

Overview

With over 4,000 people living instably in Portland on any given night, the Sunnyside Neighborhood Association acknowledges we must act now with both urgency and patience. Our city is in crisis and no single solution will bring us out of it. Affordable housing is on the way, tiny-home villages are emerging, and temporary shelter capacity is growing. All solutions are components of a greater whole. As longer-term solutions continue to evolve, we propose a low-investment strategy to increase stability and safety for our houseless neighbors by providing sanctioned campgrounds supported with critical services provided by our trusted partners and neighborhood volunteers.

Sunnyside Neighborhood Association formed a workgroup on homelessness issues in 2015, and has conducted coordinated outreach to the growing houseless population in our neighborhood for the past two years. A key component of this outreach was listening directly to houseless neighbors in Sunnyside to understand their needs. Soon, we had a crew of volunteers picking up trash in the park and doing dump runs; we had a volunteer-run shower program at the local Methodist Church; and we held a clothing and gear drive. None of these efforts addressed the core emergency that neighbors camping in parks and on sidewalks are at constant risk of being displaced, and many lack access to essential services like basic food and hygiene. This proposal addresses these missing pieces while complementing and building on our efforts to date.

A secure lot of land can provide necessary stability to allow folks who are living on the street to utilize available services, seek employment, and begin to transition off of the street. Our basic framework is:

- A simple, low-cost, stop gap approach
- Offer definite improvements to both housed and houseless neighbors over camping in public places
- Create a replicable, community-oriented response, that could serve as a model for other neighborhoods to quickly get off the ground

A description of how the Community Based Organization (CBO) that will be responsible for supporting/operating the shelter program.

The Sunnyside Neighborhood Association is working closely with a lead support organization, Beacon Village, a 501(c)(3) with decades of experience working with houseless residents in Sunnyside. Founder Pat Schwiebert ran the weekly home-cooked suppers every Wednesday at the Sunnyside Methodist Church for over 30 years and she and her volunteers continue to serve a daily hot lunch to people living on the street in our

neighborhood. She has known some of these houseless residents for decades. Beacon Executive Director John Mayer knows many of our houseless residents by first name and has been a crucial guide to us as we figure out how to run the shower program and navigate other services these folks need, like emergency shelter during the snowstorm, medical care, shoes, and clothing.

The Sunnyside Neighborhood Association is a formal Neighborhood Association working very closely with Beacon Village. We have many volunteers who are active in supporting our neighborhood. Our work to date has included:

- Outreach to those camping in the neighborhood, including facilitated discussions between housed and houseless neighbors
- Connection to services
- Financial coordination (i.e. stimulus check stewardship, etc)
- Trash / Sanitation: cleanups and regular garbage pickup
- Partnership with Sunnyside Environmental School
- Hygiene, including sharps boxes and portable toilets
- Material Support, including a gear drive
- Transportation support, such as providing transportation to emergency warming shelters, and new camping sites following City sweeps

Provide a description of the physical attributes of the shelter, including:

(a) the approximate size (e.g. ¼ block parcel, or 10,000 sq. ft. building, etc.);

Our ideal first site would be a 10,000 square foot property, but we are willing to adapt to a variety of circumstances depending on available land. Preference is for a site with fairly level ground and that we can enclose with a fence for the duration of the sanctioned camping.

(b) the location (e.g. specific address, or neighborhood);

Ideally the site would be within the Sunnyside Neighborhood boundaries. Since Sunnyside is a small neighborhood with a limited number of vacant parcels, we would be open to other locations in Southeast Portland. We are considering land that is public and private, including properties owned by nonprofit organizations such as religious institutions.

(c) the type or types of structures that will be used for sleeping (e.g. church dining hall, vehicles, modular buildings, sleeping pods, etc.);

We will construct wooden sleeping platforms for 10 to 15 individuals. These would be suitable for pitching tents off the ground to keep them dry. This would limit the number of people who could pitch tents on the site, but it also would allow construction of tiny houses in the future should these folks not be able to find permanent affordable housing prior to next winter.

(d) the structures that will be used for other services

The site will have:

- two porta-potties
- two hand-washing stations
- a covered meal-prep / washing area where Beacon could serve lunch each day
- a privacy tent for visits from Portland Street Medicine doctors, social workers, and other professionals
- one dumpster
- multiple trash cans
- sharps boxes for safe needle disposal
- a fence around the property with two gates
- optionally, and dependent on facilities and funding, a shower station or trailer
- ideally, dependent on electrical hookups and funding, a bank of electrical outlets for charging devices

Detailed plans and drawings have been developed for various layouts and configurations of the site.

