

## Questions

1. We attend the county A Home for Everyone meetings along with the Safety off The Streets meeting and there's been no mention of the coordination of these villages with the county. When exactly is that going to happen?
  - We have been working closely with the Joint Office of Homeless Services (JOHS) since the beginning of the Safe Rest Village initiative. Additionally, staff on the Safe Rest Village team attend both the A Home for Everyone Executive Committee (their leadership group) and Safety Off Streets Meetings (for staff and community members). That forum is discussing a much broader range of programs and services than just Safe Rest Villages, but our team and our project is there, has shared about our efforts, and is available for questions in that forum. Additionally, Commissioner Ryan has worked to successfully negotiate an unprecedented joint City/County investment of nearly \$40M to address houselessness in our region. There is more information about how we and the county are working together on the Safe Rest Village Initiative on our website (<https://www.portland.gov/ryan/safe-rest-villages>).
2. Which organizations are you talking to for shelter management?
  - The County is in the process of selecting a shelter operator for the Menlo Park and Naito Parkway Villages. We are committed to having the shelter operator work with neighborhoods and the communities around the village location, and we look forward to connecting you with them and supporting your relationship.
3. What is the duration of the village term?
  - There is no specific timeframe on the duration of the villages, though funding for the program from American Rescue Plan Act dollars is for three years. For more information I encourage you to review the information on our website (<https://www.portland.gov/ryan/safe-rest-villages>). We are updating the website regularly and it is the best way to stay up to date.
4. What is the timeline for this specific village?
  - We are early in this process and do not have a timeline at this time. We will communicate with you all as we move forward in the process and share the timing of next steps.
5. Will the operator meet with neighborhood residents once that is announced?
  - Of course. Our plan is that the shelter operator will work with the Neighborhood Association—along with other stakeholders—when they are selected and ready to start engagement efforts.
6. Is there funding for programming to facilitate engagement with the neighborhood? If not, why not and how do you think that will work out?
  - Of course. Our project team includes two community engagement staff - specifically to ensure we support the shelter operators in this important work.
7. Once a village is up and running do you or your staff plan to meet on a regular basis with the host communities to make sure the facilities are functioning as planned?
  - Once the Village is up and running, the shelter operators—along with the Joint Office of Homeless Services (JOHS)—will work to ensure the Village is operating as intended. Our goal is that the shelter will be PART of the community and if there are things that need to be addressed, neighbors in the community will communicate with the shelter operators directly. Currently our team meets regularly with the Joint Office Homeless Services staff to discuss and address shelter operations at other, non-Safe Rest Village outdoor shelters. That same

collaboration will continue when these new Villages open, and both Commissioner Ryan and the Safe Rest Villages team will remain deeply committed to each Village's success.

8. We see no mention of facilitating Good Neighbor Agreements in your plan, do you plan to do this?
  - Not all shelters have, or need, a Good Neighbor Agreement. This, along with many other things, will be further explored when we have a shelter operator selected and they are able to work with the neighbors around the village. To be clear, not everyone has the same definition of what a Good Neighbor Agreement is for. We expect that the shelter operators define expectations of what they can and cannot do within the context of their contract with the Joint Office, that they will provide contact information to stakeholders to address issues as they arise, and that they will work to maintain positive, responsive relationships with partners in the communities in which they are located.
9. You promised on the call you were standing up an outreach group specifically to reach Hazelwood unsheltered neighbors – when is that happening and who is in charge of that?
  - We're not clear what precisely you are referring to. When this and all Villages are up and running, spaces in them will be offered by referral from various social service providers, first responders, Navigation Team members, Park Rangers, and others to people living in the vicinity. The intention is that they will primarily serve people living in the areas they are located. We are happy to discuss more with you.
10. Can you promise at least 40 of the spots will be reserved for unsheltered neighbors currently living in Hazelwood?
  - There will not be spaces reserved for people currently camping in the neighborhood, or anyone. That being said, most individuals find shelter in the area they are already camping, meaning that people currently camping around Hazelwood neighborhood would be the most likely to utilize the village.
11. We heard the testimony of the doctors at the Oregon Clinic at Gateway. If you are standing up an outreach group for Hazelwood, why did you not mention it to the doctors?
  - We are not familiar with this group or this conversation. If there are people you feel we should reach out to, to discuss the Safe Rest Villages project with, please let us know.
12. Would you consider providing adequate funding to the group (Oregon Clinic at Gateway) they are already working with at Gateway to ensure the unsanctioned campers get first crack at the village in Hazelwood?
  - Please see above answer, we are happy to discuss.
13. Will people camping near the proposed village be forced to go there?
  - No. Safe Rest Villages will be referral based and no one will be forced to participate.
14. If they refuse will they be subjected to sweeps?
  - No.
15. Will people staying in the village have curfews or be forced to participate in case management?
  - This is something that will be decided by a shelter operator along with the Joint Office of Homeless Services. Most outdoor shelters do not have a curfew and there are currently no plans to have one at any of the Safe Rest Villages. Some members of our community work jobs that require them to work evening, graveyard, or twilight shifts or have other obligations.
16. Are people staying at the village allowed to use drugs on site?
  - Shelter operators are responsible for the management of the defined shelter area. They will work with villagers on these issues, but it should be known that these are low barrier shelters--

meaning individuals do not need to remain sober for the duration of their time as a village resident or guest. The shelter operators are qualified to intervene if situations escalate as they have the tools needed to work with individuals in the field. There will be onsite case management, behavioral and mental health and substance use supports, and peer support specialists.

