

## Homelessness Advisory Committee

Wrap up

Wednesday, May 4th, 2022

8:00 - 9:30 am

Location: Zoom

Meeting Facilitators and Notetakers: Chris Hutchinson, Anastasia Eichler, Diana Hutchinson - Trebuchet Group

Presenters: Randy Shortridge ([au]workshop), Beth Yonce (City of Fort Collins), Seth Forwood (Fort Collins Rescue Mission), Clay Frickey (City of Fort Collins)

### Committee Members Attending

Cheryl Zimlich, Bohemian Foundation  
Dean Hoag, North Fort Collins Business Association  
Gloria Kat, The Family Center/La Familia  
Holly LeMasurier, Homeward 2020 (former)  
Jeff Swoboda, Fort Collins Chief of Police  
Joe Domko, Catholic Charities  
Joe Sarr, Catholic Charities  
Josh Geppelt, Denver Rescue Mission  
Julie Brewen, Housing Catalyst  
Laura Walker, Larimer County  
Matthew Robenalt, Downtown Development Auth.  
Michael Sinnett, Catholic Charities  
Seth Forwood, Fort Collins Rescue Mission

### City Staff Attending

Beth Yonce, Social Sustainability  
Caryn Champine, Planning, Dev., Transportation  
Clay Frickey, Economic Health  
Ingrid Decker, City Attorney's Office  
Jacqueline Kozak-Thiel, Sustainability Services  
John Feyen, Police Services  
Kelly DiMartino, City Manager's Office  
Kyle Stannert, City Manager's Office  
Melina Dempsey, FC Moves  
Theresa Connor, Utilities

### Observers:

Ann Hutchison  
Carin Avila  
Garrett Danielson  
Gary Holmes  
Jason Bryant  
Jill Levine  
Joe Glomboski  
Laura Rossbert  
Lisa W.  
Pat Ferrier  
Paula Ordaz  
Sam S.  
Susan Hoyt  
Tim Anderson  
Walter Abercrombie

## Welcome

Shared purpose, background of what was done & appreciation for HAC members.

Kelly DiMartino shared the City is ending their role as convener around this topic. The City will still be a partner in the shared goal of making homelessness rare, brief and non-recurring. Looking to the leadership of our amazing partners in the community for next steps.

## Site Comparative Analysis

Randy Shortridge [au]workshop

- Comparison of 2 potential shelter locations based on capacities and effectiveness of locations for additional uses and amenities. Both sites could accommodate the shelter along with other uses, and assumes a maximum 3-story building.

Beth Yonce - City

- Shared comparison of additional factors on two sites such as timing, proximity to existing services, financial, site area, zoning, stormwater, transit, other potential uses.

## Q & A

- Commercial space was suggested by the HAC to enhance the site and may include warehousing for donations

## Decision Process & Next Steps

Seth Forwood - FC Rescue Mission

- Fort Collins Rescue Mission is the decision maker for location of shelter, as a replacement for the Fort Collins Rescue Mission at the current location on Jefferson which has capacity for 100. Currently turning away people every night.
- Seth welcomes comments from the community, any concerns or offers of aid.
- Expected timing - end of May or early June will announce their preferred location, then starting planning and fundraising, etc.
- Experience with 24/7 shelter shift
  - In 2020 the shelter was moved temporarily to Blue Spruce. When they moved back to the building on Jefferson, they started a 24/7 operation which allowed people to reserve their space and have access during the day. This was a more stable environment and helped people get jobs, permanent housing, and kept people off the streets during the day which was a noticeable positive difference for adjacent businesses and neighborhoods.
  - Randy Shortridge affirmed the benefit as an adjacent business. Matt Robenalt-DDA - noted shift in the dynamics with problems that used to happen when the shelter was opening only at certain times. John Feyen - Police Services - routine weekly calls to Shelter were common, only 1 call in 2022 which was a

welfare check.

- Joe Sarr at Catholic Charities noted they moved to a 24/7 model as well and have been able to better meet community needs especially for women and families.

#### HAC discussion & questions

- People experiencing homelessness were involved in understanding needs leading up to discussion of these 2 sites. Proximity to existing services was a priority - creating a well-connected system to serve our community members we care about. Seth confirmed they will involve people experiencing homelessness as they move into final selection and design.
- Experience of DDA - having shelter as a neighbor has not hindered ability to meet economic goals.

#### Clay Frickey - Development Review process

- There are many opportunities for citizens to get involved in planning and development review process. [www.fcgov.com/developmentreview/residentreview](http://www.fcgov.com/developmentreview/residentreview)  
[www.fcgov.com/drg](http://www.fcgov.com/drg)

#### Closing by Kelly DiMartino

- Thanks to Randy for the thorough analysis, and all the heart and intent from all going into this work.
- This has been explored from many angles with the goal of improving the overall support system to benefit our whole community. After a long assessment process, there is a sense of urgency to move to a solution. We want to partner for a sustainable solution for everyone.