



## BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

# AGENDA REQUEST & STAFF REPORT

**MEETING DATE:** April 19, 2023

**SUBJECT:** Revision to Homeless Solutions Partnership with the City of Bend

**RECOMMENDED MOTION:**

Move approval of proposed revisions to the Homeless Solutions Partnership with the City of Bend.

**BACKGROUND AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS:**

In 2021, the City and County agreed to match funding at \$1.5 million each to address the need for shelter in our community. The attached contract was created for this purpose. In the adopted scope, \$750,000 is allocated/intended for a Temporary Outdoor Shelter operated by Central Oregon Villages. Phase One, signed in summer 2022, centered on extensive community outreach. This outreach phase lasted three months and helped address community questions and concerns. In October 2022, the City and COV agreed to a Phase Two with units to open in mid-May.

Per the agreement, the funds may also be utilized for other sheltering purposes should a second site not come to fruition. The City respectfully requests utilizing \$750,000 towards the operations of the Franklin Avenue Shelter (former Rainbow Motel).

The City of Bend owns the former 50-room Rainbow Motel on Franklin Avenue in downtown Bend. In partnership with Shepherd's House, the City proposes creating 60+ new beds of non-congregate shelter at this location. The cost will be approximately \$1.2M dollars annually for 12 months of operations. The 50 units are varied in size and layout and are able to accommodate families. The property was purchased as part of a redevelopment plan that is pending and the facility is vacant. The City anticipates the former motel will be available for four years.

Two extremely vulnerable populations will have room set asides in the non-congregate shelter:

- Families with children
- Medical respite

Shepherd's House is an experienced operator. Currently in partnership with the City, they

operate The Lighthouse Navigation Center which utilizes HMIS and Coordinated Entry. The Lighthouse provides 130+ beds of emergency low barrier shelter nightly. Measurable impacts they currently and would continue to track include transitions to more permanent housing, shelter nights, unique clients, and day services. These are reported on monthly to the City and quarterly to the State. The new beds will directly impact houselessness by providing low barrier shelter as early as May if funding is secured. Shepherd's House will provide 24/7 onsite supervision and support, case management, food service, and will maintain a Good Neighbor Agreement with the surrounding businesses. With the support of the County, the City is prepared and able to open the proposed shelter quickly in response to the significant unsheltered houselessness experienced by vulnerable Central Oregon community members.

The City anticipates opening the shelter for use within four weeks of contract execution. The City will report quarterly to the County on this project.

**BUDGET IMPACTS:**

\$1.5 million in ARPA funds (see attached agreement, approved in 2022)

**ATTENDANCE:**

Nick Lelack, County Administrator  
Laura Skundrick, Management Analyst  
Lynne McConnell, Housing Director, City of Bend