

From: [Andrea Heywood](#)
To: [CityRecorder](#)
Subject: Fwd: **AUTOMATED RESPONSE** RE: Support.of homeless shelter
Date: Monday, January 10, 2022 12:36:17 PM

Please see below

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From: Andrea Heywood <a.hey.ban@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, January 10, 2022 12:07 PM
To: citycouncil <citycouncil@cityofsalem.net>
Subject: Support.of homeless shelter

I am writing in support of the proposed homeless shelter on center street across from Safeway. I am a resident of 1632 Court St NE. I am in full support of the creation on micrometers in Salem and support one going forward in my own neighborhood. We as a society need to come together more in support of humane and throughful actions to support those in our community that are in need. This is one such way to do that.

Thank you

Andrea Heywood

1632 Court St NE

Salem OR 97301

From: [JOHN RICHES](#)
To: [CityRecorder](#); richespropertymgmt@gmail.com
Subject: 01-10-2022 Council Meeting Agenda Item 21-564 Public Comment
Date: Monday, January 10, 2022 12:40:37 PM
Attachments: [City Council Mtg 01-10-2022 Agenda Item 21-564 Public Comment.pdf](#)

To Whom It May Concern,

Please find attached my public comment to item 21-564.

If you have any questions or trouble opening this attachment, please let me know.

Thank you,

John Riches
Riches Management
(503) 932-9301



*Riches Management
PO Box 5014
Salem, OR 97304
Office/Fax: (503) 315-7116
Cell: (503) 932-9301
Email: richmgt2003@comcast.net
Web: richespropertymanagement.com*

January 10, 2022

RE: City Council Meeting Agenda Item 21-564
Possible Micro-shelter for Homeless at 1280 Center St. NE.

I am a resident and small business owner in Salem and have recently been made aware of the city's proposal to utilize an empty lot located at 1280 Center St. NE. as a micro-shelter site for the homeless.

As the owner of the Forum Apartments, 350 13th St. NE., located directly across 13th from the proposed site, I am concerned with the potential issues that commonly arise with homelessness such as criminal and drug activity. My primary concern is the safety and comfort of my tenants, many of which are students at Willamette University. It is paramount that they feel their neighborhood is safe for them to walk to the market or school etc. Several have contacted me expressing apprehension after receiving a notice from the City Manager's Office signed by Gretchen Bennett. Additionally, having a homeless community next door will affect our ability to rent apartments at market value thus reducing the overall value of the property.

I am not fundamentally opposed to the program and understand the enormity of an issue homelessness is. However, I feel the City of Salem should look at hosting the proposed community somewhere that will better support not only those who will eventually live there, but the surrounding community that already exists.

Thank you for your time and efforts in not only hearing my concerns, but also your attention to addressing our city's homelessness issue.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John Riches', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

John Riches
Property Owner
Riches Management

From: [Megan Albright](#)
To: [CityRecorder](#)
Subject: Item 21-564
Date: Monday, January 10, 2022 3:08:01 PM

To whom it may concern,

I am a resident at the Forum Apartments on 13th St NE, and I understand the City Council is meeting tonight to discuss the plans for a micro-shelter community for the homeless to be located at 1280 Center St, NE.

I'm writing to express some of the limited concerns that come to mind for those who live in the area. First and foremost, there are children who live in the Forum and there are likely children who live in the other apartment complexes and homes in the area. Having lived near micro-shelter communities before, I know the types of things that one can be exposed to. Violence and drugs have run rampant at the homeless camps and the areas surrounding them in my hometown. Secondly, there are residents here who have to park their cars on the streets. I have been made aware of several residents who would no longer feel comfortable doing so, as their property could be damaged. And lastly, as a female student, I cannot say that I would feel totally comfortable walking on foot to Willamette's campus any longer.

That being said, I emphasize and understand the challenges that the homeless community face. I wholeheartedly believe that if everyone approached others with compassion and kindness, the homeless situation may not be as severe as it has been in recent years. I also believe that certain stigma surrounding these communities are not always accurate representations of their behavior.

All I ask is that the Counsel think of both the homeless community and the residents who live in the area when reaching a decision on this tough situation.

