

HOUSELESSNESS IN CENTRAL OREGON

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Houselessness in Central Oregon in 2021...

1099 adults & children

154 unaccompanied youth

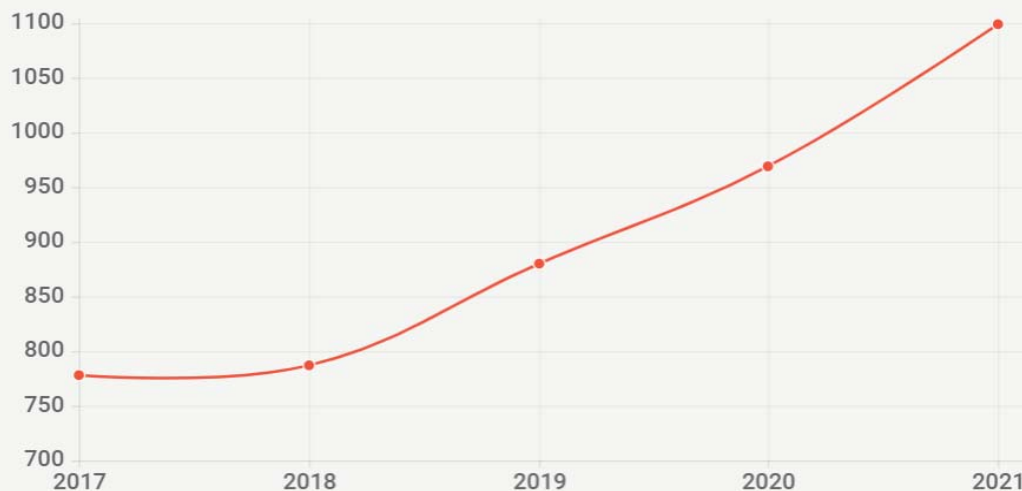
13% increase from 2020

89 unsheltered veterans

384 households with children

Central Oregon's Homeless Leadership Coalition collects this data annually in a Point-in-Time (PIT) count. The data is limited to persons who identify themselves as experiencing homelessness in a 24-hour period. More people in Central Oregon experience homelessness within a calendar year than this data reflects.

Number of Houseless People in Central Oregon



The number of houseless people counted on a single night each January for Central Oregon's "Point in Time" count. Data provided by the Homeless Leadership Coalition

Houselessness in Deschutes County...

Before becoming houseless, **84%** of individuals said their last stable housing had been in Oregon.

423 students in Deschutes County (ages 0-18) were identified as houseless since the beginning of the 2021 school year and it continues to grow.

TYPES & CAUSES OF HOUSELESSNESS



Types of Houselessness:

TEMPORARY

- Brief and often only experienced once. Often due to a combination of drastic crisis experienced all at one time.

EPISODIC

- Individuals are housed, but it isn't stable. People moving in and out of substance abuse or mental health treatment are often episodically homeless.

CHRONIC

- Individuals may find it difficult to maintain stable housing, often due to long-term health conditions.

WORKING

- Individuals working and simply cannot afford a place to live. Houselessness is rising with housing costs increasing at steady rates.

Causes of Houselessness:

STRUCTURAL FACTORS

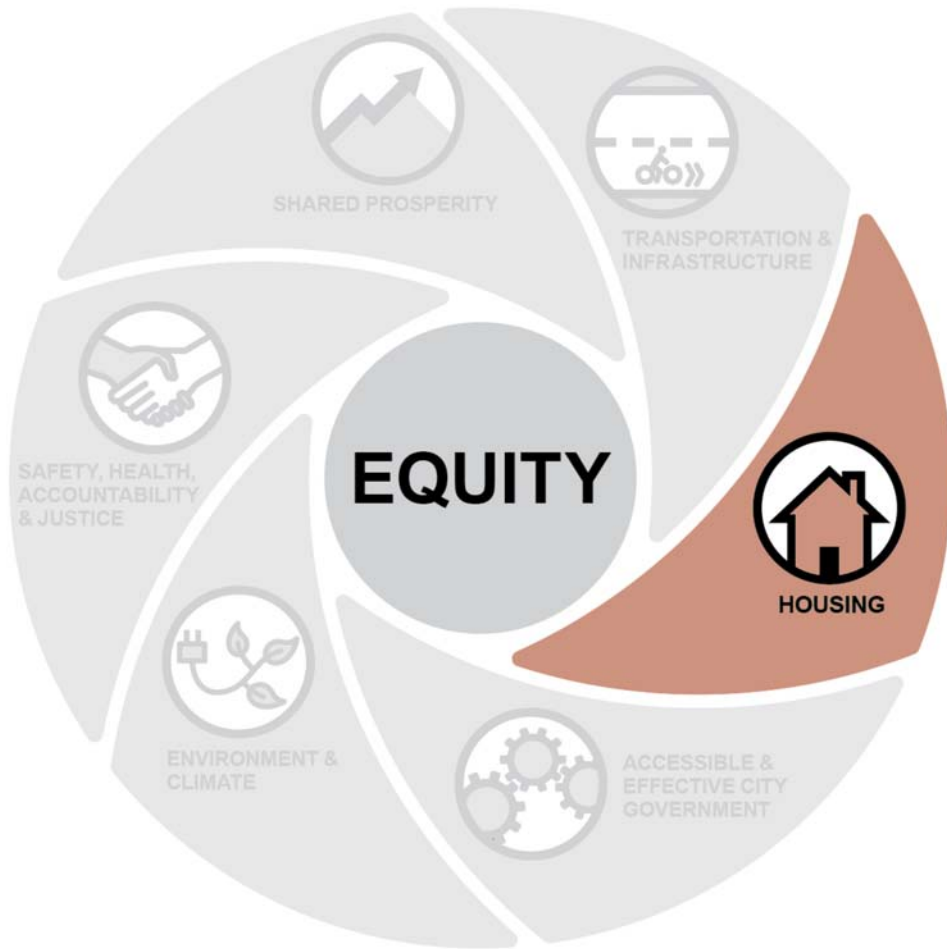
- Absence of affordable housing
- Absences of meaningful-wage employment
- Structural racism and discrimination
- Criminal justice system

