool area. 1375 Woodrow St. NE, Salem Available, fenced private property, near many needed services, parking on site.
- The Gov mansion
- Areas in/near Wallace Marine Park or along Edgewater? West Salem should have a village. Union & Commercial/Marion Sq Park
- 1) SW corner of Commercial and Bush St S (100 block) 2) Grass area NW corner of Commercial and Oak St SE (200 block) 3) Large open field at approx. 2035 25th St SE 97302
- I do recommend the Peace Park so the city can manage the housing. Also the State Capital grounds so the State of Oregon can manage this housing. Does the city team, officials and paid managers ever travel around and looked at what has happened to our town
- The City owns a big field at 23rd and D Streets, which is undeveloped. Why not there?
- There is a vacant property across from State Motor Vehicles Dept. It is the old Rainbow West Christian Book Store on Lana Avenue. Could it be reneved for singles or famiies?
- The Kmart building at 25th and Mission St. should be considered; remodel the inside, including bathrooms. Add kitchens, make apartments! Very safe, near bus lines, near the post office, near shops, not too noisy.
- Portland.
- I don't know of any other areas, other than the city owned park that is downtown, where there used to be camping. It is near many services and owned by the city. A managed camp would be more orderly than the previous camping.
- I have no specific addresses, however, locations like the one on the Portland Road seem more ideal. I think a more commercial area seems more ideal. There are too many potential problems when extremely dense residential addresses are involved. This population pay no taxes and has not demonstrated a regard for property. The City MUST consider those that fund City government.
- Just keep it away from Turner Road - those poor residents in that senior mobile home park have already put up with enough!!!
- How about the large grassy park surrounding the Oregon State Capitol? Perhaps the open expanse of grounds around the new apartments at the State Hospital? The downtown parking lots of the State Capitol could be a wonderful homeless encampment. Minto Island has lots of open space, too!