(e) the utilities and other site improvements that are anticipated to be needed.

Our aim is to have a low-barrier option for safer sanctioned camping that could be replicated on any site regardless of utilities and other site improvements.

Provide a description of the essential elements of the proposed shelter program and how they were developed:

(a) the guiding values & objectives of the program;

Our goal with this specific proposal is to provide the fastest, easiest, least expensive way to meet the following goals while more permanent solutions are being developed:

- Protect houseless individuals from the trauma and loss of City sweeps

- Provide sanctioned sites that are more protected from the weather, and are more stably connected to hygiene, sanitation, and other key support services
- Restore community access to the most sensitive and highest traffic public areas that are currently being used for camping in unsustainable ways, such as the Sunnyside Environmental School property

Our proposal is not a solution to homelessness, but it is a way to improve our neighborhood for both housed and houseless individuals. The Neighborhood Association seeks to build on our resources and experience to contribute to the larger continuum of shelter-to-housing. We hope that each neighborhood can find property to do something similar.

Our approach is to work alongside our houseless neighbors, paying close attention to their needs and experiences. Once we build the camp, we intend for it to be self-governed, with support from Beacon Village for things like food, clothing, and medical assistance. The Neighborhood Association will stipulate basic conditions for the site, while the actual rules that create those conditions are created by residents. These would include issues like sound levels, hygiene/hoarding, and behavioral problems/conflicts. We envision a site that utilizes a Peer Governance Philosophy:

- Personal responsibility requires a sense of ownership impossible while camping in public spaces
- Many people in the Sunnyside community, both housed and unhoused, already know and care for each other
- A Community Council will be formed during initial weeks, consisting of any residents who wish to volunteer to serve.
- The group internally develops site rules and norms

We will build on our ongoing strong relationship with NRT Sargeant Matt Jacobsen, and our growing involvement with other community members, to create trust and respect between camp residents and housed neighbors

(b) who will be prioritized for the shelter;

Priority for our sites will go to those who are currently dispersed camping in Sunnyside neighborhood, with a priority for those who are at highest risk for sweeps. This includes campers in the area of Sunnyside Environmental School and Laurelhurst Park.

(c) how many people will be served at one time;

Roughly 10-15 people will be served per site, depending on available lot size and configuration.

(d) the requirements/expectations for participation (e.g. engaged in treatment, or low-barrier);

Our proposal is for a low-barrier site. We prioritize safer, more secure shelter first, to create access to support including mental health and substance disorder services.

(d) the basic safety/hygiene services, and transition service offerings for participants (if any);

Beacon Village and other community partners will assist with providing:

- Meal preparation
- Medical services and supplies
- Bathrooms and wash stations
- Perimeter fencing and gates
- Dumpster and trash service
- Potentially a shower unit
- Basic fire safety equipment and training
- Links to other transition service providers

(e) the staffing model for the program;

The Sunnyside Neighborhood Association and Beacon Village have a long track record of mobilizing volunteer efforts, which is the model we will use for this program. We draw on the talents and experiences of a broad group of neighbors who are highly motivated to improve our community for all residents, both housed and houseless.

(e) any identified legal obstacles to the proposed program; and

We are currently investigating potential barriers around use of sites not owned by the Neighborhood Association. There are many models for sanctioned outdoor shelter sites around Oregon, and we are confident these barriers can be overcome -- but it is an area where assistance from the Joint Office of Homeless Services could be very useful.

(f) the engagement that was done, in particular with people with lived experience, to develop the program.

Beacon Village has decades of experience working with houseless residents in Sunnyside, and much of the content for this proposal was built on that knowledge and experience. We also draw on information gathered during a Housing Panel Discussion organized by SNA in October 2019 featuring both housed and houseless speakers, and a facilitated listening session between housed and unhoused neighbors organized by the Street Roots Ambassador program in December 2020.

Provide a description of the anticipated budget for the project, including any costs associated with:

(a) site acquisition;

Not considered.