INDIVIDUAL FACTORS

- Early childhood adverse experiences (ACEs)
- Mental health conditions
- Substance use disorders
- Personal experience with any form of violence
- Lack of support system
- Children/Youth: Family conflict and traumas, non-heterosexual sexual identity, having been in the childhood welfare system

THE CITY'S ROLE IN ADDRESSING HOUSELESSNESS

2021-2023 COUNCIL GOALS



HOUSING GOAL: Take meaningful action to make this statement a reality: “People who live and work in Bend can afford housing in Bend.”

STRATEGY: Invest in programs and partnerships that result in collaborative, concrete action toward ending homelessness in Bend.

INCREASING SHELTER BED SUPPLY



“Create housing or facilities to house 500 homeless individuals on a temporary or permanent basis.”

Houselessness requires a collaborative approach.



Creative initiatives

Development of more and diverse housing options...



Collaborative partnerships with a wide range of service providers.



Bend currently has 280 shelter beds (179 high-barrier and 96 low-barrier).



THE CITY CANNOT :

- Impose sanctions on a person just for being houseless. It is not a crime to be houseless.
- Criminalize sleeping in public places without appropriate shelter options. Until there are more shelter beds, the City is limited in how it manages camps in public places.
- Remove camps on private property not owned by the City, unless requested by property owner. The City of Bend has no property management authority over land or rights-of-ways owned or managed by other state, regional or local agencies.



THE CITY CAN :

