



CITY OF SALEM

Written Testimony #1

City Council

555 Liberty St SE
Salem, OR 97301

Tuesday, January 21, 2020

6:00 PM

Council Chambers

Special Meeting / Council Policy Agenda Work Session

3.a. [20-29](#) Declaration of emergency related to unsheltered residents

Ward(s): All Wards

Councilor(s): All Councilors

Neighborhood(s): All Neighborhoods

Result Area(s): Safe Community; Welcoming and Livable Community.

Recommendation: Adopt resolution no. 2020-4, declaring a state of emergency within the city of Salem related to unsheltered residents.

Attachments: [Resolution no 2020-4 Unsheltered resident emergency declaration](#)

[Written Testimony received by 3:30 p.m. 1-21-20](#)

Add - Written Testimony.

4.a. [20-20](#) 2020 Policy Agenda.

Ward(s): All Wards

Councilor(s): All Councilors

Neighborhood(s): All Neighborhoods

Result Area(s): Good Governance; Natural Environment Stewardship;
Safe Community; Safe, Reliable and Efficient Infrastructure; Strong and
Diverse Economy; Welcoming and Livable Community.

Recommendation: Provide policy direction on issues to include in the 2020 Policy Agenda.

Attachments: [2019 Progress Report](#)

[Policy Agenda Issues for Consideration \(November 18, 2019\)](#)

[Policy Agenda Issues In Depth](#)

[Tentative 2020 City Council Work Session Schedule](#)

[Strategic Plan Result Areas](#)

[Written Testimony received by 3:30 p.m. 1-21-20](#)

Add - Written Testimony.

Amy Johnson

From: Brent Koester <bckoester@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, January 17, 2020 4:50 PM
To: citycouncil; SALEM Manager; Chuck Bennett; leslie new; dougelwood@comcast.net
Subject: Pringle Hall Homeless Shelter

Dear Mayor, City Manager and City Council

My neighbors and I have worked diligently to keep our neighborhood safe and it is becoming obvious that we are failing. The most recent home invasions are beyond terrifying for my neighbors and their children. I have been physically attacked three times over the years. Twice in my front yard and once in my backyard with one arrest, the arrest was in my backyard while I held the individual down. This individual accosted my wife and was angrily screaming and yelling at my wife to go get him blankets because he had two girls under the bridge. My wife ran into the house screaming for me. I ran up from the basement as he was coming up my porch stairs, he would have entered my home and who knows what else if I wasn't home. As I came out of the back door he was coming up my porch stairs heading straight after my wife. I yelled at him to STOP and back off. I then attempted to speak calmly and control the conversation. He was drunk / high /wired and not conversing, agitated. My wife shouted she was calling the police. He continued to yell at me now and moved towards me. I moved forward toward him commanding him to STOP open hands raised and to back off. Once off the porch I yelled at him to get off my property when he came at me. I am a combat veteran. I have served in 3 war zones and was involved in the the hunt for Noriega. I will defend my family, my home and my property, as I have been. I cannot tell you how many arrests have happened in front of my home because of homeless criminals, warrants, drugs etc. Several of my neighbors have been attacked by homeless criminals also. Physically attacked.

This neighborhood has been neglected by the city and its beginning to look like there is a purpose to this neglect. You the leadership of this city have labeled us complainers from what I have heard. We will see.

Over the years I have put out three fires under the Church St. bridge in front of my house. I have had fire wood stolen and thrown at me when I tried to retrieve it. The bottle recycle container stolen and found under the bridge. Three have been stolen over the years. I had to pay to replace one recycle container. I have had water hoses cut, I have had my water hose dragged under the bridge and left running all day. I have given up on watering my front yard now and just leave a padlock on the faucet with no hose unless I stand out there and manually water. We have had tents in the front yard, I have had to witness humans drop their pants and defecate in my yard. Tents along our fence.

At one point I was calling the non emergency police line three to five times a day. One incident resulted in a wanted criminal, known to be armed and dangerous according to the Sargent I spoke with. We had five police cars on the bridge that day. The known armed person ran, they always run to the hospital when they run and that's exactly what he did, the police lost him in the hospital. The Sargent told me that he wears a distinctive piece of clothing and when I see it to call 911 and tell the dispatcher and she will know. As the 3-5 calls a day went on this was while the stolen bike ring was stripping bikes down under the bridge. Painting swastikas and pentagrams that I can still from home. They know the game if they are not there the police can't do anything. Salem PD worked diligently to help me get the bridge cleaned up. It took months of calls and complaints to get the debris and bicycles removed, three dump truck loads were hauled out from under the bridge. Not long after new homeless moved in under the Church St. bridge. This group was fighting with the group under the high street bridge, someone had stolen from someone. That was nights of them shouting at each other and howling with my home in the middle, more sleepless nights, oh joy.

A incoherent man was in my yard just loitering, sitting on whats left of my ferns ripping up paper in my yard. My wife yelled from the porch for him to move on, this is private property. Nothing from what she said, he wont acknowledge

her, he would not leave. I told my wife to come get me from work. I called the police while at work, waited for my wife hoping the police would take care of it by the time I get home. He was still there. After I approached him he walked away and I cleaned up after him as usual, that's when I discovered his parole papers he had been tearing up. He was a level 3 sex offender, I do not know what the levels of a sex offender are I don't care, a sex offender is a sex offender regardless of level. Was he even supposed to be near a playground? An officer called a couple of hours later to ask if he was still there and I gave him the information I had from the torn up parole papers.

These encounters with criminal/drug addict homeless people go on and on. This has been a problem for a long time and it just keeps getting worse. Dumping 37 homeless criminal \ drug addict \ sex offenders and pedophiles on this already beaten down neighborhood is not a solution.

I stopped calling the police because it was ineffective. If the homeless are not there the police cannot do anything and that makes perfect sense, they know the game and disappear for a time. I also feel for the dispatchers. I'm calling about someone trespassing or reporting a homeless camp, when the dispatcher has to put me on hold for 911, I think about what the dispatcher is dealing with and what the person needing 911 must be going through the and my call feels trivial. I feel that I have called so often I am the boy that cried wolf.

Please feel free to look up my calls to Salem PD, I plan on using them and will be making a public records request to Salem PD as I begin to understand who is who in this council.

Wednesday ARCHES gave us some numbers. 1800 homeless in the city of Salem, it was stated that sex offenders and pedophiles are not that high of a percentage among the homeless and it's only 4%

My questions to you is this.

Will even one of these 72 possible sex offenders / pedophiles be staying at Pringle Park or do you even know who they are?

You do realize that every crime that happens in this neighborhood until March 31 will be directed at the Hotel Pringle Park that you have created. You will need to prove that any individual caught was not staying there or led to this neighborhood by the draw of Hotel Pringle Park. The City of Salem will be held liable, not Arches no matter how you spin it.

Brent Koester
625 Church St. SE

Amy Johnson

From: REBECCA BEAMAN <bb4892@comcast.net>
Sent: Tuesday, January 21, 2020 12:03 PM
To: CityRecorder; City of Salem
Subject: Car Camping
Attachments: Info paper on car camping.docx

Dear City of Salem Officials --

Attached is a short paper about car camping and the rules proposed by City of Salem governing car camping (as published in the Statesman Journal). I don't know if your proposed declaration of emergency, as it pertains to car camping, locks those rules into concrete or not, but there are some issues with them if they can't be modified down the road a ways. I plan to be at the meeting tonight, listening, if you have any questions for me.

Thanks for caring about our homeless neighbors...

Becky Beaman

DRAFT

INFORMATION PAPER

Considerations Regarding Car Camping on Church Property January 21, 2020

This material is prepared so the candidate location will have a firm idea of what is proposed. This material has NOT been coordinated with the church. **The church has NOT agreed to host this camp, and will not even be able to consider the question until their next Board meeting on Feb 10, 2020.**

Candidate location: Morningside UMC, 3674 12th St SE, parking lot east of building
Candidate car camping clients: families with school-age children

City Staff Recommended Constraints ¹	Comments
Property operated by a non-profit, public, or commercial entity	Church property qualifies
Property not located within or adjacent to a residential zone	Morningside UMC is near an elementary school and in a residential area. The property is large with a buffer around the parking lot.
Hours of operation 9pm – 7am	9pm is late for younger children, and requiring them to be gone by 7am may complicate getting them to school. There may be times when the church has events and want the campers to be out of the parking lot (SKEF program is also collocated there). Suggest Morningside and the campers establish hours.
Location registered with City	Location can be registered.
Must provide adequate restrooms and trash receptacles and service	First UMC (Pastor Dan Pitney) will pay for one porta-potty for one year. Must discuss with Morningside about whether additional receptacles/service will incur cost before committing.
Camping limited to cars only – no tents or improvised camps	
No more than 6 vehicles per location	
No open flames at the location	Consideration: Smokers? Camp stoves for cooking? Either of these could be handled safely, if needed. Suggest Morningside establish rules on this.
Strict compliance with applicable noise regulations	
No illegal drugs	

¹ Taken from Statesman Journal article “Automobile camping for homeless urged at city council” by Whitney Woodworth, January 15, 2020

DRAFT

City Staff Recommended Constraints ¹	Comments
Stay limited to less than 30 calendar days within any six month period per location	If the camp is to provide a “base” for the adults to work from and get more appropriate housing, 30 days may not be sufficient. Without additional locations – preferably in the same school area – this rule seems to punish the children unnecessarily. Suggest this rule be discussed further.
Owner/operator may not charge a fee for use of the property	
Owner/operator has the right to refuse entry or discontinue use for any individual	
Owner/operator must provide a storage area for personal property so items are not visible from the right-of-way	It is unclear how much personal property a car-camping family might have with them, that needs to be “stored.” However, Scott Prentice (HOAP) says “belongings spreading out” can be an issue. Need to discuss.

