



CITY OF BEND

# **Camping Code Amendments and Temporary Safe Stay Area Update**

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# Context

**Point in Time Count & Ongoing Efforts to Add Capacity**

# Houselessness: 2024 Point-in-Time Count

## Central Oregon



**1,811** people experiencing houselessness



**10% increase** since January 2023



**959** people experiencing houselessness



**5% decrease** since January 2023

## Shelters



**523**  
Beds in Bend



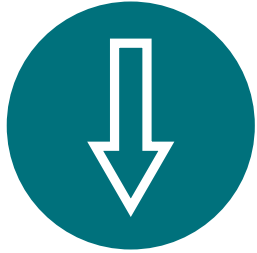
**216**  
Low-barrier beds



# Houselessness

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## Unsheltered Houselessness



**73%** in 2023 to  
**55%** in 2024

## Housing



**475** individuals have transitioned to more permanent housing in the last two years

## Nights of Shelter Provided



**81,043**

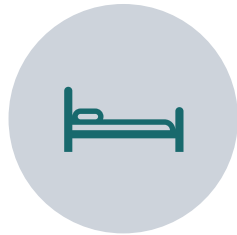
Nights in City-supported shelters in 2024



# 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



**STEPPING STONE**

56 BEDS



**NAVIGATION  
CENTER**

100 BEDS



**CENTRAL OREGON  
VILLAGES 20 UNITS**



**SAFE PARKING SITES**

16 BEDS



**FRANKLIN SHELTER**

60 BEDS

## Regional Solutions:

- Coordinated Houseless Response Office (CHRO)
- Homeless Leadership Coalition



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# Temporary Safe Stay Area (TSSA) and Safe Parking

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Developed in consideration of:

- Deschutes County & City of Bend Joint Meeting
- CHRO's RFQ process
- Concerns of the community
- Current services and capacity of our partners
- American Rescue Act Plan (ARPA) requirements

Three concept elements:

- Housing-centered case management at Juniper Ridge
- New Safe Parking
- Existing Safe Parking



# Proposed Code Changes

# Summary of rationale for amendments

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- Address communication and consistency challenges for City staff in applying and explaining time regulations for tent camping and vehicle camping when impacts on surrounding areas tend to be similar
- Ongoing complaints related to camping in vehicles not being effectively addressed, including near residential dwellings
- 2022 code did not specifically define vehicle camping or vehicle sheltering, as other cities have done; staff believe greater clarification will be helpful in Bend
- Multiple complaints from residents and businesses about vehicle camping related to concerns about environmental conditions, sanitation, safety, and adverse impacts





# Summary of proposed code amendments

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24 hours in one location before moving, for both tents and vehicles (72 hour notice required before removing established camp)