17. Can guests of villagers stay overnight?
  - This is something that will be decided by a shelter operator. Some shelters allow guests for a couple of nights while others do not.
18. Will villagers be required to participate in the maintenance of the village?
  - No.
19. How will disputes between residents be resolved?
  - This is something that will be decided by the shelter operator.
20. Will there be a code of conduct?
  - A Code of Conduct is usually made by the shelter operators, and sometimes along with community members. This is something that will be decided by a shelter operator.
21. The material mentions food prep but will there also be food storage?
  - There will be space for food to be stored safely in all Safe Rest Villages. What exactly this is going to look like will be figured out as we move forward.
22. Will there be bicycle storage?
  - Maybe. This is something that will be discussed as the village is being designed.
23. How many total sites did your staff physically visit during this process?
  - As part of this process, we have reviewed well over a hundred properties and gone out to physically visit approximately 20-30 of the 100+ locations analyzed remotely. It should be known that members of our team have, collectively, analyzed over 400 locations (primarily City owned lots) and gone out to visit many of these locations for feasibility in establishing outdoor shelters.
24. Did you or any of your staff come out and look at the site at 122nd Ave prior to announcing it?
  - Of course, we did. We would not announce a site before looking at it in person with several people from our team and partners at the Joint Office. Part of our review process is to analyze the property remotely for feasibility and then to visit the site physically to assess it for feasibility in creating outdoor shelter.
25. Can you provide the date or dates the site was visited?
  - Our first official site visit with TriMet was September 28th. Our team has visited this site on several occasions since to move forward with site development.
26. Did you come out more than once to get an accurate idea of how suitable the environment was for people with PTSD. For example – did you visit the site at night?
  - Many people on our team are familiar with the location from living in the area. Additionally, many people on our team have lived experience being houseless - and are familiar with the trauma that creates. Our team was assembled with individuals with experience and understanding of the needs of those we are serving. We understand the concerns many people have, and our hope is that providing a safe place for people to rest will help resolve some of these issues.
27. Do you really think, as you stated in our meeting, that a site that is arguably one of the most dangerous intersections in this city with nightly gunfire and street racing is an appropriate place to put vulnerable people with PTSD?

- As we stated in the meeting, there are already many people camping outside around this location. A Safe Rest Village in this location will provide them with a safer alternative to camping, while providing resources to help them move into more long-term housing.
28. As an example of the ongoing gun violence in that area including the two shootings less than a block from the proposed site this weekend, do you still think it's a safe spot?
- We hear and understand the concern, please see the answer above.
29. We heard you say Blackburn isn't a homeless facility- are you aware that The Blackburn Center provides health care, housing and employment services for people impacted by homelessness?
- Of course. Health care, housing, and employment services are available through the Blackburn Center for both housed and unhoused people in our communities. We have talked to staff at the Blackburn Center, just as we have been talking with you all, and others in the community about the use of this site as a Safe Rest Village.
30. Did you speak to any of the people camping either in the immediate vicinity or the people in the Gateway area to ask them if they would use the village? Because we've been speaking to the people camping around Blackburn for months and the answer might surprise you.
- Outdoor shelters are preferred for many folks in our unhoused community. Whether preference is for outdoor shelter or a more traditional form of indoor shelter, it remains important for us and our community to establish a more diverse range of shelter options for individuals living unsheltered.
31. Who did you meet with at TriMet to determine this site was a good choice?
- We have met with several TriMet officials to discuss land use and the availability of the property. TriMet's General Manager Sam Desue, Jr is supportive of the use of this site for this purpose - so much so that he was at the press conference when we made the initial announcement of our intent to use the Menlo Park, Park n Ride.
32. Were you aware the neighbors in that vicinity have been working closely with TriMet staff to resolve serious safety concerns at that Max Stop and they seemed very surprised about the site selection?
- Thank you for letting us know. We are working with TriMet to ensure their concerns are met.
33. Were you aware the that TriMet was in the process of negotiating with Blackburn to secure 61 parking places for their residents to resolve safety and parking issues tied to cars abandoned by Blackburn residents?
- Yes, TriMet said that it will be able to provide these parking spaces to Blackburn as well as provide space Safe Rest Village at the location.
34. Did you know that in the 2035 Comprehensive Plan 122nd Avenue and Burnside has been designated a "neighborhood center?" Exactly how does having two homeless facilities surrounded by low-income housing with no community gathering places at that corner tie into that vision?
- Providing safe, legal, supportive places for those living unsheltered is a positive improvement to what exists now for those same people. Additionally, the Safe Rest Villages program is a short-term shelter, with funding for three years.
35. Were you aware that Jessica Vega Pedersen held a community meeting after the Hansen shelter closed and that the overwhelming consensus from over 30 businesses in that vicinity was that the community did not want another shelter at the corner?
- We are working closely with Commissioner Jessica Vega Pederson and her office to ensure that this shelter does not have the same undesired impacts on the neighborhood.