Additional Considerations	
Upon occasion, cars may break down in the parking lot.	
Do we intend to treat these people as strangers, or community? Are we inviting them to live with us a while, or do we avert our eyes (officially)?	
Home-cooked meals are better than fast food. Do we encourage cooking at the location, or forbid it?	
Tri-morbidity: Health, mental issues, addiction.	
Steering Committee?	Becky Beaman DJ Vincent Someone from HOAP (if they agree) Someone from Morningside (if they agree)

Amy Johnson

From: mike brechtel <hamdadhero@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, January 20, 2020 1:24 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Homeless

These homeless are not from here in salem or from Oregon. We should not spend anymore resources on them. Charter a bus to ship them to San Francisco with the others.

Amy Johnson

From: Nancy Burr <barrburr485@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, January 19, 2020 7:33 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Pringle Hall

Good Evening.

You have received many letters from the Gaiety Hill neighborhood regarding the use of Pringle Hall as a warming center. I am in agreement with my neighbors on this issue, we are against the use of Pringle Hall as a warming center.

We have lived in this neighborhood for 32 years. It is a lovely place to have raised our kids, walked our dogs. We feel safe here and I want that to continue. There lots of children who live in the neighborhood, play in the parks, attend daycare (two places of business).

Please consider the total ramification of this as you ponder this decision.

Thank you,
Nancy and Jay Burr
485 Leslie Street SE

Amy Johnson

From: Patricia Deminna <patdex@comcast.net>
Sent: Friday, January 17, 2020 5:41 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Pringle Community Hall

Dear Councilors,

My husband Roger and I live on Church St. across from Pringle Hall, and we attended the open house this past Thursday.

I am very troubled by Pringle Hall's proposed use as a temporary homeless shelter. Just as troubling is that the City made this kind of decision before asking for input from the people who will be most affected by it, the neighbors. We weren't even told about the proposal until two days before the open house was held. The open house was informative, but not the appropriate venue to voice our concerns. Given the implications of what's being proposed, we should not have been denied a public hearing.

Kristin Retherford, the Urban Development Director wrote in a Dec. 31, 2019 email to City Councilors that one of the main criteria for shelter space is: "impacts on surrounding neighborhoods." I doubt that Staff, unless they live here, are sufficiently knowledgeable about those impacts.

In our neighborhood, we have homeless people – many of the same homeless people – who pass through regularly. They often leave trash, unwanted belongings, and shopping carts on our streets and on our lawns. It's up to us to remove them. Some homeless have camped under the bridge, have started fires, and have trespassed on our property and the property of our neighbors up and down the street. This kind of behavior has caused us to be wary anytime we're out walking, and especially at night. Putting a shelter, with 30 to 37 homeless people, in this neighborhood will only make the situation worse. At the open house on Thursday, **Jimmy Jones** told us that we should expect additional fallout from the homeless population housed at the shelter. He didn't elaborate, but he said it's a given.

Down the street from Pringle Hall on the hospital grounds is the children's playground. It gets regular usage by kids in the neighborhood as well as the wider community. The small park where the Hall is located is one that's a regular walking route for the community, hospital personnel, students, and dog walkers. Our streets, especially Church Street, have considerable pedestrian traffic, not just residents, but community members, too. The walkers are college students, high school students, and older retirees who live here. There are six children on Church St. between Mission and the bridge. This is a family residential environment with lots of people on the streets, walking and biking. It's not well suited to carrying an even bigger homeless population.

We chose to live here and we stay aware. I think our expectation was reasonable that Pringle Park and Pringle Hall would be protected as a valuable community resource – a beautiful little park and the only one with an indoor facility. We understand there's an urgent need to address homelessness, and that not nearly enough has been done. But we don't believe it should come at the cost of our own safety and peace of mind.

Kind regards,

Patricia Deminna

Amy Johnson

From: Victor Dodier <vjddodier@teleport.com>
Sent: Monday, January 20, 2020 10:11 PM
To: Walker, Lorrie; Steve Powers; Jimmy Jones; Chuck Bennett; Schumacher, Jeff; citycouncil; Jerry Moore; Kristin Retherford; SCAN Board; Pamela Watson; Lynelle Wilcox; Delana Beaton; Kenneth Houghton; Jacque Heavey; Bob Francis; Cindy Francis
Subject: Re: SCAN / Pringle Hall

Lorrie & all ...

Good list. I would definitely add a Sharps container.

If this proposal goes forward, there needs to be a direct response to the concerns about trash and litter. There should be a regular litter patrol for the sidewalks in the area and leading into the downtown.

In addition, there needs to be a way to respond to Mr. Jones comment that much of the debris left behind around Arches had been brought in by the well-intentioned who wanted to help. Is there a way to respectfully discourage contributions of things, or at least channel such contributions thru some central organization, while simultaneously encouraging cash contributions?

Victor Dodier

On 1/17/20 11:22 AM, lorrie walker wrote:

All,

I am including City Council, city staff, local warming center volunteers, SCAN board members, etc.

It would be good to think about how to make Pringle Hall / Warming Center most successful if opened.

This is an extremely sensitive area given it is in a residential neighborhood.

Well planned and thought out ideas may help alleviate neighbors concerns, fear and anger.

As a 5 yr warming center volunteer, sometime lead & SCAN resident if approved I would like see it ran slightly different than other warming centers, due to the residential area and length of term.

A few ideas I have;

- 1) Group / stakeholder meeting prior to opening.
- 2) Free dated bus pass given out in the morning to encourage people to go back downtown.
- 3) A panel. Church Street & Gaiety Hill area possibly designate one person to represent their group concerns. SCAN designate someone Closely Track any issues; small panel to advise / address concerns with designated Arches person. Close communication with panel members. Possibly group email? Get on top of a Concern, rumor, etc. immediately.
- 5) Group Conversation of expectations with guests after check in nightly.
- 6) Sharps container ?

More?

Respectfully,
Lorrie Walker

Sent from my iPhone

Amy Johnson

From: noreply@cityofsalem.net on behalf of trevor_farnes@yahoo.com
Sent: Thursday, January 16, 2020 12:11 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Contact City Council
Attachments: ATT00001.bin

Your Name	Trevor Farnes
Your Email	trevor_farnes@yahoo.com
Your Phone	2084107262
Street	3204 Indian Wells Lp S
City	Salem
State	OR
Zip	97302
Message	<p>I'm not happy with how the city is handling the homeless population around the salem center. I run a business in the center called Buckle. I continue to have outrageous amounts of theft. Its is almost on a day to day basis at this point. The women that work for me feel unsafe walking from the parking garage to work. I have guest that are outraged by it aswell. I'm getting daily phone calls to my place of business about what is happening outside the center. I see trash, poop even vomit as I'm walking the entire 100 yards to work. Something needs to be done about this or downtown will continue to fail. I absolutely love Salem and I believe it is a beautiful city but not this specific area down town. I believe a campsite near down town would be a great solution. I know the city was working on one with portable bathrooms even sinks. I believe downtown would be happy, the homeless could then erect their tents and keep their belongings safe without the burden of the community or their neighbors. We created the sit and lie law and it is not even being enforced. Downtown is a reflection on how our city is doing and I'm not happy with what I'm seeing.</p>

This email was generated by the dynamic web forms contact us form on 1/16/2020.

Amy Johnson

From: Mary Fitzpatrick <maryfitz88@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, January 20, 2020 5:48 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Conversion of Pringle Park Hall to Temporary Homeless Shelter

Dear Councilors and Mayor,

I am writing to ask you to please reconsider the plan to use Pringle Park Community Hall as a homeless shelter for the rest of the winter. I believe the camping ban should be temporarily rescinded, until a viable long term solution can be implemented, since it was made when false information about the availability of shelter beds at two area churches was believed to be true. Alternatively, an approved camping area could be designated, such as at Wallace Marine Park underneath and between the two bridges. What is not acceptable is to place a homeless shelter in the midst of any residential neighborhood. The car camping proposal explicitly forbids it from occurring in or adjacent to a residential neighborhood and according to city emails, one of the six criteria for selecting a building for a temporary homeless shelter when the main church option fell through was the impact on surrounding neighborhoods. Before Pringle Park Community Hall was presented as an option to the city council, it does not appear any steps were taken to access the impact on the affected neighborhood.

As a resident of the affected neighborhood, I can tell you that we are already one of the neighborhoods in Salem most affected by the lack of housing for our homeless population due to our proximity to downtown. On multiple different occasions we've had items stolen from our porch, back yard, garage, and vehicle and regularly encounter trash, shopping carts, syringes, camp sites, and nude bathing, especially in and around Pringle Creek and Pringle Park. I also want to share three of the most frightening encounters I've personally had with homeless men.