(b) site preparation;

\$4,178.00

(c) purchase/preparation of physical structures & start up supplies (e.g. cots, blankets, etc.);

\$9,446.44

(d) annual site operations costs (utilities, maintenance, supplies, rent, insurance, etc.);

\$39,735.60*

*Does not include rent and insurance

(c) annual programming costs, including CBO administration, shelter staffing, support services costs etc. This section should identify which of the budgeted costs will be covered by non-governmental resources, and what assistance will be needed from local governments

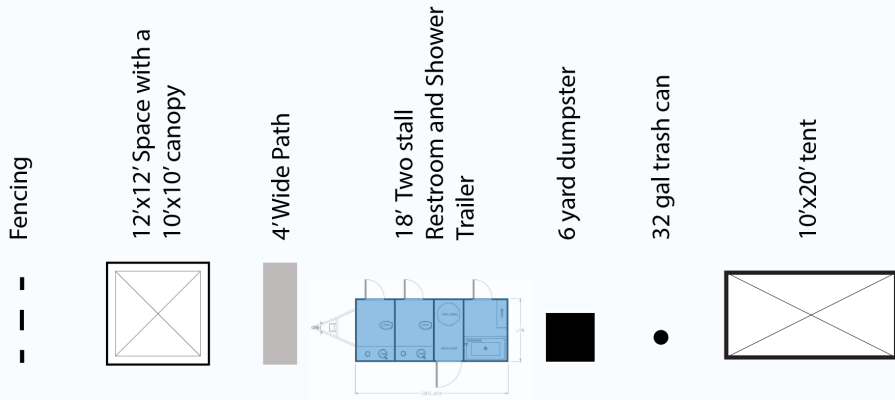
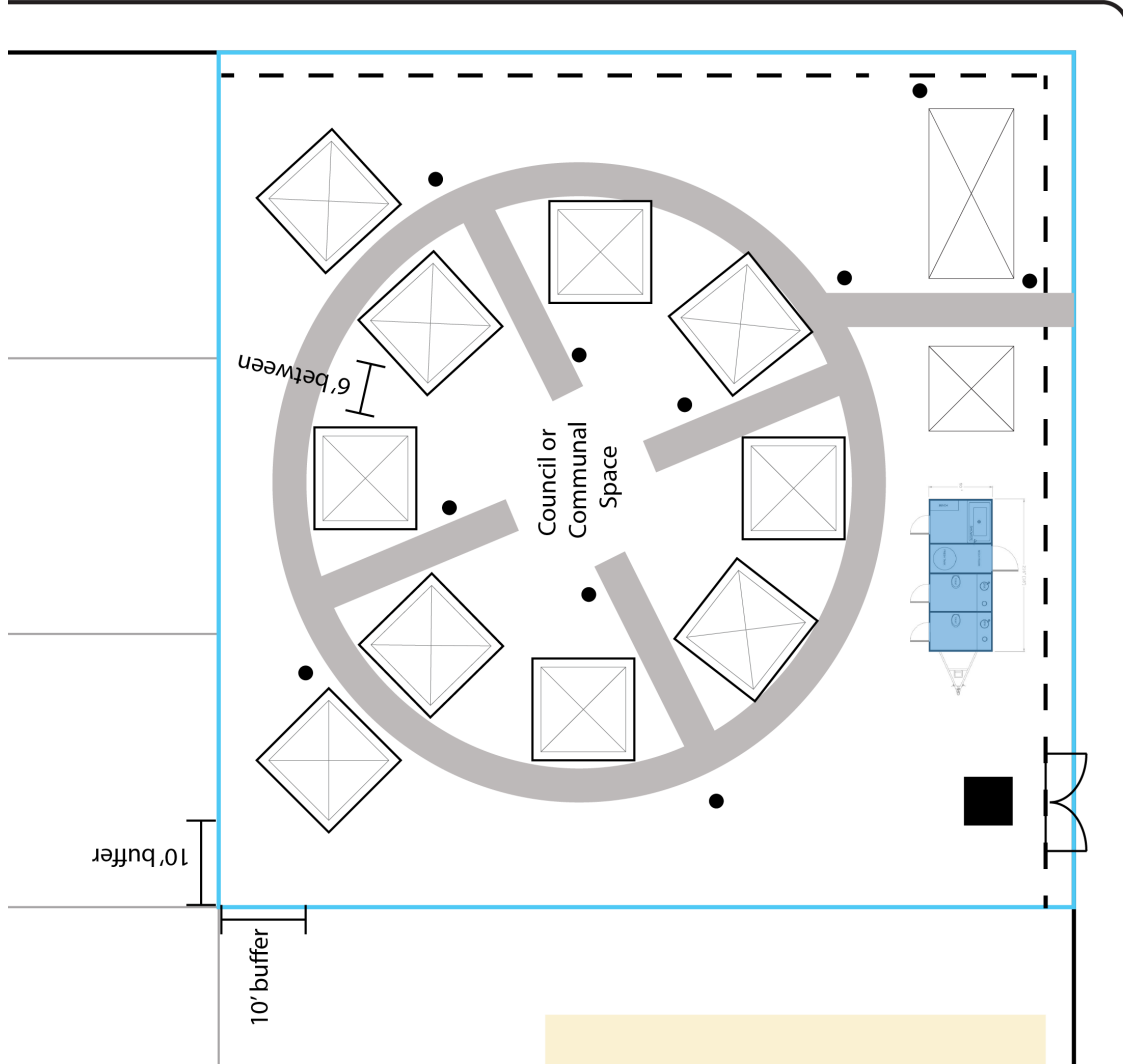
\$135,000.00

Provide a description of the readiness to proceed, and a projected timeline to opening of the shelter program.