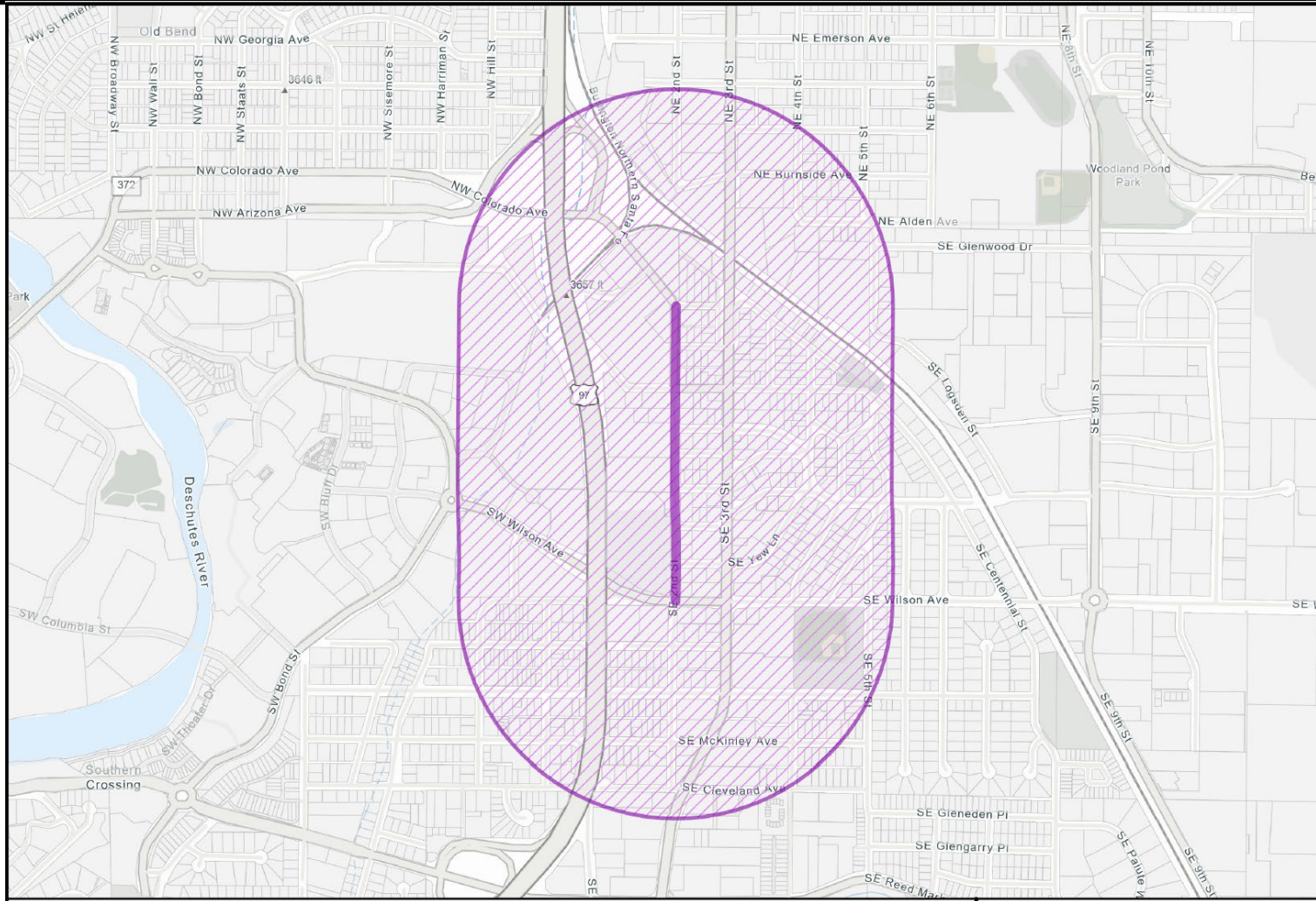
New movement requirement of 1,500 feet for vehicles

Density limit of three camps per block applies to any combination of vehicles and tents