First, one day while walking near my home, I answered honestly that I did not have any cash when asked for money, but offered instead a protein bar I had in my bag. In response, the man swore and through his lit cigarette in my face. Second, one late night when I was home alone because my husband was working at Salem Hospital, a man came to our front door and began pounding on it and yelling, demanding to be let inside. He would not leave when asked and I had to call 911. Third, one dark winter night I was on the bridge over Pringle Creek walking home from work, and there was a man walking on the other side of the street who was yelling and cursing, seemingly at no one. When he noticed me, his tirade became very vulgar and directed at me. Even though I was only a block from home, this was very frightening. Consequently, I changed my work schedule so as to not ever walk home in the dark again. Which means that during the shorter daylight months, I must work both at the office during the day and in the evenings at home. I am fortunate that my job allows this flex scheduling, otherwise we would have to buy a second vehicle in order for me to drive to work, and I would have to give up one of the best parts of living in a close-in neighborhood and one of the major reasons we purchased our home.

As someone who has been involved with Salem Interfaith Hospitality Network (now Family Promise of the Mid-Willamette Valley), a program to shelter and assist homeless families in transitioning to permanent housing, since it's inception in 1999, I understand how complicated the issue of homelessness is and that the solutions are not easy or cheap. I have called my state representatives and the governor's office, and urged them to work with the city to both find and help pay for long term, research backed solutions so that the city does not need to resort to spur of the moment temporary solutions that will likely have very little impact on the problem, despite significant dollars spent, and may even make things worse.

Deciding in an extremely short time period to invite a substantial number of homeless individuals, many of whom have untreated mental health or addiction issues, on a first-come first-served basis with no vetting and no on-site support services into a residential area with two playgrounds on a daily basis for several months is not an acceptable solution to

this complicated problem. It does not adequately meet the needs of our homeless citizens nor does it consider the safety and security of the residents of or visitors to the surrounding neighborhood. I implore you to reconsider this decision.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Mary Fitzpatrick

Amy Johnson

From: Andrea Foust <andreafooust@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, January 20, 2020 2:31 PM
To: Chuck Bennett; citycouncil
Subject: URGENT: Please reject the proposed use of Pringle Community Hall as a temporary homeless shelter

Dear Mayor Chuck Bennett and members of the Salem City Council,

I, and my daughter Madeleine Carlson, live at 565 Leslie Street and thoughtfully ask you to reject the proposed use of Pringle Community Hall as a temporary homeless shelter and would urge you to reconsider this stopgap measure that could seriously impact our neighborhood and local parks, which are already strained by the area's homeless situation.

I have lived in my home at this location for close to 20 years. In recent years things have changed and I would like to share some of the realities that are taking place at our personal address.

- Along with having things stolen from my car, within the past month, I discovered that someone had unlocked my car and slept in it. My neighbor also found that their car was unlocked that same day, while another neighbor located on Liberty had their car unlocked and things stolen within a few weeks of our incident.
- While home for my lunch break I discovered a young man on my porch, who spent several minutes just staring at my front door. He did not ring the doorbell. He appeared to be on drugs or mentally unwell and I did not want to open the door to confront him and he finally walked off.
- Recently I came home to find what appeared to be a stolen bike propped up against my front fence. I called the police who said that unless someone turned in the number on the bike, they could not do anything. I thought it could have been just recently stolen and perhaps the person hadn't had a chance to report it. He said there were so many stolen bikes that they couldn't even take it and hold it and he left it. At 10:30 at night someone walking through the neighborhood looked it over, tested it out and then just drove off with it.
- A few months ago we had an abandoned car just across the street, which the city finally towed away. I have seen people overnighting in their vehicles on Church Street.
- I have even discovered a hat, gloves and scarf where someone slept in my yard. I check my property daily to make sure someone has not set up camp.

We are already reaching a crisis point in this neighborhood, which includes children and many older individuals. It is incredibly concerning to hear the stories of Brent and Teri Koester, who live just across from Pringle Park next to the bridge. Their numerous experiences are disheartening as they constantly deal with the homeless who are using the bridge for shelter. It is especially scary to hear about their efforts to fend people not only out of their yard, but in one instance out of their home.

Two households in our neighborhood at the corner of Mission and Church had an especially disturbing incident just a few Saturdays ago, with a man who was just released from prison and high on meth. He first attempted to get into one house and was unable and then proceeded to the neighbor's yard where he got up on the garage roof and then jumped off and attempted to get past the dad into a house where his wife and children were watching him deal with the intruder. I shudder to think if that had been my daughter, or my older parents (who live across the street from me at 565 Leslie St.), trying to fend that individual off. They, as well as many others in the neighborhood, are not equipped to deal with someone like that.

While I understand the need to find shelter for the homeless, I understand that the Union Gospel Mission has a set of rules and standards and that beds are going unused as people prefer to be on the streets where they don't have to deal with restrictions. Using Pringle Community Hall as a temporary homeless shelter is not a well thought out solution for dealing with this hardest-to-house portion of the homeless population. People who seek shelter will line up, with doors opening at 7 pm. With only 37 spots, people will be turned away, and when they are, it will be dark and they will spread out to take shelter in the park, under the bridge, or in our neighborhood. Anyone who believes that these individuals are going to walk all the way back downtown is not being realistic. Please do not let our park start to look like this picture from the Oregonian that was published in late December.



Homelessness in Oregon has jumped by nearly 10 percent since 2018, new HUD data indicates. (The Oregonian/OregonLive)

By proposing to use Pringle Community Hall as a temporary solution, the park will become an area that more homeless are drawn to with expectations that will linger once you close the hall as a temporary homeless shelter, and more people will continue to seek shelter under the bridge.

While Salem faces a growing homeless crisis driven by a complex mosaic of factors, I believe we are nowhere near the climax of this crisis, which demands thoughtful and vast resources that are beyond what our city can supply. This problem is not limited to Salem but is a statewide crisis facing both Oregon and California. I would like to recognize that you are trying to find answers and working to bring resources and organizations together and I acknowledge the herculean efforts being made by the Salem Housing Authority as well as many other organizations.

Until we start treating this as a statewide emergency, we are just creating ineffective stopgap measures that significantly impact and continue to contribute to the deterioration of businesses in the downtown core as well as the surrounding neighborhoods and parks that have historically made this a vibrant community. As the Mayor and City Councilors, you are keenly aware that it has taken years to get our city to such a positive point. I vividly remember the '80s when the downtown core was dominated by abandoned businesses and I would hate to see this happen.

Please do not approve the use of Pringle Hall as a temporary shelter. It is not a productive answer. In order to effectively tackle this issue we need to recognize that this is a state level emergency where the Governor as well as legislators need to act to quickly mobilize state agencies to formalize statewide planning and collaboration efforts. An emergency declaration could direct the Oregon Office of Emergency Management to coordinate with the Oregon Department of Transportation, Oregon State Police and the Oregon National Guard to offer support to counties throughout Oregon with a strategy that brings together numerous agencies and organizations. Even with these efforts we will still need to be prepared to deal with a chronically homeless segment of the population, but I believe that together, we can make a difference.

Thank you for the time that you give, your efforts and your consideration.

Sincerely,

Andrea Foust and Madeleine Carlson

565 Leslie St. SE

Salem, OR 97301

503-362-3980

Amy Johnson

From: Phyllis Foust <pjfoust@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, January 19, 2020 12:52 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Pringle Park homeless shelter

Dear Members of the City Council,

We are Jack and Phyllis Foust, home owners at 560 Leslie Street, just one house off Church Street.

We strongly support every objection made by our neighbors in Gaity Hills historic neighborhood and support all measures to stop the Pringle Park homeless shelter. We believe that it will be much more effective to stop these plans now rather than deal with the aftermath .

Please consider the fairgrounds as a place to relocate this shelter site.

Respectively,
Jack and Phyllis Foust

Amy Johnson

From: Randy Gould <rndygld@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, January 17, 2020 3:04 PM
To: citycouncil
Cc: Kathy Gould
Subject: Pringle Hall Warming Shelter

Hello. We live at 985 High St. SE, across from the rose garden at Bush Park. We have been following the series of emails and letters sent regarding concerns of our neighbors and friends on the warming shelter at Pringle Hall. We have many of the same concerns expressed in the emails, and encourage the city to follow some of the recommendations.

Given the fact that we have increased early morning foot traffic in our neighborhood due to the relatively new methadone clinic on Liberty street, we are concerned that when people are not using the warming shelter during daylight hours, they most likely will distribute themselves throughout Pringle Park, the hospital playground, and Bush Park itself. It could also result in even more foot traffic in our neighborhood overall, along with activities such as debris, trash can browsing, entry into locked and/or parked cars, and even sleeping in our backyards.

Along with the benefits of living in a historic neighborhood bordering the downtown district, it also comes with increased costs for upkeep of older homes, high traffic, and ambient noise. Given the location of our neighborhood, we and our neighbors constantly are striving to preserve and maintain a livable, clean, family friendly historic neighborhood and wish to partner with the city in doing so.

Thank you.