We are ready to start building this as soon as we find land and estimate that it will take two to four weeks from the beginning of construction to the beginning of operations.

CASH BASIS		Budget	
Setup / One Time Expenses			
Site Preparation	Fencing - 6' tall (linear foot)	\$3,308.00	
	Double fence gate	\$600.00	
	Fencing installation (hours)	\$270.00	
	Site Preparation Subtotal	\$4,178.00	
Sleeping platforms	Plywood	\$2,500.88	
	Concrete deck block	\$633.75	
	2" x 4" x 12' lumber	\$1,358.40	
	Fasteners	\$92.47	
	Labor (hours)	\$750.00	
	4" x 4" pressure treated posts (feet)	\$303.75	
Meal prep / deilvery platform (12' x 16')	Labor (hours)	\$200.00	
	Concrete deck block	\$42.25	
	Plywood	\$222.30	
	2" x 4" x 12' lumber	\$203.76	
	Fasteners	\$184.93	
	4" x 4" pressure treated posts (feet)	\$86.40	
	Roofing panels	\$164.80	
	Drinking water station	\$40.00	
	Wash sink (+ drain pipes)	\$225.00	
Sanitation	Rodent-proof garbage cans	\$750.00	
Safety	First aid kit	\$150.00	
	Fire extinguisher	\$680.00	
	Sharps box	\$100.00	
Warming / Privacy / Medical tent platform	Plywood	\$166.73	
	Concrete deck block	\$42.25	
	2" x 4" x 12' lumber	\$90.56	
	Fasteners	\$8.22	
	Labor (hours)	\$50.00	
	Tent Heater	\$150.00	
	Pop up canopy w/ sidewalls	\$250.00	
	Site Setup Subtotal	\$9,446.44	
TOTAL Onetime Cost		\$13,624.44	

Ongoing / Monthly Expenses			[Annualized]
Sanitation	Trash hauling (2 cu. yards)	\$200.00	\$2,400.00
	Bleach (2 gal.)	\$10.00	\$120.00
	Dish / surface soap (5 gal.)	\$35.00	\$420.00
	Garbage bags (50x)	\$50.00	\$600.00
	Work gloves	\$37.50	\$450.00
Hygiene	ADA toilet & wash station service	\$1,000.00	\$12,000.00
	Shower trailer rental & maintenance	\$850.00	\$10,200.00
	Soap, Paper goods & other supplies	\$100.00	\$1,200.00
Safety	Propane for heating (per gallon)	\$28.80	\$345.60
	Security services	\$1,000.00	\$12,000.00
	Operations Subtotal	\$3,311.30	\$39,735.60
Supportive Services	Counselors (hours)	\$8,000.00	\$96,000.00
	Daily meal	\$3,000.00	\$36,000.00
	Project-specific liability insurance	\$250.00	\$3,000.00
	Supportive Services Subtotal	\$11,250.00	\$135,000.00
TOTAL Operational Cost		\$14,561.30	\$174,735.60
		\$728.07	\$8,736.78
Total Operational Cost w/ Setup & Preparation			\$188,360.04
			\$12,557.34

