

## Eugene Rest Stops Tour Summary

In fall 2016, staff toured Eugene's [Rest Stop model](#) and Opportunity Village to learn more about potential alternative, cost effective method for sheltering people and their property in tents, Conestoga huts or transitional (and mobile) micro-housing units. More recently, the City of Eugene has developed [an annual report](#) (2017) and a step by step [outreach guide](#) for siting rest stops and car camping sites.

**2016 Summary.** In Eugene, 214 people were served in the rest stops in 2015. Turnover is frequent (80% stay for six months or less). The majority leave voluntarily, 55 (26%) for other temporary or transitional housing (publicly supported or with friends/family), 42 (19.6%) were asked to leave and another 23-30% remained homeless.<sup>1</sup> At the micro-housing site, turnover is less frequent with 71% living at the village for more than seven months. Some have lived at the site since its inception, approximately three years.

After reviewing available materials and touring two types of rest stops in Eugene, staff found these factors to be necessary for a successful pilot in Salem:

- ☐ Local non-profit committed to raising funds, providing support and oversight (often through a board or council), recruiting and training staff or volunteers in on-site management and conflict management, and building site infrastructure<sup>2</sup>
- ☐ Publicly owned property (city or county) leased on an annual basis to the non-profit
- ☐ A method to permit this type of shelter. (Eugene does this through an annual extension to an ordinance creating the Permitted Overnight Sleeping Pilot.)
- ☐ Partnership with an organization to provide case management to ensure safe and expedited transition into appropriate housing
- ☐ Funds for construction, maintenance and on-site services to include trash service, insurance, portable toilets, etc.

Siting considerations:

- ☐ access to utilities (potable water, electricity, and sewer)
- ☐ access to transit
- ☐ proximity to services (medical, mental health, alcohol/drug addiction, social services)
- ☐ proximity to retail
- ☐ door-to-door discussions with neighbors in advance of siting to build awareness of who will be provided shelter, what the rules are and how they function:
  - Shelters have access 24-7 to an on-site manager and are supported by a non-profit
  - rest stops are fenced, gates are monitored during open hours and locked at night (hours can vary, 10 PM to 7 AM)
  - Hardscape appears to be better for ADA and sanitation
  - Residents have access to a communal kitchen
  - A central community room structure offers heating source, comfortable seating, and internet/computer access, where power is available

---

<sup>1</sup> The data is challenging to interpret due to the different providers and data points collected.

<sup>2</sup> Oregon Community Foundation was one initial funding source for the Opportunity Village site.