From: [Megan Albright](#)
To: [CityRecorder](#)
Subject: Re: Item 21-564
Date: Monday, January 10, 2022 3:29:33 PM

To whom it may concern,

I'm writing a follow up to my email, as there was information about the proposed micro-shelter that I had not been aware of.

I was not under the impression that the shelter would include 24 hour security or on-site staff. Now, having done thorough research, I support the City in allowing a micro-shelter to be placed at 1280 Center St, NE. I think the city of Salem is doing the honorable and just thing by offering such a shelter to the homeless community. After all, that field is just sitting there. Why shouldn't the homeless be allowed to move in and have access to food, restrooms, shelter, and most importantly, support? As long as the city is hosting or managing the site, and the security and staff do what they can to ensure the safety of the community I think it's an excellent idea.

Please use this email as any public comment in tonight's meeting rather than my previous one.

On Mon, Jan 10, 2022 at 3:07 PM Megan Albright <m.albright.toutle@gmail.com> wrote:

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I'm writing to express some of the limited concerns that come to mind for those who live in the area. First and foremost, there are children who live in the Forum and there are likely children who live in the other apartment complexes and homes in the area. Having lived near micro-shelter communities before, I know the types of things that one can be exposed to. Violence and drugs have run rampant at the homeless camps and the areas surrounding them in my hometown. Secondly, there are residents here who have to park their cars on the streets. I have been made aware of several residents who would no longer feel comfortable doing so, as their property could be damaged. And lastly, as a female student, I cannot say that I would feel totally comfortable walking on foot to Willamette's campus any longer.

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All I ask is that the Counsel think of both the homeless community and the residents who live in the area when reaching a decision on this tough situation.

From: [Sierra Hicks](#)
To: [CityRecorder](#)
Subject: Public Comment - Micro Shelter Village
Date: Monday, January 10, 2022 3:30:43 PM

Hello,

I am very supportive of the establishment of the micro-shelter village, but I am concerned the issues for the 13th St location have not been appropriately captured.

For example, parking. There are a lot of apartments concentrated within roughly a block around this site. On street parking is already a pretty tight market with UPS, Amazon, etc. being forced to just park in the street and utilize emergency flashers and there being people having to circle the area several times to find and obtain a parking spot. Frankly, I see multiple vehicles a day utilizing the parking lot you would use for shelters to quickly drop off DoorDash, wait to pick someone up or even as a place to park a Uhaul while it is unloaded.

I regularly have to park a block from my apartment and often see traffic in both directions of 13th Street stuck as people are pulling out of driveways, trying to turn and parallel parking. Introducing an additional reason why people need to park between 12th and 14th, Marion and Court would only exacerbate this problem.

I am not are intimately familiar with the other locations, so, I will refrain from commenting on any of the others, but I would ask you to carefully consider the impact the micro shelter placements would have on the people already in these neighborhoods.

Sierra Hicks

From: [Yuki Schwartz](#)
To: [CityRecorder](#)
Subject: Public Comment to City Council on micro-shelter community proposal
Date: Monday, January 10, 2022 4:13:59 PM

Hello, I would like to comment on the City of Salem's recent proposal to create micro-shelters in the city. My comments are below:

To the members of the Salem City Council:

My name is Rev. Dr. B. Yuki Schwartz, and I live near the proposed micro-shelter community at 1280 Center St. NE. I am writing to speak in favor of this community. As a former Seattle pastor whose church supported the creation and maintenance of an ongoing tiny-house community in our neighborhood, I saw firsthand the help that shelters such as the one being proposed here can offer to people living without secure housing. Our ministry of opening our church doors to offer daytime shelter to anyone who needed safe spaces to go and store their belongings as they moved from camping sites or whose tent encampments were destroyed by police allowed me to experience the human reality that unhoused Salem residents are facing now.

Small-shelter communities provide not only safety to people who might otherwise be living unsheltered, but also give them the chance to be active members of a community where they play a role in keeping it safe and helping fellow residents thrive. Studies consistently prove that safe, stable housing is the key to helping people become healthy and find stable employment, key aspects of honoring and maintaining their human dignity. This community has the potential to do this for the unsheltered members of our Salem community and prove to them that they are, truly, loved and valued by us as much as they are by God.

Sincerely,
Rev. Dr. B. Yuki Schwartz,
Assistant professor of constructive and political theologies,
Claremont School of Theology,
Willamette University branch.