

rec. 3/17/16  
by: George Davendorf  
Invited guest for R-5  
Transitions Project, inc.



## Shelter Needs Update

Multnomah County Commission

March 17, 2016

### The Need for Shelter

- 50% of people experiencing homelessness in Multnomah County are unsheltered (our peer cities in the US can offer shelter to roughly 70% of those needing it)
- 2015 Multnomah County PIT count identified 1,887 unsheltered persons
- People of color are disproportionately effected by lack of shelter - 41% of people experiencing homelessness are people of color (POC)
- Today, there are 63 unsheltered veterans in Multnomah County (out of a total number of 249 vets experiencing homelessness)
- Bud Clark Commons Day Center designed to serve 400 people per day, now serving ~700
- Jerome Sears Temporary Emergency Shelter, which accommodates 167 women and persons in couples, currently scheduled to close on May 26. (It currently serves ~33% POC.)
- Peace Temporary Emergency Shelter, which accommodates 100 men (with priority given to those 55 and older, vets, and the disabled), scheduled to close in mid-July. (~33% POC)
- Bottom line: **absent the addition of new capacity, our community will turn 267 people experiencing homelessness back onto the streets this summer**

### Unsheltered Women

- 2015 PIT count identified 566 unsheltered women
- Wait to get into publicly-funded shelter for women is currently running 6 to 7 months
- Service needs for women living in shelter:
  - Resources for survivors of sexual assault and domestic violence
  - Mental health
  - Physical health
  - Social Security Disability advocacy

### Connecting Shelter to Housing

- Shelter is not a destination, but a way station along the pathway to housing
- That pathway demands housing assistance, case management, and other supportive services
- Mobile supportive services teams can provide critically needed assistance to shelter residents including: veterans services, mental health, domestic violence, sexual assault, and alcohol & drug treatment
- Whenever possible, our system should seek to divert people from shelter into housing; diversion requires flexible rental assistance, case management, and other supportive services

**MULTNOMAH COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MEETING  
PUBLIC COMMENT SIGN-UP SHEET**

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Please complete this form and return to the Board Clerk

\*\*\*This form is a public record\*\*\*

MEETING DATE: \_\_\_\_\_  
AGENDA ITEM # RJ OR NON-AGENDA SUBJECT: HOUSELESS SHELTER

FOR: \_\_\_\_\_ AGAINST: \_\_\_\_\_  
NAME: JOE WARD

CONTACT INFORMATION (*optional*):

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY/STATE/ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

**IF YOU WISH TO ADDRESS THE BOARD IN PERSON:**

1. Fill out this form and submit to the Board Clerk 15 minutes before meeting begins.
2. Comment for Non-Agenda items will be called immediately after the vote on the Consent Agenda.
3. Comment for Agenda items will be called during that item's presentation, before the vote is taken.
4. Commenters are called to testify in the order forms are received. The Presiding Officer may re-arrange the order that testimony is given or ask Invited Guests or Elected Officials to speak first.
5. When your name is called, come forward and be seated at the presenter's table; state your name for the record and speak clearly into the microphone.
6. Public comment is limited to **3 minutes or less** per person unless otherwise directed by the Chair, who is the Presiding Officer.
7. A buzzer will signify the end of your allotted time.
8. If submitting handouts to be given to the Board, seven (7) copies are required. If only one (1) copy is provided, it will be received for the file and electronically shared with the Board and County Attorney after the meeting.
9. All meetings are audio and video recorded and can be viewed at: [multco.us](http://multco.us).
10. The Chair has authority to keep order and may impose reasonable restrictions necessary for the efficient and orderly conduct of a meeting. Any person who fails to comply with the Rules of Conduct, or who creates a disturbance, may be asked or required to leave and upon failure to do so, becomes a trespasser and will be treated accordingly. Copies of the Rules of Conduct are available next to the sign up sheets.

**IF YOU WISH TO SUBMIT WRITTEN COMMENTS TO THE BOARD IN LIEU OF GIVING ORAL COMMENTS:**

1. Complete this form and submit it along with your written testimony to the Board Clerk at the meeting, or by e-mail at: [lynda.grow@multco.us](mailto:lynda.grow@multco.us)
2. Written testimony will be entered into and remain a part of the official permanent record.

Please complete this form and return to the Board Clerk  
\*\*\*This form is a public record\*\*\*

MEETING DATE: March 17, 2016

AGENDA ITEM # R5 OR NON-AGENDA SUBJECT:                     

FOR:                      AGAINST:                     

NAME: Lightning Watchdog PDX

CONTACT INFORMATION (optional):

ADDRESS:                     

CITY/STATE/ZIP:                     

PHONE:                      E-MAIL:                     

1. Complete this form and submit it along with your written testimony to the Board Clerk at the meeting, or by e-mail at: [lynda.grow@multco.us](mailto:lynda.grow@multco.us)
2. Written testimony will be entered into and remain a part of the official permanent record.