Randy and Kathy Gould
985 High St. SE
Salem, OR 97302

Amy Johnson

From: Kelly Hadley <kellyrhadley@hotmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, January 18, 2020 11:53 PM
To: Tom Andersen
Cc: citycouncil; Chuck Bennett; SALEM Manager
Subject: Opposition to Pringle Hall Homeless Shelter
Attachments: image2.jpg; ATT00001.txt; image3.JPG; ATT00002.txt; image1.jpg; ATT00003.txt; image2.jpg; ATT00004.txt

Tom,

I want to thank you for taking the time to meet with me and neighbors at Pat Deminna's home, after Thursday's open house at Pringle Hall, to hear about the ongoing crimes in our neighborhood including theft, recent home invasions, assaults, and trespass that are attributed to homeless persons.

After more reflection and careful consideration, and based on past and current challenges with aggressive homeless people, we neighbors are collectively united in our opposition to the use of Pringle Hall as a homeless shelter. Per my phone and email conversations with Mayor Bennett yesterday (1/17/20), he is in full agreement that this proposed plan "will in no way be a good solution" in helping the homeless population and "will be a danger to our neighborhood".

If the current lack of response by police to the three homeless men that have taken up residence under the Church Street bridge over Pringle Creek is any indication of the City's commitment to the health and safety of our neighborhood, I have no faith that the City intends to provide the additional police and sanitary services that will no doubt be needed if the shelter is activated. The police were called three times between yesterday and today, with no response. See attached photos from today of a tent, three people sleeping under the bridge, trash, and shopping cart.

The proposed plan will inevitably attract more than the 37 people that will be allowed entry into Pringle Hall each night. Given the distance from downtown and the significant amount of personal belongings they will be carrying with them, those that don't make it into the shelter are unlikely to travel out of the neighborhood. This will only add to the ongoing crime, garbage dumping, and human feces that we have been experiencing for the last several years.

I would also like to echo the concerns of Pat Deminna, expressed in her email to the City Council yesterday (1/17/20), regarding the additional dangers to the children and pedestrians as a result of the proximity of Pringle Hall to the nearby parks, playgrounds, and hospital.

I know that you personally are very aware of the challenges and dangers that we are already facing. We are looking to you to help the Council members and City Manager understand why this proposal is a dangerous one to the families that reside in this neighborhood and that a more thorough and thought out plan is needed for providing all of the necessary services that our homeless population so urgently requires.

I look forward to your support,

Sincerely,

Kelly Hadley
425 Leslie Street SE
Salem, OR 97301





SRU 95-550 Y SRU 95-556
CITY OF SALEM

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NO SE PERMITE CONSTRUIR
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ORDENANZA NUMERO SRE 95-550
SRE 95-560 CIUDAD DE SALEM

ROD





Amy Johnson

From: Kelly Hadley <kellyrhadley@hotmail.com>
Sent: Friday, January 17, 2020 5:58 PM
To: citycouncil
Cc: Chuck Bennett; Tom Andersen
Subject: Re: [Leslie List] Pringle Community Hall

I am Kelly Hadley at 425 Leslie Street SE Salem. I am in full support of this letter.

On Jan 17, 2020, at 5:41 PM, Patricia Deminna <patdex@comcast.net> wrote:

Dear Councilors,

My husband Roger and I live on Church St. across from Pringle Hall, and we attended the open house this past Thursday.

I am very troubled by Pringle Hall's proposed use as a temporary homeless shelter. Just as troubling is that the City made this kind of decision before asking for input from the people who will be most affected by it, the neighbors. We weren't even told about the proposal until two days before the open house was held. The open house was informative, but not the appropriate venue to voice our concerns. Given the implications of what's being proposed, we should not have been denied a public hearing.

Kristin Retherford, the Urban Development Director wrote in a Dec. 31, 2019 email to City Councilors that one of the main criteria for shelter space is: "impacts on surrounding neighborhoods." I doubt that Staff, unless they live here, are sufficiently knowledgeable about those impacts.

In our neighborhood, we have homeless people – many of the same homeless people – who pass through regularly. They often leave trash, unwanted belongings, and shopping carts on our streets and on our lawns. It's up to us to remove them. Some homeless have camped under the bridge, have started fires, and have trespassed on our property and the property of our neighbors up and down the street. This kind of behavior has caused us to be wary anytime we're out walking, and especially at night. Putting a shelter, with 30 to 37 homeless people, in this neighborhood will only make the situation worse. At the open house on Thursday, **Jimmy Jones** told us that we should expect additional fallout from the homeless population housed at the shelter. He didn't elaborate, but he said it's a given.

Down the street from Pringle Hall on the hospital grounds is the children's playground. It gets regular usage by kids in the neighborhood as well as the wider community. The small park where the Hall is located is one that's a regular walking route for the community, hospital personnel, students, and dog walkers. Our streets, especially Church Street, have considerable pedestrian traffic, not just residents, but community members, too. The walkers are college students, high school students, and older retirees who live here. There are six children on Church St. between Mission and the bridge. This is a family residential environment with lots of people on the streets, walking and biking. It's not well suited to carrying an even bigger homeless population.

We chose to live here and we stay aware. I think our expectation was reasonable that Pringle Park and Pringle Hall would be protected as a valuable community resource – a beautiful little park and the only one with an indoor facility. We understand there's an urgent need to address homelessness, and that not nearly enough has been done. But we don't believe it should come at the cost of our own safety and peace of mind.

Kind regards,

Patricia Deminna

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You received this message because you are subscribed to the Google Groups "Leslie Street" group.

To unsubscribe from this group and stop receiving emails from it, send an email to

lesliestreet345+unsubscribe@googlegroups.com.

To view this discussion on the web visit <https://groups.google.com/d/msgid/lesliestreet345/AF44F51B-F88E-4BC9-B46B-FABF5A27A91B%40comcast.net>.

Amy Johnson

From: noreply@cityofsalem.net on behalf of bill.hander@gmail.com
Sent: Friday, January 17, 2020 7:25 AM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Contact City Council
Attachments: ATT00001.bin

Your Name	Bill Hander
Your Email	bill.hander@gmail.com
Your Phone	5034748208
Street	PO Box 1117
City	McMinnville
State	OR
Zip	97128
Message	I live in McMinnville and a few times a month travel into Salem to see family. In the past month or more, the homeless vagrants have begun settling in around the downtown mall. The area is filled with trash, clothing, etc. My wife will no longer shop in the mall, or even go anywhere near that area of town. Why you allow it is beyond me, but since you do, why not move them in the unused park by the bridge? I am sure the mall would appreciate it as would the customers. Currently it is such a GREAT look for newcomers to the area, makes them want to stay I am sure. Another example of failed city government.

This email was generated by the dynamic web forms contact us form on 1/17/2020.

Amy Johnson

From: Brian Hines <brianhines1@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, January 19, 2020 10:08 AM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Repurpose payroll tax to homelessness

City officials should seriously consider dedicating the proposed employee-paid payroll tax to homelessness rather than public safety, since homelessness and poverty are much greater concerns of Salem residents than crime is. See:

<https://hinessight.blogs.com/salempoliticalsnark/2020/01/great-idea-to-deal-with-salems-homeless-problem.html>

This is how I introduced the blog post on Facebook.

Here's the great idea: instead of dedicating all of the \$9.1 million a year to be raised by an employee-paid payroll tax to public safety, that money should be used to reduce Salem's homeless population instead.

As my blog post shows, homelessness and poverty are the top priorities of Salem residents, with 41% mentioning those problems as their biggest concern. Crime and drugs is a much lower concern at 4%.

Jim Schepcke came up with this great idea. It should be seriously considered by the City Council. Amending the payroll tax ballot measure to put the money into helping the homeless would make it more likely that the measure is approved by voters.

— Brian

Brian Hines
Salem, Oregon USA
brianhines1@gmail.com
<https://www.facebook.com/OregonBrian>
<https://www.facebook.com/StrangeUpSalem>
<https://www.facebook.com/SalemPoliticalSnark/>
<http://twitter.com/oregonbrian>
www.hinesblog.com (blog)
www.churchofthechurchless.com (other blog)
www.salempoliticalsnark.com (other other blog)
www.brianhines.com (web site)
<https://brianhines.journoportfolio.com> (selection of my writings)

Amy Johnson

From: Bruce Hoffman <bruhof@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, January 17, 2020 7:16 PM
To: citycouncil; Chuck Bennett; Tom Andersen; CandoBoard@googlegroups.com; rdeloach118@gmail.com; Carroll and Ashley Cottingham; Chris and Mike barber; Ed Arabas; Jay and Nancy Burr; Ken and Amy (Chiefetz) Billings; KERRY AND PAUL BALMER; Maribel Cadmus; Roger and Pat Deminna; Sue Dauer; Wally Benson
Subject: Re: [Leslie List] Pringle Community Hall

Greetings Mayor Bennett and Salem City Councilors,

You've received many emails from neighbors concerned about using Pringle Hall as a temporary housing site for homeless, and Pringle Park as their likely loitering area and refuse depository. I support the comments already provided and oppose the use of this site for even a temporary homeless shelter.