No camping of any kind on same block face as a residential dwelling

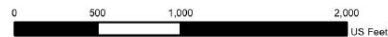
Adopt definition of vehicle camping

# 1,500 Foot Movement Requirement



**2ND STREET**  
Between Scott St. & Wilson Ave.

-  1500ft Buffer
-  Camping Area of Interest



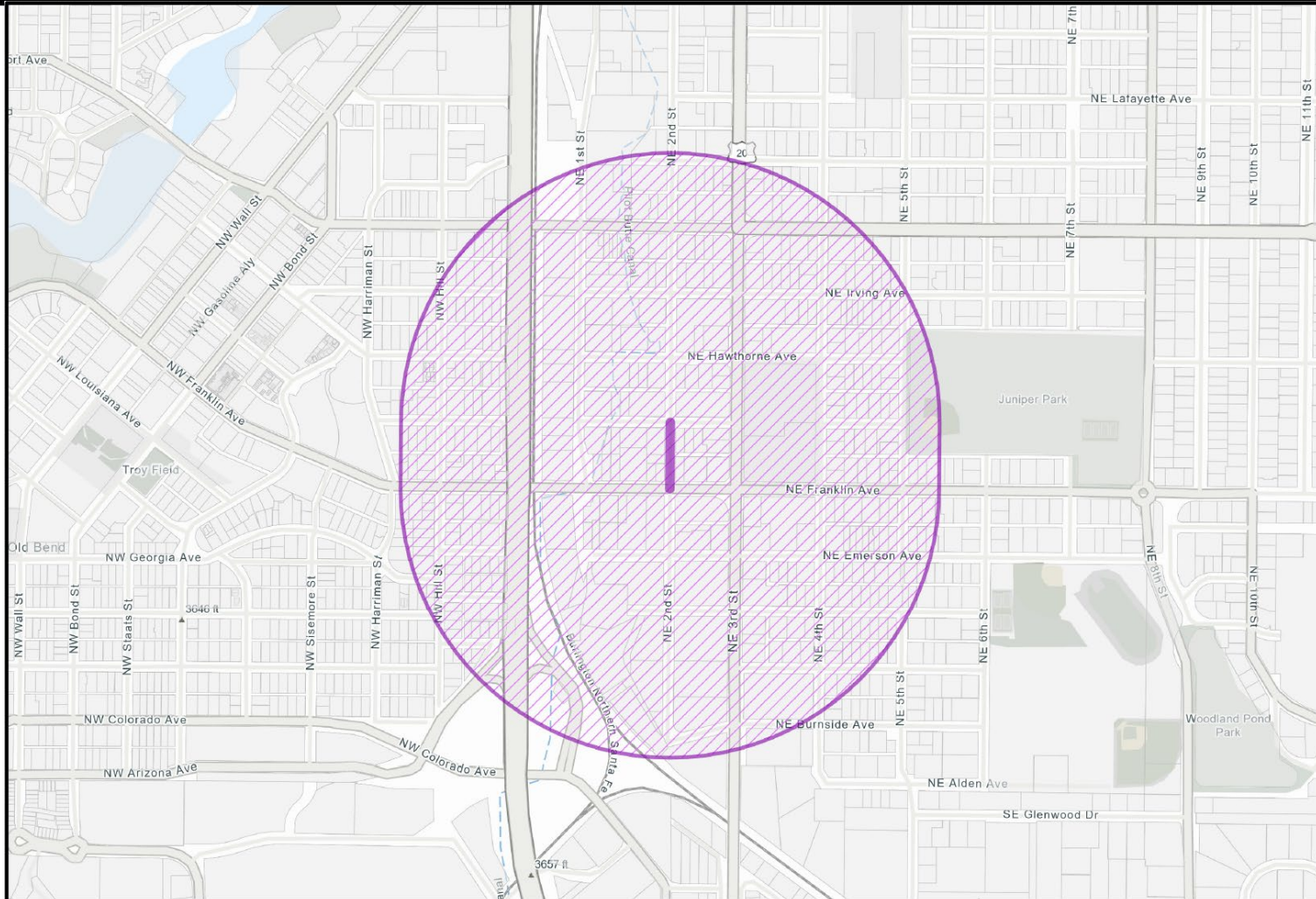
Map prepared by S. Layne, City of Bend  
Print Date: Oct 01, 2024  
Sources: City of Bend, Deschutes County





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# 1,500 Foot Movement Requirement



