



Search



a position (how convenient for you) and until you do have a position I will continue to lobby you to oppose the mega shelter through every platform available to me. If you and anyone else are uncomfortable with that I don't care.

17 likes · Reply



Eric Kane I do its just not the one you want to hear. Why are you going to Eric's infant, but a rational wife because irrespective of how I vote its moving forward.

Write a reply...



MY NAME IS ANNNE PRINGLE. I HAVE LIVED ON THE PORTLAND PENINSULA FOR ALMOST 40 YEARS. I HAVE TWO CLOSE FRIENDS WHO HAVE BEEN HOMELESS: ONE, A MENTALLY ILL CHRONIC ALCOHOLIC, WHO HAS BEEN SOBER AND NOT HOSPITALIZED FOR TEN YEARS; THE OTHER, A WOMEN WHO WORKS DAILY TO IMPROVE HER MENTAL AND PHYSICAL HEALTH. BELIEVE ME, I KNOW THE CHALLENGES THEY FACE.

MY REMARKS ARE DIRECTED TO THE COUNCIL, THE PEOPLE IN THIS ROOM, AND THE MANY PEOPLE WATCHING THIS MEETING ON TV.

I APPRECIATE THE TASK FORCE’S HARD WORK ON THIS COMPLEX ISSUE, BUT AM DISAPPOINTED IN THREE REGARDS:

FIRST, THE TF RESEARCH DID NOT INCLUDE THE HOMELESS CAMPING IN THE COMMUNITY AND NOT USING THE SHELTERS, A NUMBER WHICH APPEARS TO BE SUBSTANTIAL. I BELIEVE THESE PEOPLE DO USE SERVICES AND WONDER IF THEIR NEEDS ARE COUNTED IN THE EQUATION, AS I THINK THEY ALSO REPRESENT SOME OF THE MORE CHALLENGING PERSONAL SITUATIONS. WE NEED TO KNOW THE PLAN FOR THEM.

SECOND, THE TF DID NOT ADDRESS THE THRESHHOLD POLICY QUESTION: WHAT SHOULD BE PORTLAND’S ROLE IN PROVIDING HOMELESS SERVICES? IS IT THE CITY’S ROLE TO SERVE ALL WHO COME, IN WHATEVER NUMBERS, WITHOUT LIMITATION? AND FROM WHATEVER LOCATION, IN-STATE OR OUT-OF-STATE? AS WE ARE ALREADY SEEING, CONTINUING THIS OPEN-ENDED AND ASSUMED, BUT NOT DEBATED, POLICY CHOICE, HAS SUBSTANTIAL IMPACTS OF ALL SORTS ON THE COMMUNITY AND SUBSTANTIAL EXTENDED COSTS WELL BEYOND THE DIRECT SERVICE COSTS.

THIRD, THE TF ALSO DID NOT ADDRESS THE CONTROVERSIAL ISSUE OF CONTINUING TO OFFER A LOW-BARRIER SERVICE SYSTEM. MOST ADVOCATES ARE TOTALLY COMMITTED TO THIS SERVICE MODEL, BUT IS THE COMMUNITY ALSO COMMITTED TO IT? HOW DO WE HAVE A FULL AND RESPECTFUL COMMUNITY DIALOGUE OVER THIS ISSUE, AS IT AFFECTS BOTH THE CLIENT POPULATION AND ALSO THE COMMUNITY AS WHOLE?

THERE IS NO QUESTION PORTLAND IS A CARING AND COMPASSIONATE COMMUNITY. WE HAVE AN ARRAY OF HOMELESS SERVICES AND SCORES OF HOUSING OPTIONS AND TREATMENT FACILITIES FOR PEOPLE IN NEED, PROBABLY MORE PER CAPITA THAN ALMOST ANY OTHER CITY IN THE COUNTRY, I'LL BET. IS IT TIME TO ASK IF THERE SHOULD BE LIMITS? WHAT ARE THE IMPACTS ON OUR COMMUNITY? LET'S GATHER SOME FACTUAL DATA ON WHAT SERVICES/HOUSING OPTIONS WE CURRENTLY SUPPORT, WHERE THEY ARE LOCATED, AND WHETHER THEY ARE CLUSTERING IN CERTAIN AREAS. BASED ON DATA, WE CAN THEN HAVE A RESPECTFUL COMMUNITY DIALOGUE ON THE POLICY ISSUE OF HOW WIDE-OPEN A SOCIAL SERVICE CENTER WE WANT THE CITY TO BE.

FINALLY, REGARDING THE RECOMMENDATION FOR THREE MORE 35-PERSON "HOUSING FIRST" UNITS. I SUPPORT THE "HOUSING FIRST" CONCEPT, BUT HAVE TO ASK A FEW QUESTIONS: IS OUR EXPERIENCE, AFTER SEVERAL YEARS, THAT TENANTS ARE MOVING OUT TO PERMANENT HOUSING OR HAS THIS PLANNED TRANSITIONAL HOUSING TURNED OUT TO BE PERMANENT, BLOCKING OTHERS FROM MOVING INTO TRANSITIONAL HOUSING? DO THESE NEW UNITS NEED TO BE IN PORTLAND, IF SO, WHY? WHY DO THEY NEED TO BE SO BIG? – FOR OPERATING EFFICIENCY OR BECAUSE CLUSTERING 35 CHRONIC

HOMELESS IS SOMEHOW THE “RIGHT-SIZED” COMMUNITY FOR THEM? DID THE TASK FORCE EXPLORE THESE ISSUES?

THE MAYOR WAS QUOTED, PERHAPS INACCURATELY, AS SAYING THAT NO ZONING CHANGES WOULD BE NEEDED TO ALLOW SUCH HOUSING THROUGHOUT THE CITY, BUT AS I RECALL, BOTH LOGAN PLACE AND FLORENCE HOUSE NEEDED ZONING CHANGES OR VARIENCES, BECAUSE OF THEIR PROPOSED DENSITY AND THE HEIGHT OF THE BUILDINGS. SO HOW DO WE EFFECTIVELY DISPERSE APPROPRIATELY-SIZED AND APPROPRIATELY-SCALED TRANSITIONAL HOUSING AND SERVICES WHILE PRESERVING THE INTEGRITY OF RESIDENTIAL NEIGHBORHOODS?

IN CLOSING:

I URGE THE COUNCIL TO ACCEPT THE REPORT, BUT DO NOT REFER IT TO COMMITTEES UNTIL YOU HAVE FIGURED OUT HOW TO CONVENE A COMMUNITY-WIDE DIALOGUE ON THE LARGER ISSUES I HAVE TRIED TO IDENTIFY:

- WHAT IS OUR TOTAL HOMELESS POPULATION INCLUDING CAMPERS? WE NEED THIS ADDITIONAL DATA TO MAKE GOOD POLICY DECISIONS.
- WHAT IS OUR POLICY ROLE? – TO SERVE, WITHOUT LIMITATION, ALL WHO COME OR TO FIGURE OUT HOW TO LIMIT OUR SERVICES TO WHAT A COMMUNITY THIS SIZE CAN REASONABLY BE EXPECTED TO SUPPORT, GIVEN THE EXTEND IMPACTS OF SERVING THE HOMELESS POPULATION?
- LET’S DEBATE THE “LOW-BARRIER” SERVICE MODEL”. SHOULD THERE BE REASONABLE AND SUPPORTIVE REQUIREMENTS FOR SERVICES? -- NOT JUST “EXPECTATIONS” OF BEHAVIOR AND “EXPECTATIONS” THAT PARTICIPANTS WILL WORK WITH A CASE MANAGER ON DEVELOPING AND COMMITTING TO A PLAN TO

IMPROVE THEIR OWN STABILITY. DOES PROVIDING SERVICES WITHOUT REQUIREMENTS ENABLE AND PERPETUATE PROBLEM BEHAVIORS VS. EMPOWERING PEOPLE, WITH SUPPORT AND ACCOUNTABILITY, TO CHANGE THEIR LIVES, AS MY TWO FORMERLY HOMELESS FRIENDS HAVE...



Nason's Corner Neighborhood Association
nasonscornerneighborhood@gmail.com

Health and Human Services and Public Safety Committee
City of Portland
389 Congress Street
Portland, ME 04101

July 14, 2018

To Councilors Ray, Ali and Batson,

After listening to the concerns of our neighbors, the Nason's Corner Neighborhood Association opposes the building of a 200-bed homeless shelter at 1145 Brighton Avenue, on the campus of the Barron Center and the Loring House Apartments. We believe this plan is not well studied and must be rejected.

