

**From:** [Aileen Kaye](#)  
**To:** [citycouncil](#); [CityRecorder](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda Item 5.b Mobile Crisis Unit  
**Date:** Monday, January 10, 2022 3:36:05 PM

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I am in favor of the motion for a staff report on a unit similar to the CAHOOTS program in Eugene. It is so obvious that we need a better response mechanism for those in crisis.

My nephew, now retired from the Eugene PD, said the CAHOOTS program there was an excellent resource.

Thank you.

Aileen Kaye

South Marion County

**From:** [CHRISTINE BLANKSVARD](#)  
**To:** [CityRecorder](#)  
**Subject:** CAHOOTS  
**Date:** Monday, January 10, 2022 1:37:21 PM

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“I support the motion for a staff report on a mobile crisis unit pilot project because as a nurse I have dealt with homeless patients with mental health issues and we need more qualified help.

Christine Blanksvard  
503-884-9059

**From:** [claudia.carmichael](#)  
**To:** [CityRecorder](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda Item 5.b  
**Date:** Monday, January 10, 2022 1:30:43 PM

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I am writing in support of the motion for a staff report on a mobile crisis unit pilot project. I hope that the outcome of the staff report will result in the creation of a mobile crisis unit support team, similar to Cahoots in Eugene, Oregon.

I lived in Eugene for over 30 years, and saw the good that the Cahoots team accomplished, time and time again. Their teams of medical and behavioral professionals were able to attend to the needs of clients in the community, freeing the Eugene Police Department to deal with other more critical and violent issues. The Cahoots teams had a solid reputation in Eugene, and city officials, as well as law enforcement officials, were gratified that the Cahoots team was on call when needed, year in and year out. Money was saved as were lives.

I don't think you will be disappointed in exploring this issue further. Thank you for considering this agenda item.

Claudia Carmichael  
928-499-5405

**From:** [Jennifer Sprague](#)  
**To:** [CityRecorder](#); [citycouncil](#)  
**Subject:** In Support of motion for report on mobile crisis unit pilot project  
**Date:** Monday, January 10, 2022 2:26:41 PM

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City Councilors and Mayor,

I support the motion for a staff report on a mobile crisis unit (MCU) pilot project that is on the agenda for today's city council meeting (currently item 5d.). I believe an MCU will help take some of the load off of the shoulders of our police officers who are already tasked with more than they should be. I also believe that an MCU will help our neighbors, shelterless or not, get the help they need without the threat of violence. Additionally, as has been in the case in other cities, an MCU should save our city money, which could potentially be used for much needed improvements to public safety/traffic and parks. At the very least it is worth exploring the options for an MCU pilot project.

Jennifer Sprague  
548 W. Hills Way NW  
Salem, OR 97304

**From:** [Laurie Dougherty](#)  
**To:** [CityRecorder](#)  
**Subject:** Comment Agenda Item 5.d. 22-10 Jan 10, 2022 Mobile Crisis Unit  
**Date:** Monday, January 10, 2022 4:43:32 PM

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To Salem City Council  
From Laurie Dougherty, Ward 1  
Re Agenda Item 5.d. 22-10 January 10, 2022

I wholeheartedly support Councilor Nordyke's Resolution requesting information regarding a mobile crisis unit pilot project.

Thank you.

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**From:** [Lisa Ryan](#)  
**To:** [CityRecorder](#); [citycouncil](#)  
**Subject:** Support mobile crisis unit  
**Date:** Monday, January 10, 2022 12:47:07 PM

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Hello! I am writing to record my support for the motion for staff report on a mobile crisis unit pilot project because I believe that the evidence has shown this service as a viable, meaningful way to enact positive, lasting change/prevention and for connecting people with services they desperately need and forging a path to abolishing various crisis and poverty and other barriers to equitable health and sustainability within our communities.

Thank you for allowing me a voice on this important issue, and for your service to the citizens of this city/region.