I ask that you consider the fairness of using the historic neighborhood in this fashion. Residents of the historic district must pay \$300 or more for a simple review by the City of Salem to repair a crack in the sidewalk leading to their house. Placing a homeless shelter across the street from the Gaiety Hill / Bush Pasture Park Historic District is unfair to the residents who live within the many requirements imposed by the City of Salem on historic residences.

For the sake of fairness, please do not create an attractive nuisance in this historic district.

<https://www.cityofsalem.net/Pages/remodel-and-repair-historic-buildings.aspx>

Bruce Hoffman
370 Leslie Street, SE
Salem, OR 97301

Amy Johnson

From: Susann Kaltwasser <susann@kaltwasser.com>
Sent: Monday, January 20, 2020 7:14 AM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Suggestion for Homeless Fund

The City of Salem now has several programs where through the water/sewer bill people can donate to help a variety of programs. Why not set up a program for Helping the Homeless? It could be for specific things and administered through Mid-Willamette Valley Community Action Agency.

Yes, there are many places where people could donate, and many do. But they are looking to the City for help. Also, the reminder each month through the water bill might stimulate people who would donate, to do so more regularly.

Please consider it

Susann Kaltwasser
Ward 8

Amy Johnson

From: Marjorie Kmetz <kmetzmarjorie@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, January 17, 2020 11:49 AM
To: Brad Nanke; Cara Kaser; Chris Hoy; Chuck Bennett; citycouncil; Jackie Leung; Jacqueline Leung; Jim Lewis; Tom Andersen; Vanessa Nordyke; Matthew Ausec
Subject: CRISIS WITH OUR HOMELESS CITIZENS.net

January 17, 2020

Mayor Chuck Bennett, City, Council

RE: CRISIS WITH OUR HOMELESS CITIZENS

I have lived in Salem for five years and am appalled at the conditions our homeless have to endure just to survive in these treacherous winter conditions. It is deplorable and is a crisis. Mayor Bennett, instead of IGNORING this need, IMMEDIATELY INITIATE A TEMPORARY SOLUTION WHICH IS PAID FOR WITH CITY FUNDS.

- UNDERCOVER DRY, SAFE, AREA WITH PORTABLE BATHROOMS, KEPT CLEAN BY CITY WORKERS FOR THESE CITIZENS
- SHUTTLE BUSES TO DOWNTOWN AND BACK IF NEEDED
- CITY STAFFING TO PROVIDE TRASH CANS AND EMPTY THEM AS NEEDED
- KIND SUPPORT STAFF SUCH AS POLICE AS NEEDED

I have lived in PA, NJ and TX and never found such inhumane treatment of poor people than in Salem.

I moved here from San Antonio, TX, a city which had many homeless persons, mostly immigrants from Mexico or Latin America . The winters can be harsh and cold. To solve its problems the city along with grants, and interested private citizens built a large complex called the Haven for Hope. Single men, single women and families can find shelter and food there. The folks can stay overnight or longer depending on their needs. Those who want to stay, and are willing to follow the rules, could be given medical and dental care, job training, even courses to obtain their GED. For a long term solution, such as the San Antonio model, what about vacant buildings such as the juvenile detention center, Value Village, or KMART as a start?

Thank you, Marjorie E. Kmetz

339 Summit View Ave SE Salem, OR CC: Sen. Denyc Boles, Peter Courtney

Rep. Raquel Moore-Green, Kurt Schrader, Jeff Merkley, Ron Wyden

Amy Johnson

From: Brent Koester <bckoester@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, January 19, 2020 11:35 AM
To: Kelly Hadley
Cc: Tom Andersen; citycouncil; Chuck Bennett; SALEM Manager
Subject: Re: Opposition to Pringle Hall Homeless Shelter

OMG Kelly, I'm so sorry. I had no idea.

I'm afraid to say anything most times because of the PC Police and being publicly shamed for saying anything. We don't participate in neighborhood events because we aren't PC enough. So I don't speak out to the neighborhood. Now I feel I could have done something to prevent your attack, I'm just sick over this now. Had his picture for over a year and a half.

These criminals that have infiltrated the homeless population are exploiting the people that really need the help. Those people are also living in fear and are scared to point out the criminals. Retribution from the criminals or their friends. They hide in their midst like terrorist hiding behind woman and children. (Not meant to offend anyone, I just don't have anything else to compare this infiltration to.)

I'm so sorry Kelly. Just heartbreaking.

Teri and I are very appreciative of you and your hard work. Our hearts go out to you.
Brent

On Sat, Jan 18, 2020, 11:53 PM Kelly Hadley <kellyrhadley@hotmail.com> wrote:

Tom,

I want to thank you for taking the time to meet with me and neighbors at Pat Deminna's home, after Thursday's open house at Pringle Hall, to hear about the ongoing crimes in our neighborhood including theft, recent home invasions, assaults, and trespass that are attributed to homeless persons.

After more reflection and careful consideration, and based on past and current challenges with aggressive homeless people, we neighbors are collectively united in our opposition to the use of Pringle Hall as a homeless shelter. Per my phone and email conversations with Mayor Bennett yesterday (1/17/20), he is in full agreement that this proposed plan "will in no way be a good solution" in helping the homeless population and "will be a danger to our neighborhood".

If the current lack of response by police to the three homeless men that have taken up residence under the Church Street bridge over Pringle Creek is any indication of the City's commitment to the health and safety of our neighborhood, I have no faith that the City intends to provide the additional police and sanitary services that will no doubt be needed if the shelter is activated. The police were called three times between yesterday and today, with no response. See attached photos from today of a tent, three people sleeping under the bridge, trash, and shopping cart.

The proposed plan will inevitably attract more than the 37 people that will be allowed entry into Pringle Hall each night. Given the distance from downtown and the significant amount of personal belongings they will be carrying with them, those that don't make it into the shelter are unlikely to travel out of the neighborhood. This will only add to the ongoing crime, garbage dumping, and human feces that we have been experiencing for the last several years.

I would also like to echo the concerns of Pat Deminna, expressed in her email to the City Council yesterday (1/17/20), regarding the additional dangers to the children and pedestrians as a result of the proximity of Pringle Hall to the

nearby parks, playgrounds, and hospital.

I know that you personally are very aware of the challenges and dangers that we are already facing. We are looking to you to help the Council members and City Manager understand why this proposal is a dangerous one to the families that reside in this neighborhood and that a more thorough and thought out plan is needed for providing all of the necessary services that our homeless population so urgently requires.

I look forward to you support,

Sincerely,

Kelly Hadley
425 Leslie Street SE
Salem, OR 97301

Amy Johnson

From: Teri Koester <terijoyk@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, January 17, 2020 12:48 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Fwd: Opposition to Pringle Hall

Dear City Council members:

Below are two letters I have sent to both the mayor and the city manager.

We have great and valid concerns about the proposed use of Pringle Hall as a warming center or temporary homeless shelter. As stated below in these two letters, we, as a neighborhood, have had many negative incidents already with the homeless population. Bringing more into our neighborhood is not an option we will embrace or agree to.

Many of our incidents have been very dangerous encounters. Thank God we have not yet had any serious injuries to our neighborhood people. But with more un-vetted homeless coming into our neighborhood, I believe it is not a matter of if, it's a matter of when. I do not say that lightly and it frightens me to say that.

That being said, the accountability falls on your shoulders for voting in favor of Pringle Hall. Not just the city, but you as individuals on the City Council.

Please read my letters of concern below and give it every consideration before the vote on Tuesday.

Thank you,
Teri Koester

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Teri Koester <terijoyk@gmail.com>
Date: Fri, Jan 17, 2020 at 12:48 AM
Subject: Fwd: Opposition to Pringle Hall
To: <manager@cityofsalem.net>

Dear Steve,

Thank you for your information shared at tonight's meeting. I still feel very strongly against Pringle Hall being used as a warming shelter. We just can't take the chance of bringing any more crime into our neighborhood. This neighborhood is a neighborhood of young families, single women and elderly. We have to make their safety a priority.

Many of these people have already been victimized by vandalism and break ins. The problems are already beyond what the police can handle, proven by the delay or even lack of response when they are called.

I believe your presenters all have good intentions when they assure the neighborhood of vigilance in safety and security at Pringle Hall. Sadly, we've already experienced the reality of that scenario. Police have other priorities and rightly so. They can't be expected to respond to homeless problems when there are worse crimes being committed. They will not be able to make our neighborhood issues a priority unless, God forbid, something very serious occurs.

That is why we are still opposed to the warming center at Pringle Hall. Good intentions are by no means a guarantee of safety for our neighborhood. You honestly can't even guarantee fast response times by police should something occur. We know other police priorities will override our needs.

I ask that you continue to explore other options for the homeless problem. Making such a quick decision on something so important that impacts so many seems like a reaction to another bad decision (the no camping law). It does not appear well thought out.

I have also attached the letter I sent to Tom Andersen Mayor Bennett.

Please reconsider the Pringle Hall proposal.

Teri Koester

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Teri Koester** <terijoyk@gmail.com>

Date: Thu, Jan 16, 2020, 3:17 PM

Subject: Opposition to Pringle Hall

To: <cbennett@cityofsalem.net>

Cc: <tandersen@cityofsalem.net>

Dear Mayor Bennett,

I would like to share my concerns about the proposed use of Pringle Hall for a warming center.