While we find genuine concern and compassion for the homeless among our neighbors, we stand firmly on the belief that this proposal does not encompass best practices for ending homelessness nor is appropriate for the suggested site. Locating a homeless services center less than ¼ mile from the town line, among low income housing projects and in a vulnerable area already known for illegal behavior is not a best practice.

In this proposal we have not seen any plans for addressing the opioid epidemic as well as the emergence of synthetic cannabinoids or "spice", which appear to be root causes of the increased troubles that Bayside has experienced in recent years. We have heard from numerous Bayside residents that the Oxford Street Shelter used to be a wonderful neighbor, but in the past few years it has grown unmanageable and out of control. Without clear plans from the City for how to address this crisis head-on, it is difficult to see how these behaviors will not follow the shelter to its new location. Families in Nason's Corner are concerned they and their children will begin to find syringes, and begin witnessing lewd behavior in private yards, in the woods and playgrounds of our neighborhood as the playgrounds and woods are the only public space this area has to offer. We have not seen any viable argument as to how this behavior from troubled people or predators will not follow the homeless population to this neighborhood as its proximity to I-95 places it in an easily accessible area.

Additionally, the City's current proposal does not include a long-term operating budget nor a commitment to uphold the quality of on-site services, which creates a sense of worry this site will not be maintained and will quickly follow in the footsteps of its predecessor at Oxford Street.

We have seen no plan as to how the City will address shelter overcrowding at this location or handle those turned away because of substance abuse or whose addiction leads them to prefer the wooded and secluded areas of our neighborhood.

When asked, City Staff was unable to answer the question about the size of the building or the size of the proposed lot. This lack of knowledge highlights the concern that this plan has not been created with consideration of the site location and its surroundings.

Recently, we learned the property at 1085 Brighton Ave. is actively being pursued by the Opportunity Alliance to be purchased for conversion to a 12-bed group home. If more service agencies expand their operations to the empty storefronts of our neighborhood, we believe we would begin to see the kind of street activity that now plagues the Bayside neighborhood. Such clustering of services has already been blamed for many of the problems in Bayside.

We are concerned about zoning as it relates to this proposal. Zoning is an important factor in maintaining the stability and predictability of an area, particularly where single-family homes are involved. An inappropriate use created by spot-zoning may negatively impact property values.

This is a City-wide issue and the current proposal must be rejected by the HHS Committee and the City Council. Our councilor, Brain Batson, has also taken a stand against this recommendation. We charge City staff to do further research and due diligence on other sites and more variations of scattered site models.

Once again, we empathize with the plight of the homeless, but the proposed solution is the wrong one for the homeless and for our neighborhood.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Maya Lena'.

Maya Lena, President
Nason's Corner Neighborhood Association



BAYSIDE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 11563, Portland, ME 04104 ▪ 207.523.0602 ▪ bnaportland@gmail.com ▪

www.facebook.com/BaysideNeighborhoodAssociation

July 7, 2018

Health and Human Services and Public Safety Committee
City of Portland
389 Congress Street
Portland, ME 04101

To Councilors Ray, Ali and Batson,

The Bayside Neighborhood Association supports both the proposal to build a new homeless services center, and to locate it on the Barron Center campus.

The BNA advocates for the Bayside neighborhood where the current Oxford Street Shelter, along with a large number of Portland's essential social service providers, is located. This facility has been inadequate for many years and is unable to properly carry out the City of Portland's stated obligation to do the vital work of caring for our most vulnerable citizens.

The current model of serving the homeless with mats to sleep on in one location and food, medical care, and various other necessary supportive services scattered around the general vicinity is outdated, ineffective and inhumane. Although this system may have been sustainable when the number of clients was much lower and their needs less intense, it has broken down irreparably in the face of economic challenges, the opioid epidemic, reduced access to health care, and numerous other factors.

As demand has outstripped resources, the Bayside neighborhood has disproportionately borne the impacts of hosting a population whose basic needs are often unmet, the opportunists that are drawn here to prey on

them, and the behaviors that accompany such stressors. Building an adequate and humane homeless services center is a vital first step toward achieving the balance to which every citizen and neighborhood in Portland is entitled.

The BNA has invested a great amount of time and energy over the years, and especially in the last few, educating ourselves in order to understand the situation in our neighborhood. Through emails, phone calls, and meetings, conversations with city staff, social service providers, shelter clients, neighbors, law enforcement, the district attorney's office, judges, elected officials at the local, state and federal levels of government, and residents and leaders of other neighborhoods, we are intimately involved in seeking solutions.

Our endorsement of the proposed facility at the Barron Center campus is therefore based on our understanding of the careful work and thoughtful consideration that has gone into its selection, and considers the following factors, most of which are mandated by the revised emergency shelter conditional use standards:

- **Best practices:** Research by councilors and city staff into effective service delivery models; consultation with homeless services providers; surveys of shelter clients; site visits to well-regarded homeless service facilities in Boston; building to accommodate delivery of necessary wrap-around services; clear site lines; on-site meals and laundry; voluntary adoption of multiple best practices at the existing city shelter.
- **Accessibility:** Proximity to existing transportation infrastructure and bus routes; plans to incorporate a dedicated shuttle in addition to existing modes of transportation provided through taxi vouchers and city vehicles as needed.
- **Financial factors:** The use of city-owned land; planned space for partner providers to deliver preventative, routine, and follow-up care to reduce the need and cost of emergency services; existing funding for necessary upgrades to sidewalks, lighting, streets and safety features; potential for public/private partnership to finance construction, potential reduction in

expenses for city services such as emergency response, policing and street sweeping.

- **Established Infrastructure:** Existing kitchen and laundry facilities at the Barron Center; existing water, sewer and utility access; and existing vehicle access to site reduces construction costs.
- **Visibility:** Prominent location and campus setting promote clients' sense of social inclusion while providing privacy via on-site services and a screened courtyard.
- **Safety:** Shielding a vulnerable population from the volatile and unsafe environment that was allowed to grow unchecked in Bayside; providing a stable and private base from which to work on housing, employment and recovery; an invested neighborhood with many "eyes on the street."
- **Neighborhood prioritization:** Amended conditional use standards that require a management plan with provisions for working with the surrounding neighborhood; permanent positions for current trained security staff, which have served to improve conditions around the existing shelter; plans to continue the OSS "Hotline" for neighbors to reach out with questions or concerns; street outreach positions to engage potential clients and support the surrounding neighborhood; strong, clear, responsive and adaptable community policing standards; experience with community engagement and collaboration to maintain existing quality of life.

Please note: Neighborhood engagement and safety is a non-negotiable priority for the BNA, and our continued support is predicated on the robustness and effectiveness of the above measures.

- **Community amenities:** Plans for a public health clinic and community policing/police substation to benefit the neighborhood and fill community needs; appropriate architecture to complement existing structures and add value to the neighborhood.
- **Equitability:** Engaging other areas of the city to support the goals of the new comprehensive plan, our shared interests, and the common good.

•Completing the picture: Asking other communities to participate through reimbursement and by caring for their own population; continuing the exploration of small shelter zoning to augment a coordinated entry model.

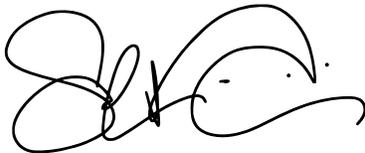
While at one point it may have been feasible to correct the deficiencies of the existing city shelter, that opportunity is long past. The toxic and increasingly dangerous conditions that have been allowed to flourish in Bayside make the city's social obligations far more difficult and costly than they should be, and normalcy almost impossible for residents, visitors, providers, and social service clients alike.

The current situation is not sustainable, and we will not stand for it to continue, here or in any other neighborhood.

The BNA firmly believes that these conditions are not simply the result of hosting the city's shelter and so many other social services, but of an entrenched and fearful mindset that has kept better options from being pursued in the past. Indeed, there has long been an attitude that there are no better options. The selection of the Barron Center campus site is proof that current city leadership is ready to change that narrative, and is willing and able to act.