Warmly,

Lisa Ryan  
West Salem

**From:** [lorrie walker](#)  
**To:** [citycouncil](#); [lorrie walker](#); [CityRecorder](#); [Trevor Womack](#); [Treven Upkes](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda Item 5.b  
**Date:** Monday, January 10, 2022 2:32:05 PM

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All,

I am in full SUPPORT of the motion for a staff report on agenda item 5.b, from Councilor Vanessa Nordyke, mobile crisis unit pilot project.

I am in support due to several reasons. I will list a few in no particular order.

1. I have worked with mentally ill, unsheltered, addicts & criminals, for over 30 years. Oregon's mental health system has been very broken for many years.
2. Many of the people in crisis do not respond well to police response but that is often how crisis calls are and have been handled. FEAR. TRAUMA. ANGER. There are many Salem police who have done a awesome job in de-escalation and calming of people in crisis.
3. Police could be freed up to deal with other police matters.
4. Police response costs far more money than a crisis response unit.
5. A EMT and qualified mental health response person can determine and access the need of a person and seek further assistance if necessary.
6. The crisis response unit in Eugene has been successful for decades. The people of Eugene are far ahead of Salem. It is beyond time to catch up with best practices.
7. I am a advocate for unsheltered, mentally ill and a legal guardian. I know the value of de-escalation in non threatening, non violent ways, is always best.
8. All of the people in crisis are some ones loved ones. Parent. Sibling. Child. Cousin.

I am extremely thankful for Councilor Nordyke and others in support of this. I believe a army of supporters are standing with and behind Councilor Nordyke.

Respectfully,  
Lorrie Walker, Ward 2  
Advocate, Legal Guardian

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

**From:** [Dolores Mlynarczyk](#)  
**To:** [CityRecorder](#)  
**Cc:** [Vanessa Nordyke](#); [Dolores Mlynarczyk](#)  
**Subject:** "Motion from Councilor Vanessa Nordyke requesting information regarding a mobile crisis unit pilot project"  
**Date:** Monday, January 10, 2022 11:52:28 AM

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[My name is Dolores Mlynarczyk AAUW Membership VP and](#) I support the motion for a staff report on a mobile crisis unit pilot project.

I know that we have a large population of homeless in our community and there are many reasons that are with a home.

I was fortunate to have the opportunity to be part of a zoom presentation from the Director of the Eugene Cahoots project and I know that Salem Oregon would benefit from having a "Mobile Crisis Unit Pilot project".

Thank You!

*Dolores Mlynarczyk*



**From:** [Hollie Oakes-Miller](#)  
**To:** [Chuck Bennett](#); [Steve Powers](#); [Virginia Stapleton](#); [Trevor Phillips](#); [Tom Andersen](#); [Jackie Leung](#); [Jose Gonzalez](#); [Chris Hoy](#); [Vanessa Nordyke](#); [Jim Lewis](#); [citycouncil](#); [CityRecorder](#)  
**Subject:** Salem City Council Public Comments 1/10/22  
**Date:** Monday, January 10, 2022 1:44:02 PM

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City leaders,

**Agenda item 4b:** We appreciate and agree with many of the comments the city has received so far about the proposed development of property known as Meyer Farm. It is clear to us that this is a culturally, historically, and naturally significant property that should be protected as such for the public good, ideally under the direction of local Native Americans.

*We urge the City Council to reject this proposed development.*

**Agenda item 5c:** We appreciate the work that the Salem Human Right Commission does to make our community safer and more equitable. *We support Councilor Stapleton's motion to adopt the recommendations of the Salem Human Rights Commission.*

**Agenda item 5d:** We appreciate and agree with the overwhelming number of comments from this and prior city council meetings, letters to the editor, guest opinions, and social media posts calling for a CAHOOTS-style mobile unit to respond to local crisis situations that are better served by a non-law enforcement response team. There is ample evidence from other cities that this type of crisis support works, it keeps community members safer, and it is more cost effective than sending police to respond to situations they aren't adequately trained for or have the capacity to handle. *We support Councilor Nordyke's motion to direct staff to bring back to council a report regarding a mobile crisis unit pilot project.*