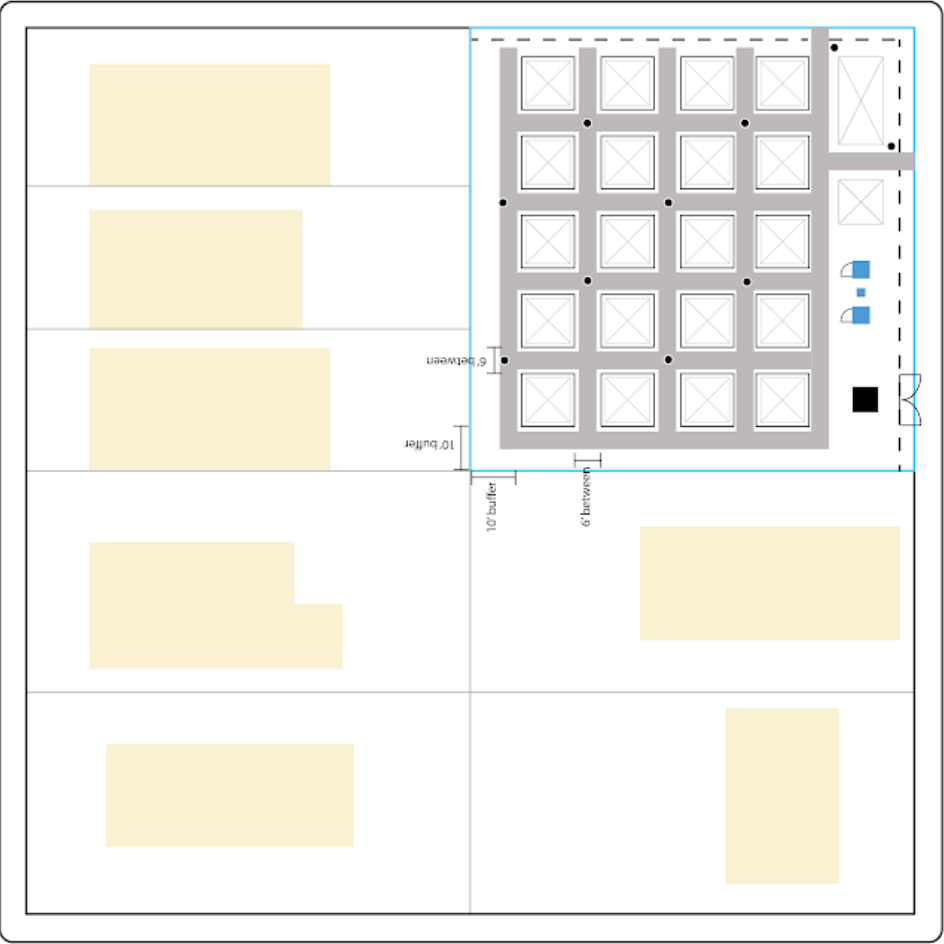
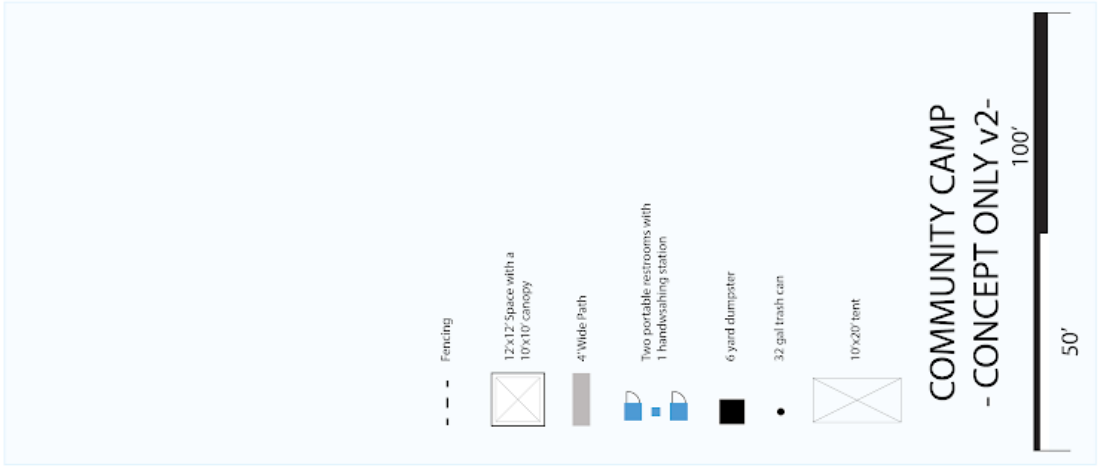


COMMUNITY CAMP CONCEPT

10 Platforms with Shower

100'

50'



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

From: Administrator of HBBA <administrator@hawthorneblvd.com>

Date: Fri, Mar 12, 2021

To whom it may concern:

Hawthorne Boulevard Business Association is very concerned about the number of campers/houseless people who have settled onto sidewalks and other areas in and near the Hawthorne District. The Sunnyside Neighborhood Association (SNA), its committees and volunteers have been extremely proactive in assisting in maintaining safety and cleanliness in and near those areas. They know many of the campers and assist now in meeting their needs as much as they can.

Receiving this grant to locate and assist in managing a planned area with coordination of clean-up, sanitation and resource needs would be an excellent service to those served, to the businesses, the neighborhoods and the community. We are in support of the SNA receiving this grant.

Sincerely,

Bill Levesque, President for the HBBA Board of Directors
billlevesque@gmail.com