We urge you to vote to recommend to the full council that the new homeless services center be sited on the Barron Center campus, and to move forward at the pace that this emergency situation demands.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sarah Michniewicz', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Sarah Michniewicz
President, Bayside Neighborhood Association



Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Fwd: A citizen of Nason's corner who welcomes the new shelter

1 message

Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>

Wed, Jul 11, 2018 at 2:57 PM

To: Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>, "Momborquette, Linda" <ldm@portlandmaine.gov>

Director, Health & Human Services
[City of Portland](#)
[389 Congress Street](#)
Portland, Maine 04101
o 207.874.8775
c 207.956.3262
dcs@portlandmaine.gov

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **City Clerk** <cityclerk@portlandmaine.gov>
Date: Wed, Jul 11, 2018 at 2:30 PM
Subject: Fwd: A citizen of Nason's corner who welcomes the new shelter
To: Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>

City Clerk's Office
[389 Congress St. Rm. 203](#)
[Portland, ME 04101](#)
P: 207-874-8610
F: 207-874-8612

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Tiki Fuhro** <ksunsetlane2@gmail.com>
Date: Sat, Jul 7, 2018 at 3:26 PM
Subject: A citizen of Nason's corner who welcomes the new shelter
To: cityclerk@portlandmaine.gov

Dear Council Members,

How can a new homeless shelter be a bad idea?

I am writing in support of proposed plans to build a new homeless shelter at the Barron Center on Brighton Avenue in the Nason's Corner neighborhood of Portland. Yes, I am a resident of this neighborhood and former employee of one of the neighborhood schools. Recently this area was home to a tent city built by the homeless folks themselves out of necessity. I don't remember any particular impact on my health or safety or the safety of the children at either of the nearby schools at that time, in fact tent city was also home to families with children. I regularly see homeless folks, or I people presume to be homeless, asking for change at intersections in this neighborhood and I am not hurt or offended by their respectful requests in any way. In fact, the thought of people who are homeless, whether it is a chronic or temporary state having a safe, clean place to stay with access to food, medical help and other important human resources makes me feel safer and more positive about my community and its ability to respond to a clear and present need. I am hoping that my neighbors who are concerned can find it in their hearts to be welcoming to folks who are down on their luck. I am always aware that homelessness is never far away for any of us. Being homeless does not mean less human.

Let's turn our attention to the need for affordable housing. Let's make sure we work towards proper services for the homeless, the mentally ill or those suffering from addiction. We are all citizens of Portland.

Thank you,

Tiki Fuhro
Portland

[This is the shared email address of
Tiki Fuhro and Kevin O'Leary](#)



Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Fwd: additional questions for Nov 13 meeting

1 message

Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>
To: Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Wed, Nov 14, 2018 at 7:59 AM

Public Comment

Director, Health & Human Services
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dcs@portlandmaine.gov

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Sally Bowden-Schaible** <1sallybs@gmail.com>

Date: Mon, Nov 12, 2018 at 5:55 PM

Subject: additional questions for Nov 13 meeting

To: Brian Batson <bbatson@portlandmaine.gov>, <estrimling@portlandmaine.gov>, <bsr@portlandmaine.gov>, <pali@portlandmaine.gov>, <nmm@portlandmaine.gov>, <jduson@portlandmaine.gov>, <jpj@portlandmaine.gov>, <rup@portlandmaine.gov>, <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>, <mjs@portlandmaine.gov>

Cc: Nason's Corner Neighborhood Association <nasonscornerneighborhood@gmail.com>

To the City Council:

After reviewing various articles/documents, the agenda & slides prepared for the November 13 meeting, and questions posed for the councilors from Nason's Corner residents, I'd like to add the following questions for you to discuss:

1. Looking back over time, what were the various factors contributing to the homeless shelter crisis? It would be good to view a **timeline** related to *cuts in funding* and *the closing of shelter and SA/MH treatment programs, etc.* over these past 8 years under the LePage administration. This is relevant, I believe, because it is important to consider the co-existing conditions that led to the homeless shelter crisis. And...
2. With the election of Janet Mills as our governor and with Democrats soon-to-be in the majority of the state legislature, how might funding for services be affected? With Mills supporting the expansion of Medicaid and stating that a top priority of hers is addressing the opioid crisis, new doors will most likely open for housing and mental health/substance abuse/addiction treatment services. *(I don't think any final decision should be made about shelter locations/programs & services without exploring Portland's situation with the new administration)*
3. What options have been explored as related to partnering with other agencies/organizations?
 - Shalom
 - Amistad
 - Milestone
 - Preble St
 - Churches
4. What is the status of the city of Portland's lawsuit against Mercy Hospital? How has this lawsuit affected (is affecting) treatment services available for persons suffering from opioid addiction?

As Ed Cundy stated (after attending the UNE Global Humanities lecture on "Creating Healthier Cities"), *"the overarching societal problem we face is called despair. Opioid addiction and homelessness are the symptoms. Believing in the the*

need and importance of responsible government and distributing wealth and opportunity more equitably are fundamental to rekindling hope." I hope you will consider this truth in your planning.

Thank you,
Sally

Sally Bowden-Schaible, LCPC, CCMHC
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[Verona Island, ME 04416](#)

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Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Fwd: Back to the Shelter Discussion

1 message

Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>
To: Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Wed, Nov 14, 2018 at 10:41 AM

public comment

Director, Health & Human Services
City of Portland
389 Congress Street
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dcs@portlandmaine.gov

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **KenCapron1** <kcapron1@maine.rr.com>

Date: Tue, Nov 13, 2018 at 2:08 PM

Subject: Back to the Shelter Discussion

To: Ethan Strimling <estrimling@portlandmaine.gov>, Belinda Ray <bsr@portlandmaine.gov>, Spencer Thibodeau <sthibodeau@portlandmaine.gov>, <bbatson@portlandmaine.gov>, Justin Costa <jcosta@portlandmaine.gov>, Kim Cook <kcook@portlandmaine.gov>, Pious Ali <pali@portlandmaine.gov>, Nick Mavodonnos <nmm@portlandmaine.gov>, Jill Duson <jduson@portlandmaine.gov>Cc: Jon Jennings <jjp@portlandmaine.gov>, Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>

Dear Councilors,

At the DHHS committee this evening you will be considering several options for sizing and location of homeless sheltering.

I have been unable to identify any studies that support one model of shelter over another. I have asked other shelters for opinions.

None showed any preference for scattered vs centralized. Some communities consider scattered as meaning having homeless

people in scattered apartments throughout their community. So “scattered” is not the same for everyone.

I feel it is important to affirm that a consolidated model, in addition to being more cost efficient, is also what I call program efficient.

That means that in a consolidated setting, more services can be available to all residents – especially training and support for employment and other supports intended to reduce recidivism.

I know that in the model I am trying to develop – which is essentially a 12 – 16 story building with 2 acres per floor – we will have

4 to 8 physically separate areas for homeless – each with its own characteristics based on needs.

We will also have space to offer

affordable housing on demand if circumstances warrant. And of course we will have a health clinic, education, job training, and other

workforce related benefits. Of course my concept is contingent on funding for the feasibility study.

But there’s nothing preventing

the city from renting a ship tomorrow to house homeless until a permanent shelter gets built. (Be aware that California will be leasing many ships to house the people displaced by fire until they can rebuild.)

Whatever happens, I can only recommend a consolidated model at this time.

Kenneth A. Capron

[MemoryWorks](#)

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Virus-free. www.avg.com



Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Fwd: Bangor Homeless Encampment

2 messages

David MacLean <dem@portlandmaine.gov>
To: Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Tue, Jul 24, 2018 at 9:45 AM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Diana Cundy** <dcundy@maine.edu>
Date: Tue, Jul 24, 2018 at 9:44 AM
Subject: Bangor Homeless Encampment
To: dcs@portlandmaine.gov, jpj@portlandmaine.gov, dem@portlandmaine.gov

Dear Mr. Jennings, Ms Stiles, and Mr. MacLean,

This is what I fear will happen in the woods surrounding the Barron Center if the shelter is sited here. It will be very difficult to police these areas and people who do not want to have the constraints of a shelter or people for whom there are not enough beds will end up here. So far, I have not heard any credible reason why this will not happen. This is especially true if the empty storefronts are taken over by social service agencies. Troubled people will come here, even if there is not room for them in the shelter, and our already vulnerable populations will bear the consequences.

<https://bangordailynews.com/2018/07/24/news/bangor/bangor-makes-move-to-cut-back-homeless-encampment/>

Thank you for considering the point of view of the people of Nason's Corner. I look forward to hearing from you.