Gary Miller and Hollie Oakes-Miller  
Ward 5

**From:** [Victor Dodier](#)  
**To:** [CityRecorder](#); [citycouncil](#)  
**Cc:** [Marcia Kelley](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda Item 5.b ("Motion from Councilor Nordyke requesting information regarding a mobile crisis unit pilot project")  
**Date:** Monday, January 10, 2022 11:23:29 AM

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Mayor Bennett  
Salem City Council Members

We support the motion for a staff report on a mobile crisis unit pilot project like the long-standing CAHOOTS program used in Eugene.

We have a health / mental health crisis among people who are unsheltered. Calls for assistance to unsheltered persons put a substantial burden on Salem's police force. Many situations require the skills of a trained professional, but those of a police officer are not the best fit. I (Victor) have occasionally called for a welfare check on homeless persons sleeping rough at our commercial property. I wish that I had an alternative to the police non-emergency number.

A mobile crisis program would begin to shift the call volume away from police officers. It would also begin to implement a recommendation in last year's Community Policing Performance Audit.

Thank you for your consideration.

Victor Dodier  
Marcia Kelley

**From:** [Victoria Halsey](#)  
**To:** [CityRecorder](#)  
**Subject:** for agenda at tonights meeting  
**Date:** Monday, January 10, 2022 1:09:28 PM

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**“I support the motion for a staff report on a mobile crisis unit pilot project because \_having trained people responding to issues saves time, money, and human dignity. My understanding is that a trained professional can deescalate a situation effectively and direct people to the agency best suited to assist the person in crisis.\_ The protocol used by the uinits in Eugene have been proven over decades, a suitable model to replicate\_\_\_\_\_.”**

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Sincerely,  
Victoria Halsey  
1975 20th St NE  
Salem 97301

**From:** [daltfam@comcast.net](mailto:daltfam@comcast.net)  
**To:** [CityRecorder](#); [citycouncil](#)  
**Subject:** JAN. 10, 2022 CITY COUNCIL AGENDA: ITEM 5.b (MOTION FROM COUNCILOR NORDYKE RE. MOBILE CRISIS UNIT PILOT STUDY)  
**Date:** Monday, January 10, 2022 12:56:05 PM

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Dear Mayor and City Council.

**I am writing to reflect my strong support for our City Council implementing a study for a City Mobile Crisis Unit.**

As a mental health professional, with over 35 years of experience both delivering and administering Community

Mental Health Services, I can testify to the effectiveness of *civilian-led and civilian-assisted mobile Crisis Teams*

in intervening in situations where mental-emotional illness may be a major factor in criminal behavior:

.. The initial response and eventual follow-up services are far more sensitive and effective given the person's condition;

.. The Crisis Team is most often successful in controlling the situation = both calming the person and preventing the

kind of escalation that often leads to injury to both the police officers and the person.

.. All the studies that I have seen reflect a significant savings for other already fund-strapped and resource-limited

community resources – e.g., police forces, hospitals, jails, courts... .

.. The expertise, experience, and professional and community contacts of Crisis Team personnel allow more immediate

referral to- and utilization of – appropriate interventions (e.g., medication) and resources (e.g., counseling, housing,...).

Encouragingly, the City will not be without current models for such a program:

Both the CAHOOTS Team (in Eugene) and the L.E.A.D. Program (here in Marion County...) have been using the Mobile Crisis

Team model – with the annotated and measured benefits noted above.

**For the mutual benefit of 'clients', community providers, and 'taxpayers', then, I encourage the City to pursue a study of the resources needed for - and the benefits of -- a civilian-based/-assisted Mobile Crisis Intervention Unit.**

Thank You for your consideration.

Sincerely,

*William B. Dalton, Ph.D.*

6619 Huntington Circle S.E.

Salem, Oregon  
(503) 371-4174