



CITY OF BEND

Camping Code and Vehicles Update and Recommendations

Amy Fraley, Senior Program Manager

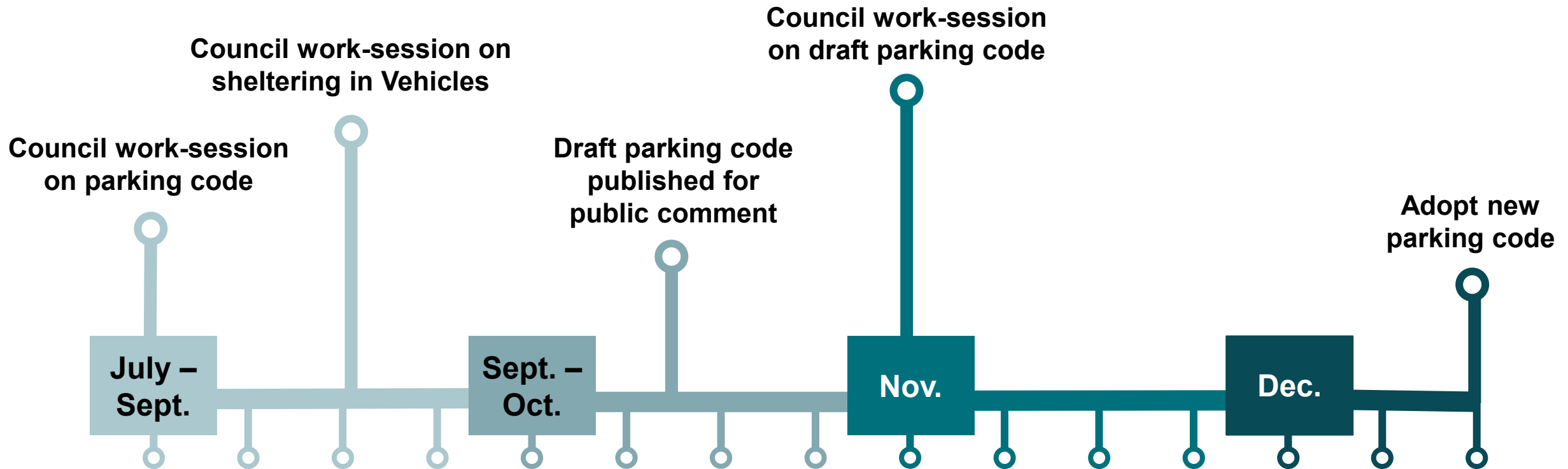
Paul Kansky, Deputy Police Chief

Ian Leitheiser, Assistant City Attorney

David Abbas, Director of Transportation & Mobility

August 21, 2024

Parking Code Modernization Timeline



Houselessness: 2024 Point-in-Time Count

Central Oregon



1,811 people experiencing houselessness

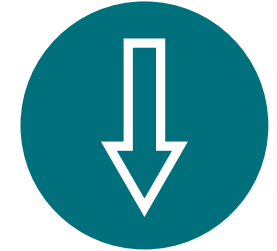


10% increase since January 2023

Bend



959 people experiencing houselessness



5% decrease since January 2023

Shelters



523
Beds in Bend



216
Low-barrier beds



City-led and Regional Solutions:

City Council Directed Biennium Objectives

- Maintain 505 beds City-wide (252 direct support)
- Support additional Safe Parking sites or Managed Camps

FY 2024 City Supported Shelters and Safe Parking



STEPPING STONE
56 BEDS



NAVIGATION CENTER
100 BEDS



C. OREGON VILLAGES
20 UNITS



FRANKLIN SHELTER
60 BEDS



SAFE PARKING SITES
16 BEDS

- Provided 81,000 shelter nights
- Supported 81 individuals transitioning to permanent housing
- Supported 79 individuals transitioning to temporary housing



CITY OF BEND

Safe Parking

Central Oregon Villages and REACH Central Oregon

- Provides a safe place for participants living in RVs, huts or cars
- Case management provided



Central Oregon Villages- Safe Parking

2 units

93.12% Utilization Rate

Potential expansion being explored



REACH- Safe Parking

14 beds

94.25% Utilization Rate

Potential expansion with other communities of faith

Ongoing discussions with Mt. View Fellowship



Increasing Capacity: Joint Meeting



September 5

Joint Meeting with the County Board of Commissioners

Related Agenda Items:

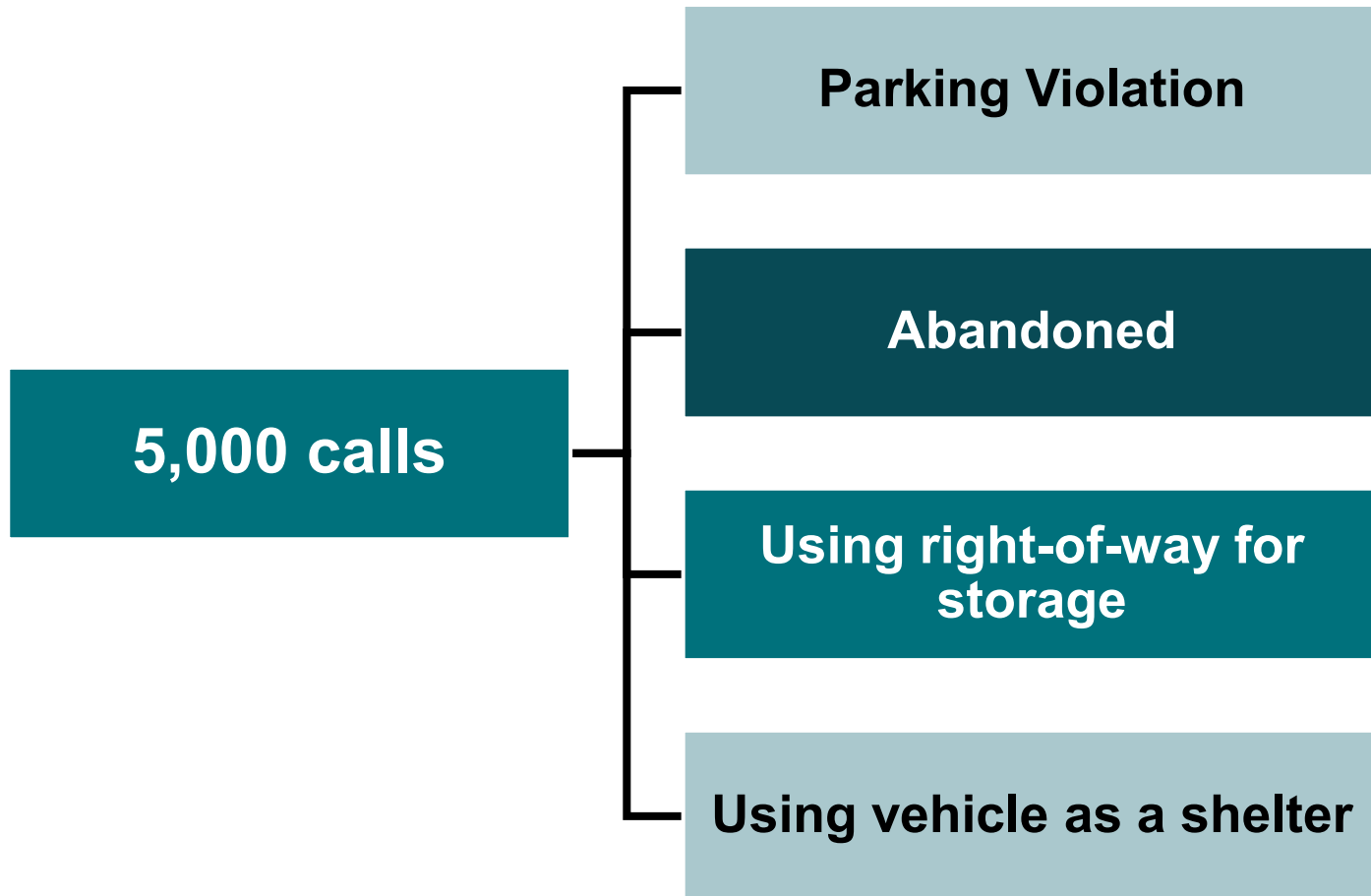
- Managed Camp Strategies
 - In cooperations with the CHRO (Central Housing Regional Office)
 - Juniper Ridge Management Strategy
 - Coordinated Regional Approach