Best wishes,

Diana Cundy
[18 Orono Rd.](#)

--

David MacLean**Administrator**

Social Services Division
Health & Human Services Department

[City of Portland](#)
[196 Lancaster Street](#)
Portland, ME 04101
o: (207) 482-5124
f: (207) 775-7918
dem@portlandmaine.gov

Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>
To: Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Wed, Jul 25, 2018 at 11:48 AM

Adam, I'm going to be forwarding more public comments regarding the shelter as I go through my emails from vacation.

Director, Health & Human Services
[City of Portland](#)
[389 Congress Street](#)

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c 207.956.3262
dcs@portlandmaine.gov

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Diana Cundy** <dcundy@maine.edu>

Date: Tue, Jul 24, 2018 at 9:44 AM

Subject: Bangor Homeless Encampment

To: dcs@portlandmaine.gov, jpj@portlandmaine.gov, dem@portlandmaine.gov

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Thank you for considering the point of view of the people of Nason's Corner. I look forward to hearing from you.

Best wishes,

Diana Cundy
[18 Orono Rd.](#)



Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Fwd: Barron Homeless Services Proposal Public Comment

2 messages

Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>

Mon, Sep 10, 2018 at 3:21 PM

To: Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Cc: Robert Parritt <rwp@portlandmaine.gov>, "MacLean, David" <dem@portlandmaine.gov>

Public Comment Rob - can you be prepared to respond to the two questions above ? I will also forward to Mike.

Director, Health & Human Services

City of Portland

389 Congress Street

Portland, Maine 04101

o 207.874.8775

c 207.956.3262

dcs@portlandmaine.gov

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Derek Caldwell** <derekhcaldwell@gmail.com>

Date: Mon, Sep 10, 2018 at 1:10 PM

Subject: Barron Homeless Services Proposal Public Comment

To: bsr@portlandmaine.gov, bbatson@portlandmaine.gov, pali@portlandmaine.gov

Cc: cityclerk@portlandmaine.gov, estrimling@portlandmaine.gov, sthibodeau@portlandmaine.gov, jcosta@portlandmaine.gov, kcook@portlandmaine.gov, nmm@portlandmaine.gov, jduson@portlandmaine.gov, dcs@portlandmaine.gov, melanie.caldwell04@gmail.com

Dear Members of the Health & Human Services and Public Safety Committee,

We would like to reiterate our opposition to the City's current proposal to relocate the Homeless Services Center to the Barron Center campus in the Nason's Corner Neighborhood. We have been active in the process, keeping an open mind to the proposal, and asking questions to gain an understanding of how City Staff feel that this model and location will be successful. We previously submitted a number of questions to the public record which were recently responded to in the document *Homeless Services Center: Answers to Public Hearing Questions*. We thank staff for responding to the questions, however, in our view, the responses to two of the questions seem rather dismissive and not indicative of truly understanding our concerns. We have outlined our follow-up questions/concerns below.

Original Question: As parents of a future Rowe School student, one of our primary concerns is around the safety of the students and staff at the school. Have there been any impact studies reviewed by the City as to what effect putting a homeless shelter in close proximity to an elementary school has on both the school and the shelter? If so, what lessons learned can be taken from other locations where this has been implemented?

City's Response: *There are currently numerous schools in close proximity to the current Oxford Street Shelter as well as the Family Shelter being located directly across the street: Baxter Academy: 316, Portland High School: 793, Youth and Family Outreach Max of 68, Bayside Learning Community Max of 48.*

Follow Up: We understand that there are several schools located in close proximity to the current shelter however, they are not elementary schools with an open playground. Portland High School and Baxter

Academy are both high schools with limited open space, Youth and Family Outreach has a gated entrance and playground, and the Bayside Learning Community is a self contained specialized learning environment with limited outdoor recreation area.

Could you please elaborate on how the City plans to work with Rowe school on areas of safety specifically around the open spaces such as the playground. As you mentioned there are schools in close proximity to the current shelter, what lessons did the City learn from their experiences? For example: Will there be a resource on hand to do sweeps of the facility in the event of any drug paraphernalia being found on the playground? How will the center staff work with the school to enforce the good neighbor policy?

Has the City researched to see if examples exist in other communities of a large scale Homeless Shelter being placed in close proximity to an *elementary school*?

Original Question: It was mentioned several times that shelters and neighborhoods can be good neighbors. If a study or example could be provided of this it may help current residents come around more to the idea. Are there such examples that could be presented to the public?

City's Response: *There are many shelters located in many neighborhoods in Portland. Each have a relationship with the neighbors that strive to be cooperative and collaborative in nature. We currently work closely with the Bayside Neighborhood Association to work through any issues that arise, and we believe they would testify to the quick responsiveness that shelter staff provide.*

Follow Up: We understand that there are currently shelters in place throughout the city that have been blended with the neighborhood however, this proposed shelter will be much larger than those currently in place and in addition will also host other services (such as the proposed FQHC). As the City mentioned in the proposal this space will allow shelter staff and the proposed on site community policing office to keep eyes on the daily events, but it is still a much larger facility and that fact should not be glossed over in regards to the impact to the neighborhood and surrounding areas.

In summary, it is our opinion the City has spent the majority of this process promoting the shelter model itself, but providing little qualitative information on *why and how* this will integrate successfully into the residential Nason's Corner Neighborhood.

Thank you,

Derek and Melanie Caldwell
[30 Glen Haven Road E](#)

Robert Parritt <rwp@portlandmaine.gov>
To: Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>
Cc: Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>, "MacLean, David" <dem@portlandmaine.gov>

Tue, Sep 11, 2018 at 10:50 AM

Sure.

[Quoted text hidden]

--

Rob Parritt
Director
[City of Portland](#)
Oxford Street Shelter
rwp@portlandmaine.gov

2/14/2019

City of Portland Mail - Fwd: Barron Homeless Services Proposal Public Comment

(207) 482-5213
fax (207) 761-0536



Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Fwd: basic questions about the County Way site

1 message

Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>
To: Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Tue, Feb 26, 2019 at 9:50 AM

public comment

Director, Health & Human Services
City of Portland
[389 Congress Street](#)
[Portland, Maine 04101](#)
o 207.874.8775
c 207.956.3262
dcs@portlandmaine.gov

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Jeff Levine** <jlevine@portlandmaine.gov>
Date: Tue, Feb 26, 2019 at 9:14 AM
Subject: Fwd: basic questions about the County Way site
To: Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>, Jon Jennings <jpj@portlandmaine.gov>, David MacLean <dem@portlandmaine.gov>, Kristen Dow <kjd@portlandmaine.gov>, Robert Parritt <rwp@portlandmaine.gov>

FYI. We will have some answers for some of these questions tonight but not all of them. Once there is a shorter list (3-5) we will have the ability to answer more detailed questions.

Jeff Levine, AICP
Director
Planning & Urban Development Department
[389 Congress Street 4th Floor](#)
[Portland, Maine 04101](#)
Phone (207)874-8720
Fax (207)756-8258
<http://www.portlandmaine.gov/planning>
[@portlandplan](#)

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Damon Yakovleff** <damon.yakovleff@gmail.com>
Date: Tue, Feb 26, 2019 at 8:48 AM
Subject: Re: basic questions about the County Way site
To: Brett Gabor <brett.gabor@gmail.com>
Cc: Zack Barowitz <zbarowitz@gmail.com>, Pious Ali <pali@portlandmaine.gov>, Jeff Levine <JLEVINE@portlandmaine.gov>, Belinda Ray <BSR@portlandmaine.gov>, Brian Batson <bbatson@portlandmaine.gov>, Maureen Morse <Maureensheamorse@gmail.com>, Nikki Anderson <n.annetteanderson@gmail.com>

I concur with Zack and Brett in wanting to see these questions answered. It appears that there are significant environmental constraints at the Congress St. site AKA County Way due to proximity to natural resources and contaminated soils which might be released into the environment and impact public health. Proximity to the jail was an issue before - it's an issue now, as Brett notes. Another thing to think about - I can promise you there will be intense and very disruptive public opposition to locating a 150 bed shelter and homeless services facility at this site.

Some kind of smaller scale facility would likely be a better fit at this location - Not only would it run into fewer environmental constraints, but certainly less opposition from the neighborhood. I urge you to consider this route.

Thank you very your hard work on this Committee and in serving the public, and for your consideration of our concerns.

Damon

On Tue, Feb 26, 2019 at 8:02 AM Brett Gabor <brett.gabor@gmail.com> wrote:

One quick change to my last email: I'd amend question 2 to say, arrested in other parts of the city and county.

