

November 2019 Update

The City and County have come together in our commitment to addressing homelessness throughout our communities with the goal of working with our partners to make homelessness rare, brief and non-recurring.

We know many community services are operating at capacity, and we've heard community concerns about the upcoming winter season. Working with community partners, we have been making steady progress in implementing key recommendations from the Technical Assistance Collaborative (TAC) report that address immediate needs and build a more sustainable system. We have briefly summarized that progress below.

Low Barrier, 75-bed Emergency Shelter

- The shelter will provide 75 low barrier beds and a navigation center that connects people to additional services and housing.
- The City and County siting team has formed and is evaluating possible sites for the shelter.
- In the interim, last year the City and County partnered to double the capacity of the Dawn to Dawn shelter which can now serve around 200 people per night and is operating at full capacity.

Permanent Supportive Housing Development

- City and County are partners in supporting 51 new units of permanent supportive housing as part of the MLK Commons project which breaks ground on Nov 14.
- The County also provided \$1.5 million in funding to support development of 40 additional units of permanent supportive housing – including rural units - through community partner agencies.
- This housing will be available to some of the hardest to serve – those who experience chronic homelessness.

Mobile Street Outreach Team

- City staff have actively engaged people with lived experience and community partners to inform program services and structure. Outreach included partnering with those with lived experience to reach more than 300 people.
- The City and County are developing an agreement for staffing and contracting with local service providers and expect to launch the mobile street outreach team in early 2020.

Pilot Landlord Engagement Program

- Lane County and City of Eugene staff are meeting with Homes for Good to explore a process for using one-time funding to create a pilot incentive program for landlords who will make their properties available to people experiencing homelessness.

Strategic Initiatives Manager

- The City and County are working with a professional recruitment firm to search nationally and find the best possible candidate for our community.
- This position will lead the process of building more supportive housing and opening the low barrier shelter and navigation center.

Work also continues to improve the overall system of services and housing including:

- **Move On Strategies** – starting in September 2019 this partnership with Homes for Good helps people stabilize and transition into longer term housing.
- **Coordinated Entry** - allows service agencies to provide efficient, effective services that match the need of people experiencing homelessness.
- **Best Practice Training** – brings together service providers from across the county to provide the most up to date training and tools to do their jobs better.

In addition to these efforts, Eugene's Community Safety initiative continues to implement actions identified last fall to stabilize our community safety system. The [Community Safety newsletter](#) provides brief updates on these efforts and the Council will receive more information at their November 25 work session.