



# Emergency Shelter

## A Brief Discussion

February 17, 2023

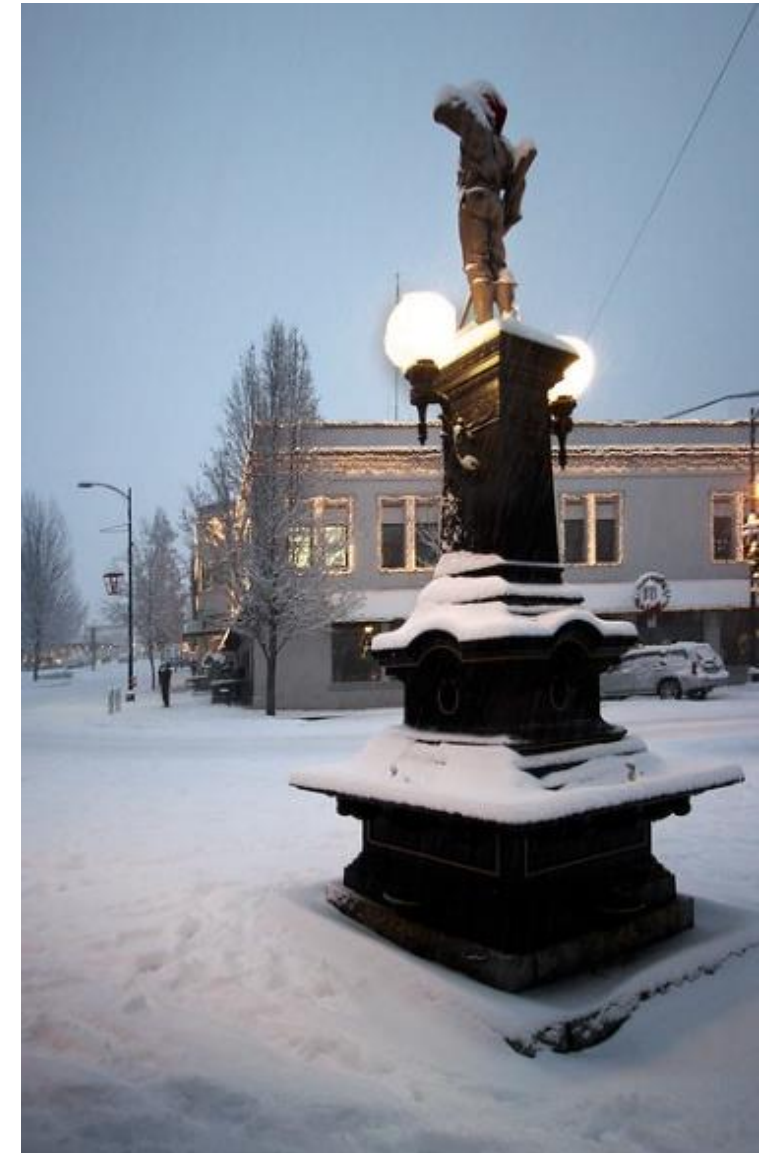
# Why Does the City Provide Emergency Weather Sheltering

## Resolution 2022-33

- Establishes the need for City involvement as a protective Health & Public safety measure
- Sets parameters for when the City will call a shelter

## The City of Ashland Experiences severe weather conditions throughout the year

- Summer - excessive heat & air quality  
(98° or above temperature and unhealthy air quality)
- Winter - freezing & severe weather conditions  
(32° or below temperature)



# What Does the City Provide to support Emergency Weather Sheltering

## Funding

- The City has provided funding to support emergency weather shelter in prior years
  - 2021 - \$317,716
    - CDBG / CDBG CARES / Housing Trust Fund
    - Activities: Winter Sheltering, Covid Safe Meals, and Emergency Shelter, etc.
  - 2022 - \$805,040
    - CDBG / CDBG CARES / ESG-CV / Housing Trust Fund
    - Activities: Winter Sheltering, Covid Safe Meals, rent assistance, remodeling at OHRA shelter, etc.
  - 2023 - \$344,613
    - CDBG / CDBG CARES / Housing Trust Fund
    - Activities: winter shelter operations, case mgt. of homeless youth, and an ADA elevator.
- City recently allocated \$100K from the General Fund for emergency shelter services this Winter



# What Does the City Provide to support Emergency Weather Sheltering

## City Coordination

- Planning, coordination, and implementation
- Communication and coordination with the public and other agencies
- Access to resources coordination/facilitation as needed basis

## Location

- Often provides City facility to host the shelter



# Lack of City Facilities

City facilities used for emergency sheltering have become inadequate

## Pioneer Hall and The Community Center

- Neither building was designed for providing shelter overnight
  - Configuration hinders oversight, limits congregate separations
  - Aging and in need of repair/updating
  - Scheduled for extensive repairs in Spring 2023 - unavailable for much of year

## The Grove

- Not suitable for ongoing overnight sheltering
  - Lacks kitchen & laundry, limits congregate separations, City operation offices
- Sheltering disrupts community use scheduling and programming
  - Currently only recreational facility available for general community use
- Income generating for the City

## Other City Owned Properties

- Other City facilities not viable options for overnight shelter



# In the Short Term

The City needs to find a location that:

- Serves the city as an emergency event shelter resource, and
- Fills the need for an overnight severe weather shelter for next winter.



# Criteria for a potential Emergency Shelter Location

There are several criteria an emergency event shelter site/location should have:

- Accommodate priority use
  - Emergency shelter/event congregate
  - Supply distribution/management
- Near transit – within walking distance to a bus stop (1/4 mile)
- Near existing retail – within walking distance (groceries & personal items)
- Access to City utilities (water, sewer, electric)
- Located outside of natural hazard areas  
(floodplain, steep slopes, vulnerable to wildfire, inaccessible in severe weather)
- Allow flexible/multiple functional use (pallet houses, temp. car camping)



# Criteria for a potential Emergency Shelter Location

HB 2006 allows the use of property for the homeless within the Urban Growth Boundary (UGB; zoning exemption) with the following provisions:

- Applies to any land use zone in City or UGB
- Has adequate transportation to commercial & medical services
- Does not pose reasonable risk to public health or safety
- Includes sleeping and restroom facilities
- Complies with applicable building codes
- HB 2006 sunsets on June 30, 2023, if not extended by legislature





## Next Step

Direct Staff to search for and return list of suitable sites  
for Council consideration



QUESTIONS?