On Feb 26, 2019, 7:01 AM -0500, Pious Ali <pali@portlandmaine.gov>, wrote:

Councilor Ray, is it possible to get this answers before our meeting tonight ?
Please excuse any discrepancy , this email is sent from a mobile device.

On Feb 25, 2019, at 10:08 PM, Zack Barowitz <zbarowitz@gmail.com> wrote:

Jeff,

I have a few basic questions about the County Way site:

- Are we talking about the parcel that is owned by the County that slopes down from the jail into the wetlands - or- the state-owned parcel in front of Cross Fit that also covers the the toxic dirt mound (next to the brewery) where the state dumped the contaminated stuff from West Commercial Street? Or both?
- What is the zoning of the two parcels?
- Is the wet land a designated (DEP?) "wetlands"? Or is it a city layer wetland?
- Do we know the history of the site? What is under the toxic dirt mound? Are there any deed restrictions?
- Do you know what those pipes coming out of the ground are?
- Considering the environmental constraints do you know what land Portland would be swapping for it? I'd hate for the city to give up a lot for this land as it appears that it may have negative value.
- Has anyone spoken to the sheriff's department about restrictions from being on the site? I've personally been threatened with arrest several times just for walking through the area.

Thanks for your time and attention to these questions; I am copying HHS committee and the Libbytown board to keep them in the loop.

Best,
Zack

--

207-838-6120
917-696-5649
ZacharyBarowitz.com

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On Feb 26, 2019, 7:55 AM -0500, Brett Gabor <brett.gabor@gmail.com>, wrote:

I'd also like to add the questions:

1. Has the city conducted an inventory of homeless, substance abuse, and mental health housing already present in the Libbytown/St John/ Valley Street area?
2. Has the city studied how a low barrier shelter next to a jail will interact with the population being arrested in other parts of the city and then released on bail from the jail onto the street?

Thank you.

Brett

On Feb 26, 2019, 7:01 AM -0500, Pious Ali <pali@portlandmaine.gov>, wrote:

Councilor Ray, is it possible to get this answers before our meeting tonight ?
Please excuse any discrepancy , this email is sent from a mobile device.

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Thanks for your time and attention to these questions; I am copying HHS committee and the Libbytown board to keep them in the loop.

Best,
Zack

--

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Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Fwd: BNA Barron Center Site Support Letter

2 messages

Jon Jennings <jpj@portlandmaine.gov>

Mon, Jul 16, 2018 at 8:03 PM

To: Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>, Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Sarah Michniewicz** <sarahmichniewicz@me.com>

Date: Sun, Jul 8, 2018 at 2:49 PM

Subject: BNA Barron Center Site Support Letter

To: Belinda Ray <bsr@portlandmaine.gov>, Ali Pious <pali@portlandmaine.gov>, Brian Batson <bbatson@portlandmaine.gov>

Cc: Nicholas Mavodones <nmm@portlandmaine.gov>, Justin Costa <jcosta@portlandmaine.gov>, Cook Kim <kcook@portlandmaine.gov>, Jill Duson <jduson@portlandmaine.gov>, Spencer Thibodeau <sthibodeau@portlandmaine.gov>, Ethan Strimling <estrimling@portlandmaine.gov>, Jon Jennings <jpj@portlandmaine.gov>, Michael Sauschuck <mjs@portlandmaine.gov>

July 7, 2018

Health and Human Services and Public Safety Committee
City of Portland
389 Congress Street
Portland, ME 04101

To Councilors Ray, Ali and Batson,

The Bayside Neighborhood Association supports both the proposal to build a new homeless services center, and to locate it on the Barron Center campus.

The BNA advocates for the Bayside neighborhood where the current Oxford Street Shelter, along with a large number of Portland's essential social service providers, is located. This facility has been inadequate for many years and is unable to properly carry out the City of Portland's stated obligation to do the vital work of caring for our most vulnerable citizens.

The current model of serving the homeless with mats to sleep on in one location and food, medical care, and various other necessary supportive services scattered around the general vicinity is outdated, ineffective and inhumane. Although this system may have been sustainable when the number of clients was much lower and their needs less intense, it has broken down irreparably in the face of economic challenges, the opioid epidemic, reduced access to health care, and numerous other factors.

As demand has outstripped resources, the Bayside neighborhood has disproportionately borne the impacts of hosting a population whose basic needs are often unmet, the opportunists that are drawn here to prey on them, and the behaviors that accompany such stressors. Building an adequate and humane homeless services center is a vital first step toward achieving the balance to which every citizen and neighborhood in Portland is entitled.

The BNA has invested a great amount of time and energy over the years, and especially in the last few, educating ourselves in order to understand the situation in our neighborhood. Through emails, phone calls, and meetings, conversations with city staff, social service providers, shelter clients, neighbors, law enforcement, the district attorney's office, judges, elected officials at the local, state and federal levels of government, and residents and leaders of other neighborhoods, we are intimately involved in seeking solutions.

Our endorsement of the proposed facility at the Barron Center campus is therefore based on our understanding of the careful work and thoughtful consideration that has gone into its selection, and considers the following factors, most of which are mandated by the revised emergency shelter conditional use standards:

- Best practices: Research by councilors and city staff into effective service delivery models; consultation with homeless services providers; surveys of shelter clients; site visits to well-regarded homeless service facilities in Boston; building to

accommodate delivery of necessary wrap-around services; clear site lines; on-site meals and laundry; voluntary adoption of multiple best practices at the existing city shelter.

- **Accessibility:** Proximity to existing transportation infrastructure and bus routes; plans to incorporate a dedicated shuttle in addition to existing modes of transportation provided through taxi vouchers and city vehicles as needed.
- **Financial factors:** The use of city-owned land; planned space for partner providers to deliver preventative, routine, and follow-up care to reduce the need and cost of emergency services; existing funding for necessary upgrades to sidewalks, lighting, streets and safety features; potential for public/private partnership to finance construction, potential reduction in expenses for city services such as emergency response, policing and street sweeping.
- **Established Infrastructure:** Existing kitchen and laundry facilities at the Barron Center; existing water, sewer and utility access; and existing vehicle access to site reduces construction costs.
- **Visibility:** Prominent location and campus setting promote clients' sense of social inclusion while providing privacy via on-site services and a screened courtyard.
- **Safety:** Shielding a vulnerable population from the volatile and unsafe environment that was allowed to grow unchecked in Bayside; providing a stable and private base from which to work on housing, employment and recovery; an invested neighborhood with many "eyes on the street."
- **Neighborhood prioritization:** Amended conditional use standards that require a management plan with provisions for working with the surrounding neighborhood; permanent positions for current trained security staff, which have served to improve conditions around the existing shelter; plans to continue the OSS "Hotline" for neighbors to reach out with questions or concerns; street outreach positions to engage potential clients and support the surrounding neighborhood; strong, clear, responsive and adaptable community policing standards; experience with community engagement and collaboration to maintain existing quality of life.

Please note: Neighborhood engagement and safety is a non-negotiable priority for the BNA, and our continued support is predicated on the robustness and effectiveness of the above measures.

- **Community amenities:** Plans for a public health clinic and community policing/police substation to benefit the neighborhood and fill community needs; appropriate architecture to complement existing structures and add value to the neighborhood.
- **Equitability:** Engaging other areas of the city to support the goals of the new comprehensive plan, our shared interests, and the common good.
- **Completing the picture:** Asking other communities to participate through reimbursement and by caring for their own population; continuing the exploration of small shelter zoning to augment a coordinated entry model.

While at one point it may have been feasible to correct the deficiencies of the existing city shelter, that opportunity is long past. The toxic and increasingly dangerous conditions that have been allowed to flourish in Bayside make the city's social obligations far more difficult and costly than they should be, and normalcy almost impossible for residents, visitors, providers, and social service clients alike.

The current situation is not sustainable, and we will not stand for it to continue, here or in any other neighborhood.

The BNA firmly believes that these conditions are not simply the result of hosting the city's shelter and so many other social services, but of an entrenched and fearful mindset that has kept better options from being pursued in the past. Indeed, there has long been an attitude that there are no better options. The selection of the Barron Center campus site is proof that current city leadership is ready to change that narrative, and is willing and able to act.

We urge you to vote to recommend to the full council that the new homeless services center be sited on the Barron Center campus, and to move forward at the pace that this emergency situation demands.