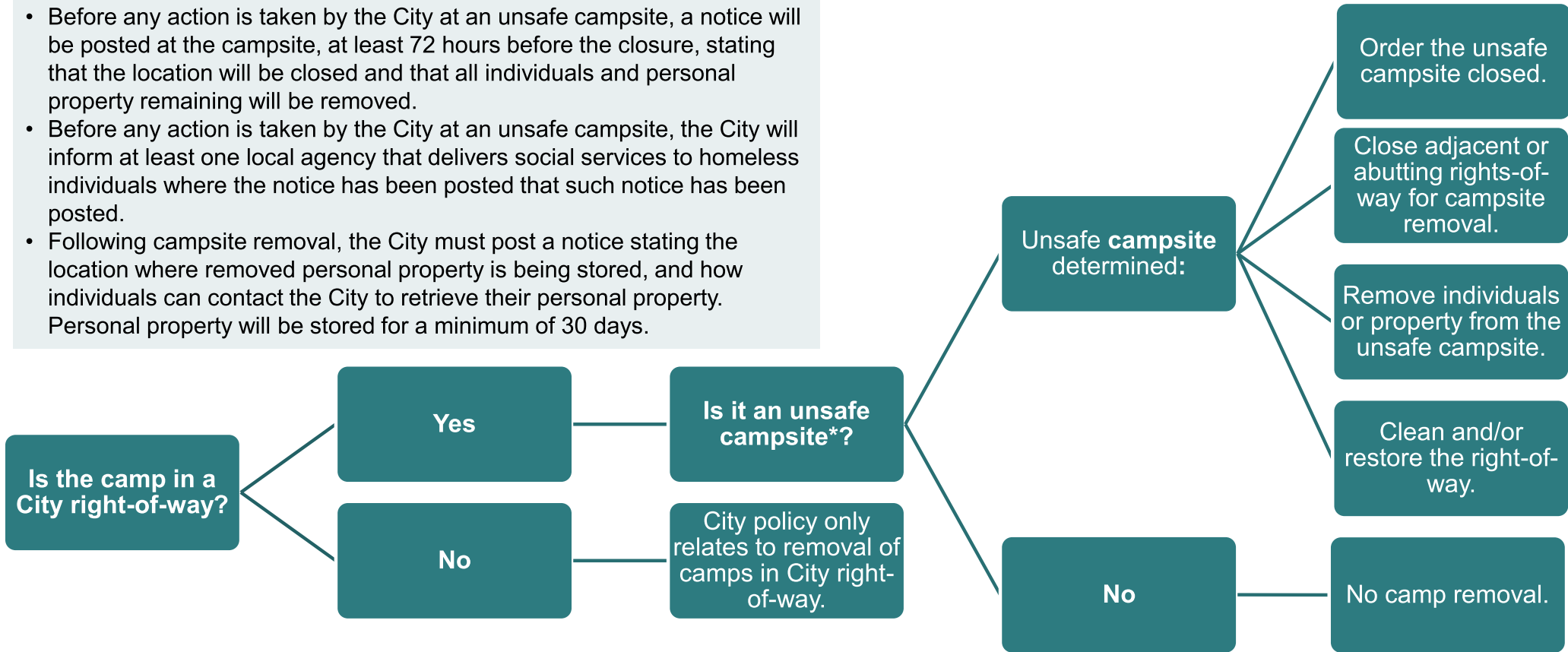
- Create codes, policies and programs to provide different types of shelters and services for those experiencing houselessness.
- Work with community partners on finding solutions to address houselessness. This includes finding ways to keep people in their homes, providing temporary transitional housing, and increasing the availability of affordable housing in Bend.
- Support nonprofit service providers with funding.
- Increase affordable housing supply.
- Manage trash, debris, public health & safety in the right-of-way



CITY RESPONSE TO ESTABLISHED CAMPSITES IN CITY RIGHTS-OF-WAY

GENERAL INFORMATION

- Before any action is taken by the City at an unsafe campsite, a notice will be posted at the campsite, at least 72 hours before the closure, stating that the location will be closed and that all individuals and personal property remaining will be removed.
- Before any action is taken by the City at an unsafe campsite, the City will inform at least one local agency that delivers social services to homeless individuals where the notice has been posted that such notice has been posted.
- Following campsite removal, the City must post a notice stating the location where removed personal property is being stored, and how individuals can contact the City to retrieve their personal property. Personal property will be stored for a minimum of 30 days.



Service Request Form



The Service Request Form below helps us better respond and serve you. Please fill out the form below to help us help you as efficiently as possible.

Once a request is submitted it will be sent to the appropriate department for response and/or follow-up. These records help us prioritize our limited resources.

Use this form to report **non-emergency** information only. This form is monitored during regular office hours (Monday-Friday 7:00 am - 4:00 pm.)

To report icy road conditions, please call (541) 317-3000 ext 3 directly.

For any issue that poses an immediate danger, please call 911.

Service Request Information

What would you like to report or request?*

Camp in City rights-of-way (Please review [City Response to Unpermitted Camps in the Right-of-Way](#) before submitting)

Damaged / Missing / Blocked Street Sign

SERVICE REQUEST



You can now report camps in City rights-of-way:

bendoregon.gov/service-request

POLICIES & CONTRACTS / GOOD NEIGHBOR GUIDELINES



Administrative Policies & Contracts

- Operating guidelines are not always outlined in the City Code.
- If City provides funding or land, contracts will be between the service provider and the City.
- If service provider is not fulfilling contract, the City can terminate.

A Good Neighbor Agreement is a tool to:

- Initiate and maintain open – transparent – proactive communications
- Develop clear expectations and procedures for resolving problems
- Enhance neighborhood safety and livability while promoting access to services
- Foster positive relationships between the facility and neighbors

See the [Good Neighbor Agreement template](#) from the Homeless Leadership Coalition as a launching point for neighborhood discussions.

STRATEGIES TO ADDRESS HOUSELESSNESS

OUTDOOR SHELTERS



An outdoor shelter is a place for people without homes to safely sleep at night that is professionally managed, with admission criteria, and provides sanitary services.

- Outdoor shelters may provide housing in mobile pods, like at [Central Oregon Veterans Village](#), or in tents, like at [Rogue Retreat](#) in Medford, or in other similar temporary facilities.
- Multiple locations are being considered in Bend. These outdoor shelters would be located in a location for one to three years, until the site can be developed with more permanent shelter or affordable housing.



STATUS: The City is currently reviewing proposals submitted by a local service provider for two potential outdoor shelter locations. There has not been a decision made at this time.

