



****STAFF DRAFT****

October 30, 2023

We all have a mutual goal of working together to reduce the occurrences of homelessness and provide a path toward housing affordability and stability. Making progress in this goal will not only benefit the individuals and families experiencing homelessness but also the broader community. Central Oregon has a large number of people experiencing homelessness who live outside. For a variety of reasons, many of these people will not enter the shelter system.

Central Oregon has a need for non-traditional shelter options to address the crisis of unsheltered homelessness.

It is incumbent upon the Governor's Office, Deschutes County and the Cities of Bend and Redmond to collaborate, communicate, and understand the expectation of each other's roles and responsibilities. In light of these goals and objectives, these four agencies agree to the following:

Governor Kotek's office:

- As the primary leader in steering policy and state departments, the Governor's Office will assist with identifying state-owned land for safe park sites and alternative outdoor shelter facilities - removing barriers when appropriate; prioritizing requests for current or future state resources; as well as providing regional and state leadership when necessary.

Deschutes County:

The County supports the development of authorized camping spaces, including safe parking and managed outdoor shelter facilities. The County will take the lead to contract with a service provider(s) to establish and operate a managed outdoor shelter facility/facilities. The managed outdoor shelter facility will operate using best practices, including supported services. County investments will be based on available County funds. Contracts to operate facilities may be of limited duration due to lack of sustainable funding.

The Cities of Bend and Redmond:

- At the local level, cities are responsible for basic services such as public safety, infrastructure and land use. In the area of homelessness, Bend and Redmond will be a partner to the State and Deschutes County for investments in infrastructure and one-time capital funding to assist with the development and buildout of safe park sites and alternative outdoor shelter facilities, particularly on publicly controlled land (including partnerships with federal agencies such as BLM and the Forest Service). Both cities will also continue to promote an increase in affordable housing through their core services of land use and infrastructure and other related programming efforts.

This Collaborative Agreement represents our commitment to one another to bring our best thinking, a team-oriented approach to delivering results, and an urgency to our housing and homelessness crisis. By signing this Agreement, we each demonstrate our support for these priorities, our individual roles, and the need for ongoing coordination and collaboration to meet the needs of our communities.

Tina Kotek
Governor
State of Oregon

Who??
Deschutes County Board

Melanie Kebler
Mayor
Bend, Oregon

Ed Fitch
Mayor
Redmond, Oregon