Sincerely,

Sarah Michniewicz
President, Bayside Neighborhood Association

--

Jon P. Jennings
City Manager
City of Portland
389 Congress Street
Portland, ME 04101
(207) 874-8689 Office
(207) 874-8669 Fax
jpj@portlandmaine.gov
www.portlandmaine.gov
[@portlandmanager](#)

 **BNA Barron Center Site Support Letter Final.pdf**
78K

Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>
To: Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Thu, Jul 26, 2018 at 8:17 AM

Public Comment - You may already have this one.

Director, Health & Human Services
City of Portland
389 Congress Street
Portland, Maine 04101
o 207.874.8775
c 207.956.3262
dcs@portlandmaine.gov
[Quoted text hidden]

 **BNA Barron Center Site Support Letter Final.pdf**
78K



Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Fwd: Civic Process

1 message

Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>
To: Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Thu, Nov 15, 2018 at 11:21 AM

Public comment

Director, Health & Human Services
City of Portland
389 Congress Street
Portland, Maine 04101
o 207.874.8775
c 207.956.3262
dcs@portlandmaine.gov

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Jon Jennings** <jjj@portlandmaine.gov>
Date: Thu, Nov 15, 2018 at 11:18 AM
Subject: Fwd: Civic Process
To: Michael Sauschuck <mjs@portlandmaine.gov>, Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Nick Mavodones** <nmm@portlandmaine.gov>
Date: Thu, Nov 15, 2018 at 11:10 AM
Subject: Fwd: Civic Process
To: Jon Jennings <jjj@portlandmaine.gov>

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Nason's Corner Neighborhood Association** <nasonscornerneighborhood@gmail.com>
Date: Thursday, November 15, 2018
Subject: Civic Process
To: nmm@portlandmaine.gov

Dear Councilor Mavodones,

I am very disturbed by the complete disregard of the civic process by Councilor Ray, chair of the HHS & PS Committee, regarding the Homeless Services Center proposal. It was clear to me at Tuesday's meeting that she is not interested in consulting with her fellow committee members, Councilors Batson and Ali.

I understand that she disagrees with them, but it is her role to have a dialogue with them and guide the committee to a consensus.

City Staff stated multiple times during their presentation that there were more than willing to dig deeper into anything that was asked of them by the committee and that they had not done full research into all of the options, whether it be number of sites or locations.

The HHS & PS committee still has a lot of work to do on this issue and Councilors Batson and Ali should be allowed to do their work without being blocked by Councilor Ray's clear agenda to move this along as quickly as possible.

I urge you not to allow the council to vote on any resolution at Monday's meeting.

Maya Lena

Maya Lena, President
NASON'S CORNER NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION



--

Nick Mavodones
City Council At-Large
[389 Congress Street](#)
Portland ME 04101
(207) 874-8685
nmm@portlandmaine.gov

Sent from Gmail Mobile

--

Jon P. Jennings
City Manager
[City of Portland](#)
[389 Congress Street](#)
Portland, ME 04101
(207) 874-8689 Office
(207) 874-8669 Fax
jpj@portlandmaine.gov
www.portlandmaine.gov
Twitter: [@portlandmanager](#)



Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Fwd: Comments on Shelter Site Selection Process

1 message

Jon Jennings <jpj@portlandmaine.gov>

Wed, Jan 23, 2019 at 1:14 PM

To: Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>, Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>, Jeff Levine <jlevine@portlandmaine.gov>

For the record.

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Smith, Cecilia B.** <CeciliaB.Smith@tufts.edu>

Date: Wed, Jan 23, 2019 at 11:54 AM

Subject: Comments on Shelter Site Selection Process

To: bbatson@portlandmaine.gov <bbatson@portlandmaine.gov>, estrimling@portlandmaine.gov <estrimling@portlandmaine.gov>, jduson@portlandmaine.gov <jduson@portlandmaine.gov>, jlevine@portlandmaine.gov <jlevine@portlandmaine.gov>, bsr@portlandmaine.gov <bsr@portlandmaine.gov>, sthibodeau@portlandmaine.gov <sthibodeau@portlandmaine.gov>, jcosta@portlandmaine.gov <jcosta@portlandmaine.gov>, kcook@portlandmaine.gov <kcook@portlandmaine.gov>, pali@portlandmaine.gov <pali@portlandmaine.gov>, nmm@portlandmaine.gov <nmm@portlandmaine.gov>, cdg@portlandmaine.gov <cdg@portlandmaine.gov>, jpj@portlandmaine.gov <jpj@portlandmaine.gov>

Cc: cityclerk@portlandmaine.gov <cityclerk@portlandmaine.gov>

Dear Mayor Strimling, City Councilors, City Planning Staff, and City Manager Jon Jennings:

The City of Portland is currently investigating sites for the purpose of building a new emergency homeless shelter in places that are not permissible under current zoning. As a resident of Portland, I am concerned that the City is willfully ignoring its own land use codes in conducting this search.

Our 2018 Comprehensive Plan says we are an equitable city, that the benefits and costs and of our City will be born fairly across the entire City. The Comprehensive Plan also states that our government will continue to be transparent and its policies fair and uniformly enforced. I would like to know why the city is not being transparent and enforcing its policies as it conducts a site selection analysis for the proposed emergency homeless shelter. It is clear that the City is purposely trying to ignore its recently adopted zoning amendment in specifying the areas in our City where emergency shelters may be allowed as conditional uses.

Background: Under the guidance of the Health and Human Resources Committee, in May 1st 2017 the City approved a zoning amendment to allow, under conditional use permit, allowing emergency homeless shelters in areas of the city where such shelters were previously prohibited. Besides allowing emergency shelters in zone B3, Portland's Land Use Code allows emergency shelters on B4, B5, IL, ILb, IM and IH zone.

Then, on October 20th 2017, under pressure from the Health and Human Resources Committee, the planning staff prepared and proposed a new zoning amendment, that would have allowed emergency shelters throughout the city, inclusive of residential zones. This proposed amendment contained a cap on the number of beds that would be allowed in each zone, with the maximum number on zone R1, R2, R3, R4, R5, R5a, R6, R6a, R7, B1 and B1b capped at 20. The maximum number of beds on zones B2, B2b, B2c, B6, B7, IS-FBC capped at 40. This proposed zoning amendment, which would have allowed emergency shelters throughout the city was not approved, for good reasons.

I want to remind the City staff, and my elected representatives that the City of Portland is not above the law. See Maine Revised Statutes 30-A, Part 2 Subpart 6-A, Chapter 187 Subchapter 3, Subsection 4352: "County and municipal governments and districts are subject to any zoning ordinance."

Zoning has no meaning if it is not predictable. It only makes sense that the City uses its land use codes as part of its site selection criteria. Failure to incorporate the City's land use codes will constitute an illegitimate study.

The City of Portland has a zoning ordinance that makes it explicit where emergency shelters can exist, therefore I ask my City to stop ignoring its zoning ordinances under our Land Use Code as it searches for an available site to build an emergency homeless shelter. If the City is interested in creating an emergency homeless shelter outside of its currently permitted zones, the City must revise its zoning ordinances and hold a public hearing. The City should stop pretending it has not already adopted an ordinance regulating where emergency shelters can be built, and later try to use spot zoning as a remedy.

I also want to point out for the record, that during the time period in which the City was actively searching for a location to build a new emergency homeless shelter, the City sold several publicly owned land parcels that were suitable for this purpose. Therefore, it is quite astounding that the City is emphasizing the need to use remaining City owned land as primary criteria in the site selection process. If this factor was not important during the time large parcels of public land were sold to the private market in 2017, why is it important now?

Respectfully,

Cecilia Smith
[113 Warwick St. Portland, ME 04102](#)

--

Jon P. Jennings
City Manager
City of Portland
[389 Congress Street](#)
[Portland, ME 04101](#)
(207) 874-8689 Office
(207) 874-8669 Fax
jjp@portlandmaine.gov
www.portlandmaine.gov
Twitter: [@portlandmanager](#)



Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Fwd: Concerns about shelter at County Way

2 messages

Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>
To: Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Thu, Mar 7, 2019 at 11:17 AM

Public Comment

Director, Health & Human Services
City of Portland
389 Congress Street
Portland, Maine 04101
o 207.874.8775
c 207.956.3262
dcs@portlandmaine.gov

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Zack Barowitz** <zbarowitz@gmail.com>
Date: Thu, Mar 7, 2019 at 11:17 AM
Subject: Concerns about shelter at County Way
To: Kristen Dow <KJD@portlandmaine.gov>, <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>

Dawn, Kristen;

I am writing to say that I share the concerns that HHS raised about the County Way site as a location for a large homeless shelter. In addition to concerns being raised about the proximity to the jail and other services; the area also suffers from a lot of the problems that we see downtown:

- we see needles on the street and in the bushes
- encounter vagrancy, panhandling, inebriation daily
- there numerous little 'nooks' where homeless people congregate and drink
- multiple access points to the trail network where there still are camps in the woods
- poor sidewalk conditions in winter along Congress Street that obliges people to walk in the busy road. I see this on a daily basis, the city has never been able to remove ice and snow along this city plowed school route.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter, please let me know if you would like to come down for a tour of the area and some of its hidden corners.