**2ND STREET**  
Between Greeley Ave. & Franklin Ave.

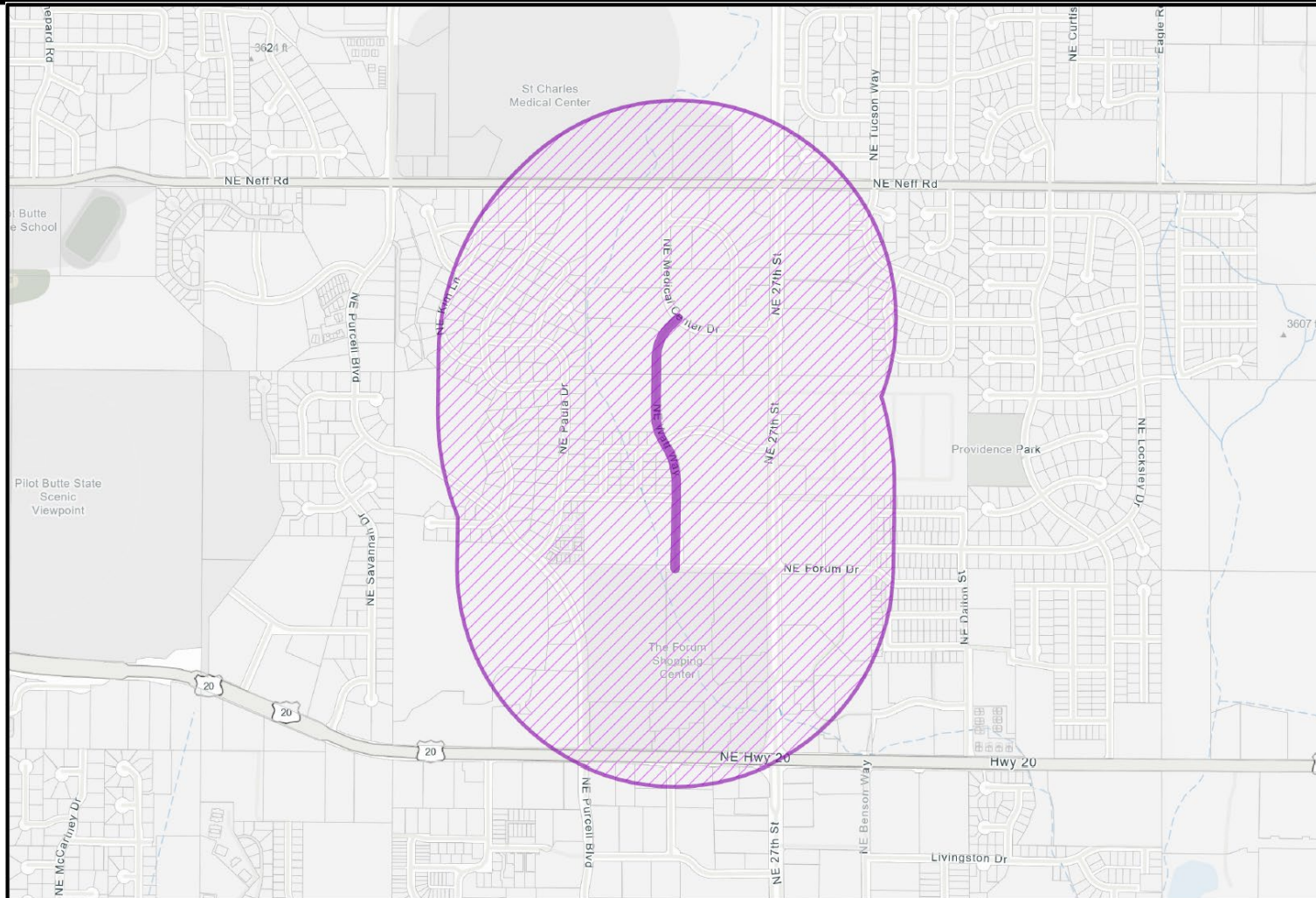
-  1500ft Buffer
-  Camping Area of Interest





Map prepared by S. Layne, City of Bend  
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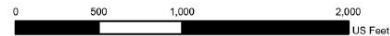
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# 1,500 Foot Movement Requirement



**WATT WAY**  
Between NE Forum Dr. & Medical Center Dr.

-  1500ft Buffer
-  Camping Area of Interest



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Print Date: Oct 01, 2024  
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# Vehicle camping definition

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Observations and/or evidence of or related to any combination of the following may be indicia that a vehicle is being used to camp or for camping: litter, rubbish, or waste in, on, or near a vehicle; activities of daily living such as eating, sleeping, bathing, preparing or cooking meals; items that are not generally associated with basic vehicle maintenance such as bedding, kitchen items, cookware, food, food or water containers, personal grooming items, camp materials, items used as furniture, etc.; urination or defecation near a vehicle; obscuring of some or all of a vehicle's windows; and other indications that a vehicle is being used for more than transportation.



# What isn't vehicle camping?

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If a vehicle is otherwise legally parked, the vehicle will not necessarily be considered a camp or used for camping if it is being used for temporary alleviation of sickness, a temporary medical emergency or a temporary physical inability to operate the vehicle, or for similar reasons, simply because someone is occupying the vehicle or asleep in the vehicle, provided there are no violations of the time, place and manner regulations in this Chapter.



# What won't change?

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- 72 hour notice required prior to removal
- Potential need to consider modification under ADA Title II (usually, more time)
- Don't tow vehicles while they are occupied
- Coordination with multiple contractors and appropriate City resources for the particular situation
- Storage obligation and retrieval opportunity

**Questions?**





To obtain this information in an alternate format such as Braille, large print, electronic formats, etc. please contact Ian Leitheiser at [ileitheiser@bendoregon.gov](mailto:ileitheiser@bendoregon.gov) or 541.693.2128. Relay Users Dial 7-1-1.