36. Why did you not meet with the community before announcing the sites? Especially since we requested a meeting on 9/20 and clearly have more history with what's happening at the corner due to the longevity of the HNA board members and through our own work getting a Good Neighbor Agreement in place with Blackburn.
- This process of site selection and development is an incredibly dynamic process. With more than 90 formally recognized neighborhoods, our team does not have the capacity to meet with individual neighborhoods prior to site selection. This project has been widely publicized and reported on. We had our first meeting with TriMet regarding this location on September 28th, followed by our meeting with Hazelwood two short weeks after. We have been moving as fast as we can to meet the needs of our entire community on this project and are committed to working with Hazelwood neighbors as best as possible along the way. please see our community engagement page to learn more (<https://www.portland.gov/ryan/safe-rest-villages/safe-rest-villages-community-engagement>).
37. Why do you think it's fair to have three homeless facilities in close proximity?
- As we showed in the meeting, there are no outdoor shelters in the area. Our program is intended to meet people where they are - and we are looking at locations for villages all over town. Only two have been announced at this point.
38. How many facilities must Hazelwood site before we've done our part?
- See above answer
39. We assume you're familiar with the term warehousing – isn't placing 410 homeless neighbors in very close proximity on the outer edges of the city, out of sight the very definition of warehousing?
- The Shelter to Housing Continuum code (<https://www.portland.gov/bps/s2hc>) change project only allows for a maximum of 60 units within certain zones. We expect to have approximately 50-60 pods at the Menlo Park location.
40. Has it not occurred to you that by placing so many services and facilities in one small location without offsetting anti-poverty measures that you are over-burdening one specific community?
- Our program is intended to meet people where they are - and we are looking at locations for villages all over town. Only two have been announced at this point.
41. Do you really think your newsletter, your FAQ page and relying on the press is sufficient upfront outreach to possible Village locations?
- No, that is why we met with the Hazelwood NA on October 13th to provide a more focused presentation and to answer questions. Additionally, that is why we are working to answer these questions and concerns as well. We remain committed to working with Hazelwood neighbors to make this project successful. Please also see our new Community Engagement [webpage](#), which identifies the variety of arenas in which this project has been broadly discussed.
42. We've mapped all of the available beds in the city to neighborhoods and income. Are you aware that almost 60% of the current shelter beds are in neighborhoods with incomes  $\leq$  \$60,540? Does this seem equitable to you? Would it surprise you to hear that since 2016, of the 30 homeless facilities brought online for both permanent and Covid- related housing that 22 of them were sited in poorer neighborhoods with incomes  $\leq$  \$71,504 and that 10 of them have been in East Portland?
- Our team is acutely aware of income inequality – and its role in creating the problem of homelessness, which we are trying to address with these Safe Rest Villages. Our team's equity lens is centering the needs of those experiencing homelessness to meet them where they are physically, as well as to provide equitable geographic distribution around the City. As we

discussed in our meeting and in the above answers, there are no outdoor shelters in the area east of I-205. Our team is committed to creating options for those experiencing houselessness in this area to have a safe, secure place to rest while being able to access the resources they may need to move to long term housing.

43. About the size of the proposed village at 122nd Ave – are you aware that the average size shelter for wealthier neighborhoods is less than 50 beds while in poorer neighborhoods the average shelter size is 75? Does this seem equitable?
- With the Shelter to Housing Continuum [code change package](#), we now have allowances within our zoning code for outdoor shelters. There is a max 60 units allowance in certain zones for outdoor shelters.
44. Do you plan to site any 60 person SRVs in the following neighborhoods? Irvington, Alameda, Buckman, East Moreland, Grant Park, Hollywood, Kern, Hosford Abernathy, or Richmond  
Do you plan to site any 60 person SRVs in the following neighborhoods? NW District, Bridlemile, Hillside, Arlington Heights, Sylvan Highlands, SW Hills, Homestead, Healy Heights, Hillside, Hayhurst  
Do you plan to site any of these villages in Laurelhurst or Sunnyside?
- We are working on finding locations all around Portland; none of these neighborhoods are off the table. The desired size for all Safe Rest Villages is 60 pods.
45. Have you explored the possibility of partnering with churches or private landowners to put a facility in Laurelhurst? If not, why not?
- The Joint Office of Homeless Services (JOHS) partners with many different organizations around Portland. They have partnered with faith-based and other non-profit organizations to support shelters or services. The Safe Rest Village initiative is not using this model.
46. Where do you expect the residents of homeless encampment there to go if you don't site a village in Laurelhurst?
- We will continue to work with qualified service providers to perform outreach and engage with all of our houseless community members to provide services and identify a more stable and appropriate living situation (whatever that may look like for them).