I live directly across the street from Pringle Hall in the Gaiety Hill historic district. I am very distressed about the possibility of housing homeless individuals in this neighborhood.

First, on a nightly basis, the beds at the Union Gospel Center are not filled. This could be because the people there are vetted and drug paraphernalia is not allowed in or just that some people don't want to follow behavior rules. So are these people the ones who will be coming to Pringle Hall?

To put drug addicts, sex offenders, and criminals in Pringle Hall would be a dangerous situation for a residential neighborhood. There is a playground at the end of the block. This is a public park where children play. Bush Park with all its public and organized activities is also at the end of the block.

I'm not saying all homeless are undesirable people. There are many programs for people who are willing to make the changes and get help. There are several programs for homeless veterans as well. Putting people in Pringle Hall is not solving any of the homeless problems. It will however cause harm to an established neighborhood and the many visitors who utilize the parks and playgrounds.

Also there are no showers, very few bathrooms and no lock up areas for people's belongings. This is not a suitable location for a warming center.

There are several other options that could be explored. Contact more churches, contact owners of empty buildings, utilize some of the state fairgrounds property which does have adequate bathrooms and facilities. They also have security and cleaning crews.

I sincerely ask that you please reconsider using Pringle Hall. I understand that the city has a huge homeless problems and wants to do something, but shuffling them onto neighborhoods is a dangerous solution for all involved.

I am speaking from experience. We have been dealing with the homeless for years already. They camp under the bridge in front of our house. They've threatened us. They've cut our hoses, stolen our firewood, sat in the middle of our yard and refused to leave, even making it dangerous for us to leave without them coming at us. They've pitched tents against

our fence. They've left their dirty clothes, feces and needles for us to clean up. They leave shopping carts in our yard which we end up driving all over town to return.

We have many neighbors who experience car break-ins regularly. They've had attempted home invasions as well. At least two neighbors that I know of have found homeless sleeping in their bushes. To invite more homeless in will multiply these problems. They will become more comfortable in our neighborhood. They will see what time we all leave for work making our homes even more vulnerable.

On your webpage you list your priorities as a Mayor. I have copied these priorities below:

The current priorities of the Mayor are to:

- Promote jobs and economic development
- Reduce homelessness
- Improve streets, sidewalks, and parks
- Increase affordable transportation options
- Support strong neighborhoods

As you can see, the Pringle Park solution directly contradicts several of your priorities listed above.

I am very frightened about how much worse it will get. I ask with everything that is in me for you to reconsider Pringle Hall as a solution, even on a temporary basis.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Teri Koester
625 Church St SE
Salem
503-999-9862

Amy Johnson

From: Leonard Kelly <leonard.kelly@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, January 20, 2020 3:22 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Pringle Hall Warming Center

Dear Council,

Our names are Leonard Kelly and Linda Kelly we live at 690 High St., SE. We are in opposition to the plan for Pringle Hall Warming center.

Leonard and Linda Kelly

Sent from my iPhone

Amy Johnson

From: Irene LONGAKER <IRELON@msn.com>
Sent: Friday, January 17, 2020 11:29 AM
To: citycouncil
Cc: Leslie Street Group
Subject: Proposed use of Pringle Hall

This does not appear to have been a very well thought out plan to assist our homeless population. I know you have received some well written objections to this plan. I wish to add that the Bush Park/Gaiety Hill is a Historic Neighborhood that lends integrity to our downtown. We have the Bush House, Lord and Schryver Garden and Deepwood that have significant historical importance to the City of Salem. Please consider not approving this plan for Pringle Hall.

Irene Longaker
975 High Street SE
Salem

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

Amy Johnson

From: SUSAN MILLER <gsmilleror@msn.com>
Sent: Friday, January 17, 2020 10:11 AM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Use of Pringle Hall for temporary homeless shelter

Dear Council Members,

I disagree with any plan to open Pringle Hall at night for overnight accommodations for our homeless population. This will open a new location for the homeless to gather. Church Street is the gateway to Bush Park and the neighborhoods to the south. I have been told that people will go back to ARCHES during the day, but I'm not convinced. That just seems counterintuitive to leave at 7:00 am and hike downtown when there are bridges and park benches and covered walkways nearby.

SAIF and Salem Health have their own private security patrols to keep the homeless off their property. When they do this, how does that effect the neighborhood and Bush Park? I'm afraid applying this band-aid to a huge wound will cause lasting damage as a new area is introduced as a place to hang out.

I live on Leslie Street and have seen many problems arise for downtown neighborhoods. This neighborhood is a buffer for those to the south. Because we have always been outspoken and proactive we continue to be vibrant and a good buffer. This part of central Salem is charming and active. The combination of Salem Health, SAIF, Salem Civic Center and Library, Pringle and Bush Parks, and the Gaiety Hill/Bush Park Historical District has been a successful cooperative effort in keeping Salem attractive to all Salemites and visitors. It contributes greatly to the quality of life in our beautiful city. Please don't ruin it.

Sincerely,
Susan Miller

Amy Johnson

From: Melinda Neff Mel's Monster Fish and Aquatics <melindaboley8@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, January 18, 2020 6:27 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Ending homelessness

Dear person concerned. I do believe that the tax paid by commuters, should go towards construction of houses (not apartments) and to pay for the property's for them. This would give everyone the opportunity to become positive members of society if their basic needs are addressed. I am currently being coercively abuse by my stepdad and his mother and am now phisically disabled as a result of him beating me up to this day. And since im on a waiting list for section 8 and im living on 821\$ a month, i am forced to either stay here and be abused or live on the cold unwelcoming salem streets. Please, if not for any other reason, do it for a person like me.

Thank you and best regards

Melinda Boley

Amy Johnson

From: noreply@cityofsalem.net on behalf of suzniver@gmail.com
Sent: Monday, January 20, 2020 11:08 AM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Contact City Council
Attachments: ATT00001.bin

Your Name	Suzanna Niver
Your Email	suzniver@gmail.com
Your Phone	9719016285
Street	2451 Wayside Terr
City	Salem
State	OR
Zip	97301
Message	I have a thought about the homeless people in Salem. If the city gives back the tents to the homeless and let the homeless camp on the field across from the state fair grounds where people park during the fair and portable toilets and garbage dumpster there. It keep them off the streets and they would be on a bus line. It would a lot better then chasing them around town. Thanks for taking the time to think about it. Thanks Suz Niver

This email was generated by the dynamic web forms contact us form on 1/20/2020.

Amy Johnson

From: Hollie Oakes-Miller <hollie@holsgem.com>
Sent: Monday, January 20, 2020 9:26 PM
To: Chuck Bennett; Lynda Rose; Steve Powers; Tami Carpenter; Cara Kaser; Tom Andersen; Brad Nanke; Jackie Leung; Matthew Ausec; Chris Hoy; Vanessa Nordyke; Jim Lewis; Kristin Retherford; Jerry Moore; Kathy Sime; Dan Atchison; CityRecorder
Subject: 1/21 Council Meeting - Comments from Ward 5

Hello city leaders,

We don't currently have the capacity to craft a smart email about the issues on the 1/21 city council agenda that concern us, nor to attend the meeting to give personal testimony.

We continue to oppose the no camping--personal property bans. We are supportive of housing first solutions and any other solutions that get our unhoused neighbors off the street ASAP. We are horrified that the city implemented these bans at the coldest time of the year with no solutions in place. We urge you to make more humane choices going forward.

We fully support the city working with Marion County to transition to zero waste methods. Diverting 90% of "waste" from waste streams and sending the small amount of waste that remains to a modern landfill is the most climate, environment, and health friendly, it is also more cost effective, and creates more jobs. "Pay as you throw" as a waste management method reduces costs to residents and is proven to reduce the amount of material that ends up in waste streams by more than 40%. If you would like more information about best waste management practices, we would be happy to meet with you to discuss.

We fully support adopting a climate plan for the city. It must include plans to achieve zero emissions by 2030. If you don't know why we need such an aggressive target we are happy to meet with you to discuss.

Gary Miller & Hollie Oakes-Miller
Ward 5

Amy Johnson

From: Sandy Pace <sandy.pace@live.com>
Sent: Saturday, January 18, 2020 2:17 PM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: Fwd: ****AUTOMATED RESPONSE**** RE: Contact City Council

Please see message below

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: Tami Carpenter <Tcarpenter@cityofsalem.net>
Date: January 13, 2020 at 7:22:57 AM PST
To: "Sandy.pace@live.com" <Sandy.pace@live.com>
Subject: ****AUTOMATED RESPONSE**** RE: **Contact City Council**

Thank you for your email to the City of Salem, we appreciate you reaching out to us. This email confirms your email has been delivered to the City Council.

If you are commenting on a City Council / Urban Renewal / Salem Housing Authority current agenda item would you please send your comments to CityRecorder@cityofsalem.net.

If your email requires a response please know it has been forwarded to the appropriate department and staff will be contacting you.

Thank you.

