



CITY COUNCIL

555 Liberty St SE / Room 220 • Salem, OR 97301-3513 • 503-588-6255 • Fax 503-588-6354

February 13, 2024

Senator Kayse Jama, Chair

Senator Dick Anderson, Vice Chair

Members of the Senate Committee on Housing and Development

Oregon State Capitol

900 Court Street NE

Salem, Oregon 97301

Dear Chair Jama, Vice-Chair Anderson, and Members of the Senate Committee on Housing and Development:

I'm writing on behalf of the Salem City Council in support of Senate Bill 1530, which would provide vital funding support to Salem's transitional housing programs. Without sustained funding for these programs, we will no longer be able to keep our three micro-shelter village communities and our navigation center open to continue serving the most vulnerable in our community.

We are in the middle of a statewide housing and sheltering crisis. With support from the State of Oregon, \$12.7 million in ARPA, and local grants, we've stood up a model that relies on partnerships with non-profit organizations to shelter our most vulnerable residents and help transition people living unsheltered in our community to permanent supportive housing by providing triage services, such as health and mental health care, other basic services, and temporary indoor shelter.

Altogether, we offer more than 320 transitional housing beds with wraparound case management services. These residents did not have in place to stay in Salem before the COVID Pandemic.

- **Church of the Park – Village of Hope Micro-Shelter** for up to 80 residents (\$2.1 million annually), funding exhausted June 30, 2024
- **Church of the Park – Turner Road Micro-Shelter Village** for 38 residents between ages of 18 and 24 (\$1.8 million annually), funding exhausted June 30, 2025
- **Catholic Community Services – Micro-Shelter Village** for up to 130 residents (\$2.6 million annually), funding exhausted June 30, 2025
- **Navigation Center** for 75 residents (\$2 million annually), funding exhausted June 30, 2025

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY / AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EMPLOYER

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Without additional funding, in addition to discontinuing our sheltering programs, Salem needs to make 10% cuts to General Fund services like police, fire, library, parks and recreation, and other community services.

The City of Salem encourages your support for our residents and their needs, and for Senate Bill 1530. This \$65 million will help Salem and other local governments maintain operations, services, and administration of emergency shelters, as defined in ORS 197.782.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "CH Hoy".

Mayor Chris Hoy
City of Salem

cc: Salem Legislative Delegation

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