Regulating Vehicles

Status and Recommendations

Non-Emergency Calls for Service: Vehicles



- January 1, 2023 – January 1, 2024, the City of Bend Police Department received approximately 5,000 non-emergency calls related to vehicles
- Roughly 1/3 of the calls relate to sheltering in a vehicle

Current Status of Regulating Vehicles



- Current code and administrative policy allow for vehicle removal when vehicles used for shelter violate the code's time, place, and manner regulations
- Removal should be prioritized based on risks to human health or safety; notice required; storage obligations apply; coordination with contractors required; don't remove if someone is in the vehicle

Vehicle and Tent Camping Rules: Today

	Vehicle Camping	Tent Camping
Time	3 business days max, no clear movement requirement	24 hours max, must move one block or 600 feet
Place	Allowed in residential Prohibited within 500 feet of shelters, but mostly follows parking code	Not allowed in residential Prohibited within 1000 feet of shelters, on City property, near river
Other Issues	No density limit	Density limit of no more than three per block



Practices from other cities



Many cities define vehicle habitation/camping/sheltering

-and-

Generally, prohibit vehicle habitation near residential dwellings/residential uses



Overall Staff Recommendation



- Create more consistency between rules for tent camping and vehicle camping
- Adjust Bend's system based on what we're seeing in other cities
 - Define vehicle habitation while still allowing some ability for people to sleep/rest in vehicles that are legally parked
 - Reframe how we look at place/proximity to residential uses

Recommended Vehicle & Tent Camping Rules

	Vehicle Camping	Tent Camping
Time	24 hours max, must move defined distance	24 hours max, must move defined distance
Place	Prohibit within 1000 feet of shelters and near residential uses	Prohibited within 1000 feet of shelters and near residential uses
Other Issues	No more than 3 per block	No more than 3 per block



Reframe Residential Camping Restrictions

- Current code prohibits tent camping in any area zoned for residential use
- Recommendation: amend code to restrict camping within a certain distance of any residential dwelling or residential use
- Emphasizes proximity to actual residential use, not a zoning designation

Adopt Definition of Vehicle Habitation/Camping

“Vehicle camping” means any vehicle, including any car, motor home, camping trailer, tent trailer, truck camper, camper van, car camper or other recreational vehicle being used for temporary or permanent human habitation or place to live. For the purposes of this section, vehicle camping means, when it reasonably appears in light of all the circumstances, that a person(s) is using the vehicle to conduct activities of daily living such as eating and sleeping, bathing, preparing or cooking meals, and/or storing and using items that are not associated with ordinary vehicle use (used bedding, kitchen utensils, cookware, food, water containers, grooming items, stove, cooking equipment, camping gear, etc). It may also include observations that a person has obscured some or all of the vehicle’s windows, there is litter, rubbish or waste in or around the vehicle, furniture is set up or around the vehicle (such as chairs, table, umbrellas or portable cooking equipment), or there is evidence of human urination or defecation around the vehicle.

For the purposes of this section, if a vehicle is otherwise legally parked, vehicle camping does not mean the use of a camp car or motor vehicle for alleviation of sickness, a medical emergency or a temporary physical inability to operate the motor vehicle, to nap during the day or picnicking in the vehicle, without other indicia of camping present, provided there are no other violations of the time, place and manner regulations.



Things That Wouldn't Change



- Notice required prior to removal
- Potential need to consider ADA Title II modification (usually, more time)
- Don't tow vehicles while they are occupied
- Coordination with multiple contractors and appropriate City resources required
- Storage obligation and retrieval process

Direction and Next Steps



Council direction on staff's recommended changes to the Municipal Code for vehicle habitation:

- 24 hours max in one location
- Movement requirement (distance TBD)
- Density limit (three per block) to apply to any combination of tents and vehicles
- Same "place" restrictions for tents and vehicles (not near residential or shelters)
- Adopt definition for vehicle habitation/camping/sheltering
- Reframe rule on proximity to residential *uses*

Code amendments for consideration at the September 18 Council meeting

Questions?



To obtain this information in an alternate format such as Braille, large print, electronic formats, etc. please contact René Mitchell at rmitchell@bendoregon.gov; Relay Users Dial 7-1-1.