Tami Carpenter

Executive Assistant

City of Salem | Mayor/City Manager's Office

555 Liberty Street SE, Room 220

Salem, Oregon 97301

tcarpenter@cityofsalem.net | 503-588-6255

[Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [YouTube](#) | CityofSalem.net

From: noreply@cityofsalem.net <noreply@cityofsalem.net> **On Behalf Of** Sandy.pace@live.com
Sent: Saturday, January 11, 2020 6:13 PM
To: citycouncil <citycouncil@cityofsalem.net>
Subject: Contact City Council

Your Name	Sandy pace
-----------	------------

Your Email	Sandy.pace@ live.com
Your Phone	5933906232
Street	1338 parkmeadow dr ne
City	Keizer
State	OR
Zip	97303
Message	I am embarrassed of my city, that we let the homeless and illegals run outperform city. What about the people that support the community and are not living off the city, we are the ones paying taxes and we have no rights. It is disgusting what we are slowing, we need to nip it now or we are going to be like SF and the people paying the taxes will leave and than all you are going to be left with is free loaders. I am all for helping people get help and get them off the street but not just keep handing out everything for free. Why would they want off the street if everything is free and no consequences? It only attracts more to come here if everything is free. I hate that we are a sanctuary city. Why would you want people that commit crimes in our neighborhood loose again to continue on. I have no problem with the ones that are not causing crimes and they're not living off the system but committing crimes they should be put in jail and deported. Please let's figure out a way to clean up our city before it gets way worse. Thank you

This email was generated by the dynamic web forms contact us form on 1/11/2020.

Amy Johnson

From: Victor Reppeto <vreppeto@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, January 19, 2020 9:02 AM
To: Tom Andersen; CityRecorder; citycouncil
Subject: Not so Organized Camping

You passed a camping ban before implementing sufficient shelter beds to accommodate the homeless neighbors in Salem. You told Home Base of Salem long ago that there would be no camping in Salem. This is a deplorable behavior. Blaming MWVCAA and ARCHES for your failure is not okay. For the second time please provide for legal camping in Cascade Gateway Park. No more pushing the homeless from one campsite to the other. Designate a space where they are safe from eviction.

Peace,
Victor Reppeto
503-383-9517

--

Communication is the problem and the solution



SALEM FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH


Rev. Del Burnett
Lead Pastor

The Salem City Council
555 Liberty ST SE
Salem OR 97301

Members of The Salem City Council:

On behalf of Salem First Presbyterian Church, we are respectfully asking the Salem City Council to consider an issue that we believe is of interest to the City and will impact the services available to the some of the neediest members the Salem community.

Salem First Presbyterian Church for decades has striven to be of assistance to the needy. We have always seen this as a core mission. Our church was a founding member of the Salem Interfaith Hospitality Network (recently renamed Family Promise of Mid-Willamette Valley, due to its expanded range of services) and several weeks each year homeless families have an overnight home in our church. We also serve as a low-cost host for a Montessori school and other non-profit organizations serving our community.

We are appreciative of the efforts that the City of Salem has made to help protect those in our community struggling with homelessness. And, we are deeply grateful that, beginning in 2018, we have been able to partner with the City in these efforts. As Salem's largest warming center, we take in 80 or more guests each night when the outdoor temperature drops dangerously low. In 2019, our warming center was open 40 nights.

Additionally, we have been increasing our collaboration with two of the City's important service organizations – and our neighbors – the Family YMCA of Marion and Polk Counties and Ike Box, part of the Isaac's Room Foundation that serves disenfranchised youth. The YMCA's ongoing reconstruction project includes plans for low-cost veterans housing. We are hopeful that when this project is completed, we will be able help provide service to these veterans.

Careful stewardship of our resources is required for us to be able to serve our community. As with many city-center churches in Salem and other cities, our membership has declined from around 1,500 in the 1980's to under 400 now. Our only income is donations from members of our congregation and other worshipers, rent from a small office building we own, rent received from non-profit organizations (including the Montessori school) that use our facility, and a few rented parking spaces. As a church, our members receive no tangible benefit from the church; all the church's resources are dedicated to our ministry, mission service and maintenance of our facility, a resource for our community.

Recently, we have begun attending to long overdue maintenance and renovation of our facilities. We have made needed improvements to better serve homeless families that sleep at our church and serve as a warming shelter.

A full inclusion community of ordinary people experiencing and embodying God's extraordinary love.

As part of this effort, the church has sought to repair and renovate its external signage. Our signage serves several essential functions: it helps us proclaim the 'good word'; it makes others aware of its presence and the services we offer; and it expresses our desire to be open and welcoming to all. Further, to assist the homeless and facilitate operations, we want to ensure that there is clear and informative signage to identify the location and operational status of the warming center.

Our plan, in its simplest term, is to:

- remove the existing free-standing sign on Court Street;
- remove the wall sign on the west side of the building,
- replace a sign on Chemeketa Street that collapsed in 2009 – this would be an electronic display sign near the entrance to the warming center; and,
- renovate the existing sign at the corner of Chemeketa and Winter Streets.

When we approached the city staff regarding our intentions, we were told that the signage variances we had received in the past would not support our new plan and that we would need to apply for new signage variances.

The church property spans both RH and CR zones, which have different requirements for electronic display signs. The west side of the church driveway is zoned CR and the east side is zoned RH. An electronic display sign in the CR zone requires only a \$155 sign permit. In the RH zone, a \$155 sign permit plus a \$2,979 sign conditional use permit are required. This means that if the church adds an electronic display sign on the right side of their driveway (away from the warming shelter entrance) it will only cost \$155, but if the church adds an electronic display sign on the left side of their driveway (next to the warming shelter entrance and where preferred and there is existing electrical service) it will cost \$2,979. This strange result can be fixed to facilitate the warming center if the City Council will waive the conditional use fee of \$2,979 as part of the emergency housing declaration. The council has authority to waive a fee by resolution under SRC 11C.09C. The costs for city fees are above and beyond the already expensive costs for the actual design, purchase, and installation of the electronic display sign itself.

The church's existing sign on the corner of Chemeketa and Winter Streets (zoned HR) needs refurbishment. We request that the City Council waive any permit fees that may otherwise be required to enable us to refurbish this sign or the new electronic sign.

SFPC believes that it is in the interests of the City of Salem and the residents of Salem, as well as our church's core missional responsibilities, that it would be best if these fees could either be waived or otherwise set aside. In our view, this would constitute 'Good Stewardship' not only by our church but also, and maybe more importantly, the City of Salem.

Thus, Salem First Presbyterian Church, requests that the Salem City Council take up the matter outlined above and take actions that may be required to permit Salem First Presbyterian Church to proceed with its plans with regard to church signage and to do so without the payment of fees to the City it serves.

Respectfully,



Michael E. Talbert
Elder and Corporate President
Salem First Presbyterian Church

Amy Johnson

From: noreply@cityofsalem.net on behalf of evaschwartz57@gmail.com
Sent: Tuesday, January 21, 2020 2:19 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Contact City Council
Attachments: ATT00001.bin

Your Name	Eva Schwartz
Your Email	evaschwartz57@gmail.com
Your Phone	5035804749
Street	156 Front St NE, Unit 240
City	Salem
State	OR
Zip	97301
Message	The homeless problem in downtown Salem is becoming a real crisis. I am concerned that our downtown business will start leaving the downtown area if something is not done soon. I think we have to find an immediate even if temporary solution to getting the homeless off our downtown streets. I know that it is not a one size fits all situation. Some need mental health care, others drug rehab and yet others just some affordable housing. It is a huge problem but we need to tackle it before the homeless take over the entire downtown area. I would say we have an emergency on our hands. Thank you for reading this. Eva Schwartz

This email was generated by the dynamic web forms contact us form on 1/21/2020.

Amy Johnson

From: Roz Shirack <rozshirack7@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, January 20, 2020 4:02 PM
To: Walker, Lorrie
Cc: Steve Powers; Jimmy Jones; Chuck Bennett; Schumacher, Jeff; citycouncil; Jerry Moore; Kristin Retherford; SCAN Board; Pamela Watson; Lynelle Wilcox; Delana Beaton; Kenneth Houghton; Jacque Heavey; Bob Francis; Cindy Francis
Subject: Re: SCAN / Pringle Hall

Thank you Lorrie for your good ideas. I think it is important to remember that Pringle Hall would not be the first or only warming shelter near a residential zone. The Capital Park Wesleyan Church at 19th and Mill St is a warming shelter (32 degree activation) surrounded by a residential area. What has been its impact on surrounding neighbors? It is new to the warming shelter network (since early December) and has a lower capacity than proposed for Pringle Hall, but we can still learn from it. I am not aware of any problems experienced by neighbors. Maybe Mr. Jones could report experience from Capital Park Wesleyan at the City Council meeting tomorrow, January 21, and hopefully allay concerns and fears of Gaiety Hill neighbors. And help encourage City Councilors to vote yes for emergency use of Pringle Hall as a duration warming shelter.

Thank you for your efforts to expand warming shelters this winter.
Roz Shirack

On Fri, Jan 17, 2020 at 11:22 AM lorrie walker <dakotalor@msn.com> wrote:

All,
I am including City Council, city staff, local warming center volunteers, SCAN board members, etc.
It would be good to think about how to make Pringle Hall / Warming Center most successful if opened.
This is an extremely sensitive area given it is in a residential neighborhood.
Well planned and thought out ideas may help alleviate neighbors concerns, fear and anger.
As a 5 yr warming center volunteer, sometime lead & SCAN resident if approved I would like see it ran slightly different than other warming centers, due to the residential area and length of term.
A few ideas I have;
1) Group / stakeholder meeting prior to opening.
2) Free dated bus pass given out in the morning to encourage people to go back downtown.