Thank you,
Zack

--
207-838-6120
917-696-5649
ZacharyBarowitz.com

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Kristen Dow <kjd@portlandmaine.gov>
To: Jon Jennings <jjp@portlandmaine.gov>, Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Thu, Mar 7, 2019 at 1:58 PM

[Quoted text hidden]



Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Fwd: County Way Homeless Shelter Site

1 message

Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>
To: Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Tue, Mar 5, 2019 at 1:34 PM

Public Comment

Director, Health & Human Services
City of Portland
389 Congress Street
Portland, Maine 04101
o 207.874.8775
c 207.956.3262
dcs@portlandmaine.gov

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Nick Aceto** <na@acetola.com>

Date: Tue, Mar 5, 2019 at 12:30 PM

Subject: County Way Homeless Shelter Site

To: dcs@portlandmaine.gov <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>, Brian Batson <bbatson@portlandmaine.gov>, Belinda Ray <bsr@portlandmaine.gov>, Pious Ali <pali@portlandmaine.gov>, Justin Costa <jcosta@portlandmaine.gov>Cc: Greg Mitchell <gmitchell@portlandmaine.gov>, jlevine@portlandmaine.gov <jlevine@portlandmaine.gov>, Nicholas Mavodones <Nmm@portlandmaine.gov>, Ethan Strimling <Estrimling@portlandmaine.gov>, Jill Duson <jduson@portlandmaine.gov>, kcook@portlandmaine.gov <kcook@portlandmaine.gov>, Spencer Thibodeau <Sthibodeau@portlandmaine.gov>

Dear HHS Committee, City Councilors and Mayor--

I would like to thank you all for taking up the task of identifying viable sites for the relocation of the Oxford Street emergency shelter.

I believe our city does more than its fair share in providing services to a state and regional, if not a national epidemic. However, I also believe our city is in many ways overburdening itself with unsustainable projects, services, and infrastructure intended to address issues stemming from systemic, regional problems of which we have limited or no influence or control.

In particular, I am concerned that my neighborhood, Libbytown, a neighborhood which I have been very proud to be a part of since returning to Portland in 2017, has been asked to shoulder an unsustainable social, economic, and environmental burden which will have deep and lasting negative impacts on the neighborhood and city itself. Indeed, the current model as proposed, in my estimation, is likely fraught with unintended negative consequences both for the potential occupants as well as the adjacent community and city-at-large which I believe outweigh the net social good the project is intended to provide.

More specifically, I believe the single, 150+ bed single shelter is a poor model for the City of Portland and a misfit for the Libbytown neighborhood, both in terms of scale and concentration of both vulnerable and/or at-risk populations as well as the physical character and overall makeup of the neighborhood itself.

The following is a list of what I believe to be the most salient points in disqualifying the County Way site as a viable candidate for the new singular homeless shelter model:

- Over-concentration of services and incompatible mix of both at-risk and vulnerable populations between the numerous public housing communities, shelters, and services within close proximity to the site including the county jail, avesta housing-first community, Shalom House, and Florence House all within walking distance
- Incompatible scale and intensity of use with adjacent lower-density residential neighborhood and commercial center
- Dangerous pedestrian environment placing populations reliant primarily on foot-travel within close proximity to and along higher speed-auto-oriented corridors at Congress and St. Johns Streets as well as the Fore River Parkway with limited or no pedestrian infrastructure safely connecting the site to viable transit locations and services
- An environmentally compromised site with potentially-contaminated fill material as well as a constrained buildable envelope which may present costly and time-consumptive barriers to a cost-effective project
- Unsustainable land use and development practices which could almost certainly compromise the existing wetlands which provide important natural stormwater and flood mitigation functions at a time when the city is developing a plan to avoid such environmental hazards and impacts.
- Potential to encourage off-site and dispersed encampments along the adjacent fore river trail corridor and waterfront, presenting a danger for inhabitants during flooding and storm events, as well as further environmental damage and degradation of wetlands and marshes
- Adjacency to inaccessible or difficult to access and/or patrol natural areas presenting a hazard to both inhabitants, the public, and law enforcement

I would propose the city reconsider a dispersed/multiple shelter model and/or a location more in line with the scale, intensity and type of use and concentration of this proposed project. I would also encourage the committee to revisit the former scoring process conducted during the evaluation of the Barron Center site and include the public's active participation in the process.

As a city composed of many intelligent and compassionate individuals I believe there is untapped potential for finding a creative, fitting solution we can all be proud of and arrive at together.

Thank you again for your service to our great city and your time and consideration in this matter.

N

NICK ACETO PLA ASLA

DESIGN PARTNER



LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE + URBAN DESIGN + GRAPHICS

PORTLAND ME 207 221 3390 | BASALT CO 970 279 5344

ACETO LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS | ACETOLA.COM



Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Fwd: County Way is next to Bunker Brewing's beer garden

2 messages

Kristen Dow <kjd@portlandmaine.gov>

Sat, Mar 9, 2019 at 5:31 PM

To: Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>, Jon Jennings <jpj@portlandmaine.gov>

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Zack Barowitz** <zbarowitz@gmail.com>

Date: Sat, Mar 9, 2019 at 8:30 AM

Subject: County Way is next to Bunker Brewing's beer garden

To: <phweb@portlandmaine.gov>, Jeff Levine <JLEVINE@portlandmaine.gov>, Kristen Dow

<KJD@portlandmaine.gov>, Belinda Ray <BSR@portlandmaine.gov>, Brian Batson <bbatson@portlandmaine.gov>,

Pious Ali At Large <pali@portlandmaine.gov>

CC: Spencer Thibodeau <sthibodeau@portlandmaine.gov>, Justin Costa <jcosta@portlandmaine.gov>, Kim Cook

<kcook@portlandmaine.gov>, Nicholas Mavodones <nmm@portlandmaine.gov>, Jill Duson

<jduson@portlandmaine.gov>, Mayor <estrimling@portlandmaine.gov>, <libbytown@googlegroups.com>

Kristen, Jeff, Belinda, Pious, Brian;

I would like to bring to your attention something that has not come up in any analysis of the County Way site that I have seen.

The considered County Way shelter location (which apparently is actually on Westfield Street) is in immediate proximity to Bunker Brewing. The sites are steps from one another, a stone toss away.

Bunker has a 4-season beer garden and tasting room which I believe permits smoking. Bunker serves several high gravity beers (e.g., alcohol content between 8%-10%) whose prices start at \$2 for a small glass. Over the past two years, the Libbytown Neighborhood Association has been working with Bunker and Portland city officials to mitigate negative impacts of noise and smoking that Bunker's proximity to residential neighbors presents. Given the apparent correlation between alcoholism and homelessness one can see that these may not be compatible uses.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Zack

--

207-838-6120

917-696-5649

ZacharyBarowitz.com

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--

Kristen Dow

Interim Director

Health & Human Services Department

[389 Congress Street](#)[Portland, ME 04101](#)

207-874-8633

Kristen Dow <kjd@portlandmaine.gov>
To: Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Mon, Mar 11, 2019 at 1:57 PM

Kristen Dow
Interim Director
Health & Human Services Department
389 Congress Street
Portland, ME 04101
207-874-8633

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Belinda Ray** <bsr@portlandmaine.gov>
Date: Sun, Mar 10, 2019 at 2:06 PM
Subject: Re: County Way is next to Bunker Brewing's beer garden
To: Zack Barowitz <zbarowitz@gmail.com>
Cc: <phweb@portlandmaine.gov>, Jeff Levine <JLEVINE@portlandmaine.gov>, Kristen Dow <KJD@portlandmaine.gov>, Brian Batson <bbatson@portlandmaine.gov>, Pious Ali At Large <pali@portlandmaine.gov>, Spencer Thibodeau <sthibodeau@portlandmaine.gov>, Justin Costa <jcosta@portlandmaine.gov>, Kim Cook <kcook@portlandmaine.gov>, Nicholas Mavodones <nmm@portlandmaine.gov>, Jill Duson <jduson@portlandmaine.gov>, Mayor <estrimling@portlandmaine.gov>, <libbytown@googlegroups.com>

Hi Zack.