HOTEL RENOVATIONS / PROJECT TURNKEY



Transitional shelter sites, like a motel converted into a shelter, are one of many possible short-term solutions to help support unhoused community members in Bend.

- The City of Bend was awarded \$2.97 million in state funding from Project Turnkey to purchase a motel property and remodel it for use as a managed emergency shelter.
- Purchased Bend Value Inn on Division Street.
- 28 rooms, low barrier, transitional shelter open to unhoused individuals, couples and families.



Temporary Emergency
Shelter Operations
(February – May)



Renovation &
Construction
(May – August)



Open Turnkey
Shelter (Fall 2022)

SAFE PARKING PROGRAM



Safe Parking Programs enable property owners or lessees within the City to allow limited overnight parking for people experiencing homelessness.

- Provides additional shelter options for individuals and families without access to permanent, safe shelter, and who are not able to obtain other low-income housing.
- Intended to be used on a seasonal, emergency or transitional basis.
- Offers overnight camping and transitional overnight parking.



STATUS: There are currently two approved Safe Parking locations in Bend and we are looking for more partners who are interested in being part of the solution to safely and stably house unsheltered community members.

EMERGENCY SHELTER / NAVIGATION CENTER



EMERGENCY SHELTER:

- ***An Emergency shelter is a building or cluster of buildings that provides shelter on a temporary basis for individuals and families who lack permanent housing.***
- Shepherd's House Ministries operates a low-barrier warming shelter that gives 90 people a warm place to sleep each night and provides long-term residential programs for men, women, and children.

NAVIGATION CENTER:

- ***A Navigation Center is a low-barrier emergency shelter that is open seven days per week and connects individuals and families with health services, permanent housing, and public benefits.***
- A Navigation Center provides intensive support in a clean, safe, and professionally managed environment.

STATUS: The Emergency Shelter is in operation. The City is currently reviewing proposals submitted by a local service provider to operate a Navigation Center.

SHELTER CODE AMENDMENTS



Shelter Code amendments are changes to the Bend Development Code to determine where and how development of different types of shelters and transitional options can take place in Bend.



- Developed by Sounding Board to House our Neighbors.
- The Shelter Code amendments propose three permanent shelter types- Outdoor, Multi-Room, and Group Shelters, and two temporary shelter types- a Temporary Shelter, and a provision for Hardship Housing.

STATUS: The Sounding Board to House our Neighbors has made their recommendation for Shelter Code amendments. The amendments are currently going through the public hearings process with Planning Commission and will then move to Council for consideration. **UPCOMING HEARING:** Feb. 14, 5:30 p.m. Planning Commission Public Hearing



Strategic Plan

1. Enlist the community.
2. Coordinate our efforts and funding.
3. Expand Services.
4. Find space for the unsheltered.
5. Focus on affordable housing.

HOUSELESS IN DESCHUTES



“If I let myself believe what other people believe about me, there would be no reason for living.”

HOUSELESS IN DESCHUTES.ORG
Emergency Houselessness Task Force



“We’re trying to get out.”

John and Tess' Story

houselessindeschutes.org

OVERALL APPROACH



Priority Area

500 Shelter Beds

Outdoor Shelter Negotiations	Phase 1: Outreach (Central OR Villages)	Phase 2: Open Outdoor Shelter
Temp Operations at Division Street		Renovations at Division Street
Contract Negotiations NavCenter	Open NavCenter (Shepherd's House)	
Development Code Changes Review & Adoption		Updated Development Code
Safe Parking Program additional locations		
Due Diligence for an additional Emergency Shelter		Open additional Emergency Shelter

City ROW

New Community Service Request form & process		
Continued outreach, coordination and clean up at unsanctioned camps		

Efficiency & Partnerships

HB 4123 for Collaborative Office	Deschutes County & Cities coordination	
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COMMUNITY INPUT

WHAT DOES COUNCIL WANT FROM THE COMMUNITY?



“The City’s ability to address houselessness and camping in public, is directly related to shelter bed capacity.”

- Council has prioritized shelters of all types. They are happening.
- Help us to create shelters neighborhoods can be proud of.
- What does the ideal shelter neighbor look like?
- How can we improve upon codes, policies and programs to support successful shelters?

Continuum of Housing



LEARN MORE



- [Central Oregon Homelessness Facts & Figures](#)
- [Supporting Houselessness Solutions](#)
- [Shelter Code Amendments](#)
- [Sounding Board to House Our Neighbors](#)
- [Outdoor Shelters](#)
- [Hotel Renovations / Project Turnkey](#)
- [Safe Parking Program](#)
- [Emergency Shelter Siting](#)
- [Navigation Center](#)
- [Collaborative Office with Deschutes County](#)

QUESTIONS?