3) A panel. Church Street & Gaiety Hill area possibly designate one person to represent their group concerns. SCAN designate someone Closely Track any issues; small panel to advise / address concerns with designated Arches person. Close communication with panel members. Possibly group email?
Get on top of a Concern, rumor, etc. immediately.

5) Group Conversation of expectations with guests after check in nightly.

6) Sharps container ?

More?

Respectfully,
Lorrie Walker

Sent from my iPhone

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You received this message because you are subscribed to the Google Groups "SCAN Board" group.

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To view this discussion on the web visit <https://groups.google.com/d/msgid/scan-board/MWHPR17MB1230A61ECD47434CD58C0165A0310%40MWHPR17MB1230.namprd17.prod.outlook.com>.

Amy Johnson

From: judie seifert <judie22@msn.com>
Sent: Monday, January 20, 2020 5:09 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: homeless

Why are you letting the homeless ruin our beautiful city?? All along Rite-Aid and from Nordstrom to Khol's there are tents and homeless having a really good time. We used to go downtown for shopping and dinner but not anymore. I lost my hairdresser and forget going to Rudy's for a nice dinner. So I guess you want Salem to be like LA and San Francisco. How do you people sleep at night? Nordstrom left because they saw the writing on the wall. OH and thanks for killing the bridge. Bet you don't walk or ride your bike to work. And they wonder why Trump won.

Amy Johnson

From: Brian Sund <sund60@icloud.com>
Sent: Saturday, January 18, 2020 8:50 AM
To: Walker, Lorrie
Cc: Steve Powers; Jimmy Jones; Chuck Bennett; Schumacher, Jeff; citycouncil; Jerry Moore; Kristin Retherford; SCAN Board; Pamela Watson; Lynelle Wilcox; Delana Beaton; Kenneth Houghton; Jacque Heavey; Bob Francis; Cindy Francis
Subject: Re: SCAN / Pringle Hall

Thoughtful ideas, Lorrie. Sharps container would be good, am betting Salem Health could provide, although there are many places that could also.

Clear and consistent communication between all affected parties is paramount, with expectations effectively shared.
Brian

Sent from my iPad

> On Jan 17, 2020, at 11:22 AM, lorrie walker <dakotalor@msn.com> wrote:

>

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> More?

> Respectfully,

> Lorrie Walker

>

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> Sent from my iPhone

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board/MWHPR17MB1230A61ECD47434CD58C0165A0310%40MWHPR17MB1230.namprd17.prod.outlook.com.

Amy Johnson

From: BETH TAYLOR <bethalito@comcast.net>
Sent: Monday, January 20, 2020 1:02 AM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Give the money to homelessness.

City council members,

I urge you to change the distribution of the commuter tax from public safety to housing the homeless. If this city council solved the homeless crises in a humane fashion, it would be a great feat. Be the change! I know, I will join, start or organize to see this done.

Elizabeth Taylor,
Salem, Oregon since 1975

Sent from Xfinity Connect Application

Amy Johnson

From: lorrie walker <dakotalor@msn.com>
Sent: Wednesday, January 15, 2020 6:20 PM
To: Jimmy Jones; Delana Beaton; cindyfrancis50@gmail.com; Pamella Watson; Lynelle Wilcox; Kristin Retherford; Chuck Bennett; citycouncil; Jerry Moore; Steve Powers; Jonathan Bach; troy@salemreporter.com; Kenneth Houghton; Linda Strike; Schumacher, Jeff; Jim Scheppke; edscannewsletter@gmail.com
Subject: Pringle Hall

All,

I think Pringle Hall is a good site for people to sleep. It has good visual open areas. Good lighting, good restrooms, Adequate parking, Hospital next door.

As a SCAN neighbor I am concerned about the impact on the residential neighborhood.

There are several people currently sleeping in Bush Park at night. People who like to be alone, not bothered and not in groups. They have not caused problems that I am aware of. I am not a not in my backyard person.

Those of us who work and volunteer with unsheltered people know that people who will not stay in a shelter do congregate and move close by to people who do stay in shelters.

That is my concern for the largest park in Salem, a residential neighborhood, historic district, disabled children's playground on the corner of Mission Street and Church street. Salem has never had a large scale lengthly warming shelter in a residential neighborhood.

This would be a first. I believe it could be very successful with Input from SCAN, collaboration re; increased police presence to keep an increase in campers out of Bush Park, keep the SCAN Historic neighborhood of Gaiety Hill safe, keep crime down, an increased police presence, not allowing camping and garbage accumulation in the Pringle Hall area, possible outdoor port a potties for folks that linger during the day, to name a few.

Respectfully,
Lorrie Walker

Sent from my iPhone

Amy Johnson

From: lorrie walker <dakotalor@msn.com>
Sent: Friday, January 17, 2020 11:23 AM
To: Steve Powers; Jimmy Jones; Chuck Bennett; Schumacher, Jeff; citycouncil; Jerry Moore; Kristin Retherford; SCAN Board; Pamella Watson; Lynelle Wilcox; Delana Beaton; Kenneth Houghton; Jacque Heavey; Bob Francis; Cindy Francis
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More?

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Lorrie Walker

Sent from my iPhone

Amy Johnson

From: lorrie walker <dakotalor@msn.com>
Sent: Monday, January 20, 2020 5:43 PM
To: Roz Shirack
Cc: Steve Powers; Jimmy Jones; Chuck Bennett; Schumacher, Jeff; citycouncil; Jerry Moore; Kristin Retherford; SCAN Board; Pamela Watson; Lynelle Wilcox; Delana Beaton; Kenneth Houghton; Jacques Heavey; Bob Francis; Cindy Francis
Subject: Re: SCAN / Pringle Hall

Roz, All,

You're welcome, Roz.

I believe concerns should be addressed as to how they would be addressed with neighbors & SCAN prior to any opening.

The difference with Capitol Park Wesleyan and Friends Church is that they only open at 32 degrees or less. They have only opened a few times at Capitol Park They are not for long duration periods of time as Pringle Park would be.

Respectfully,

Lorrie Walker

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 20, 2563 BE, at 4:02 PM, Roz Shirack <rozshirack7@gmail.com> wrote:

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Amy Johnson

From: Faith Young <faithaliciay@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, January 19, 2020 9:15 AM
To: citycouncil
Subject: 9.1 budget.

Hello,

I am so upset by our struggling homeless population. We cannot just treat them like roaches and wait for them to die like Salem has been doing. We need to have alternative options for housing that will allow someone the security, sleep, and release from depression that is needed for getting a job. It is so sad that I am so close to being one of the homeless with my son, but that is how we care for them? Kicking them out of camps for capitalism Christmas? Holidays are a sham to make money and people matter more than money. Please don't fill up our police force to the brim with power hungry untrained police. We need solutions to the crisis of living people in need. Please do what you already know is right.

Faith Young

Page
Break

Amy Johnson

From: Janet Lorenzen <jlorenze@willamette.edu>
Sent: Sunday, January 19, 2020 1:36 PM
To: citycouncil
Cc: Cara Kaser; Tom Andersen; Brad Nanke; Jackie Leung; Matthew Ausec; Chris Hoy; Vanessa Nordyke; Jim Lewis
Subject: Meeting 1/21/2020 & Climate policy

City Councilors and staff,

The City of Salem is expected to have a policy priority related to climate change this year. I'm writing as a professor who lives in Salem and studies climate policy. I will be at the 1/21/2020 policy meeting advocating that the City of Salem join ICLEI (pronounced ick-lee) the non-profit International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives. It is geared toward resource-constrained small cities and helps create a tailored plan for climate action. It also recommends changes that are low cost and high impact that have been tested widely in other cities. Cities go at their own pace of change. It helps leverage local knowledge and data without hiring expensive consultants.

(I benefit in no way by recommending it to you.)

More details on ICLEI USA:

<http://icleiusa.org/about-us/who-we-are/>

Cost (I know this isn't a budget meeting but it's low cost):

<http://icleiusa.org/membership/join-iclei/>

What other Oregon cities are current members?

Newberg, Milwaukie, Lake Oswego, Beaverton, Eugene, Bend, Portland

Here's an Assistant City Manager's opinion:

"ICLEI has been a vital resource to the City of Boynton Beach [Florida] over the past 5 years...We have been provided with best practices, toolkits, templates, software and technical guidance through their website and friendly, knowledgeable staff. Considering the cost we would have incurred for contracting with individual consultants and vendors, our ICLEI membership remains the best return on investment for our ongoing sustainability needs."

Thank you for seriously considering this opportunity to join ICLEI,

Janet A. Lorenzen, Ph.D.

Associate Professor

Department of Sociology

Willamette University

900 State Street

Salem, OR 97301

jlorenze@willamette.edu

Office: Smullin 218

Office Phone: 503-370-6313

Affiliations: Sustainability Institute