Thanks for your email. I expect we'll be diving more deeply into the directly abutting uses at our 3/19 meeting, getting more information of this sort for all three sites. The committee won't be taking any action on the 19th--just listening and asking questions. We'll have a public hearing on the three sites on 3/26, 5:30pm, in Council Chambers, and there won't be a vote that evening, either. After the hearing, we'll talk about next steps, but the earliest I would expect a vote on a recommendation to the council would be at our first April meeting on 4/9.

Please spread the word about these important dates to your neighborhood group, and thanks again for your email.

Best,

Belinda
Belinda S. Ray (*she / her / hers*)
City Council, District 1
389 Congress Street
Portland, ME 04101
BSR@portlandmaine.gov

Sign up for [my newsletter](#) or visit [my blog!](#)

Please Note: Under Maine law, emails sent or received by public officials or city employees may be classified as public records. There are very few exceptions. As a result, please be advised that what is written in an e-mail could be released to the public and/or the media if requested.

On Sat, Mar 9, 2019 at 5:30 AM Zack Barowitz <zbarowitz@gmail.com> wrote:

Kristen, Jeff, Belinda, Pious, Brian;

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Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Zack

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207-838-6120

917-696-5649

ZacharyBarowitz.com

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Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Fwd: county way

1 message

Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>
To: Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Thu, Mar 7, 2019 at 1:33 PM

public comment

Director, Health & Human Services
[City of Portland](#)
[389 Congress Street](#)
[Portland, Maine 04101](#)
o 207.874.8775
c 207.956.3262
dcs@portlandmaine.gov

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Raymond Jos Di Donato, Sr.** <kdidonato@aol.com>
Date: Thu, Mar 7, 2019 at 12:16 PM
Subject: county way
To: <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>

I am writing as a resident of Libbytown most of my life. I do not feel that county way is the right location for the homeless shelter. I strongly feel the new location should be in downtown area of the city, not in residential neighborhoods. The site also has some landfill issues that could be difficult and expensive to address. thank you Mary Didonato



Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Fwd: Criteria for Locating a Low Barrier Shelter2 messages

Jon Jennings <jpj@portlandmaine.gov>

Thu, Nov 15, 2018 at 12:48 PM

To: Michael Sauschuck <mjs@portlandmaine.gov>, Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>, Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Nick Mavodones** <nmm@portlandmaine.gov>

Date: Thu, Nov 15, 2018 at 12:11 PM

Subject: Fwd: Criteria for Locating a Low Barrier Shelter

To: Jon Jennings <jpj@portlandmaine.gov>

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Diana Cundy** <dcundy@maine.edu>

Date: Thursday, November 15, 2018

Subject: Criteria for Locating a Low Barrier Shelter

To: estrimling@portlandmaine.gov, bsr@portlandmaine.gov, sthibodeau@portlandmaine.gov, Brian Batson <bbatson@portlandmaine.gov>, jcosta@portlandmaine.gov, Jill Duson <jduson@portlandmaine.gov>, kcook@portlandmaine.gov, pali@portlandmaine.gov, nmm@portlandmaine.gov

Dear Mayor & Councilors,

If the one shelter model is the one you decide to follow, I want to state a few principles I hope you will bear in mind as you consider a site. Having elderly services at the Barron Center is more in keeping with the institutions that are already there and would be a more appropriate for this site than a low barrier megashelter, whether it has 100 beds, 125 beds, or 200 beds.

1. Any low barrier shelter you choose for the city must be buffered from residential neighborhoods. Experiences across the country with shelters of this type close to housing are highly problematic. Studies of crime and other negative effects around this type of shelter are available and have been provided to you. The examples that staff pointed to as positive examples have turned out to be disasters and this has severely damaged their credibility with respect to our belief in their ability to make competent decisions.
2. Previous zoning should be respected, rather than ignored or overturned. Zoning is only meaningful if it is followed by everyone and people make important life decisions based on current zoning. Recommendations made in 2017 should be respected.
3. Siting a low barrier shelter near elementary schools is not an option. The safety of the children of Portland is as important as the needs of people experiencing homelessness and there is no need for the latter to endanger the former if wise planning is done.
4. Pretending that all the "predators" in Bayside will suddenly disappear and cannot drive or take the bus to a new location represents magical thinking.
5. An analysis of the possible effects on a neighborhood chosen - any neighborhood - needs to be undertaken, with input from relevant organizations, institutions, and citizens. The information provided should be in layperson's terms and be clear and comprehensible. It needs to include the word, "shelter," so neighbors

understand what is being discussed. None of this happened in the last round, and this is one reason we are where we find ourselves today.

6. A new policy with reponsibility for shared funding and limitations on admission needs to be adopted. No neighborhood of Portland should be asked to shoulder the burden of homeless people from everywhere staying here with no residency requirements or financial support from the county and the state. The farther one lives from this location, the easier it is to be magnanimous. It is not fair to expect any neighborhood to assume the full burden of this misplaced generosity.

It is troubling that a neighborhood that already has a large burden of care for vulnerable people has been chosen in the first place. The process by which the city tried to locate a megashelter at the Barron Center with no consultation and no analysis of the neighborhood, with a timeline of a few weeks, has been very damaging to our respect for those who govern us. Please give thoughtful consideration to these criteria as you plan for the future.

Respectfully,

Diana Cundy
[18 Orono Rd.](#)

--

Nick Mavodones
City Council At-Large
[389 Congress Street](#)
[Portland ME 04101](#)
(207) 874-8685
nmm@portlandmaine.gov

Sent from Gmail Mobile

--

Jon P. Jennings
City Manager
[City of Portland](#)
[389 Congress Street](#)
Portland, ME 04101
(207) 874-8689 Office
(207) 874-8669 Fax
jpj@portlandmaine.gov
www.portlandmaine.gov
Twitter: [@portlandmanager](#)

Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>
To: Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Thu, Nov 15, 2018 at 1:50 PM

Public Comment

Director, Health & Human Services
[City of Portland](#)
[389 Congress Street](#)
[Portland, Maine 04101](#)
o 207.874.8775
c 207.956.3262
dcs@portlandmaine.gov

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Jon Jennings** <jjj@portlandmaine.gov>

Date: Thu, Nov 15, 2018 at 12:48 PM

Subject: Fwd: Criteria for Locating a Low Barrier Shelter

[Quoted text hidden]

[Quoted text hidden]



Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Fwd: District Road Site - Additional Information

1 message

Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>
To: Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Fri, Aug 24, 2018 at 3:37 PM

Public comment

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Michael Sauschuck** <mjs@portlandmaine.gov>
Date: Fri, Aug 24, 2018 at 12:19 PM
Subject: Fwd: District Road Site - Additional Information
To: Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>, Robert Parritt <rwp@portlandmaine.gov>, Tuck O'Brien <sgo@portlandmaine.gov>, David MacLean <dem@portlandmaine.gov>, Jessica Grondin <jgrondin@portlandmaine.gov>

Just an fyi with one more to come. Thanks

Michael J. Sauschuck
Assistant City Manager
City of Portland
389 Congress Street
Portland, Maine 04101
(207) 874-8681

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Casey McCormack** <jcdmccormack@gmail.com>
Date: Fri, Aug 24, 2018 at 12:04 PM
Subject: District Road Site - Additional Information
To: Jon Jennings <jpj@portlandmaine.gov>, Michael Sauschuck <mjs@portlandmaine.gov>

Manager Jennings and Assistant Manager Sauschuck,

Apologies for sending two long emails in quick succession. Last one for today - I promise.

I. District Road Proposal

I wanted to follow-up on our discussion of the District Road site yesterday. As I said, Paul Bradbury was extremely helpful when I spoke with him - and very genuine in his concern that PWM is land constrained and needs all the parking it can get.

However, just like the City did with the Duluth Trading site in South Portland, I think that the District Road site could be done in a way that has a minimal impact on future parking options (and other airport uses) at PWM. To that end, please find attached an image showing my proposal, with the site of interest marked with a red border (it also shows the building height restrictions imposed by the FAA). I have also attached a map showing all of the transportation options in the vicinity of this site - all of which can easily be connected with the committed shuttle service Rob Parritt described.

As you can see, there is ample vacant land between the Public Works facility and the nearby commercial building to site the one-story shelter floor plan that was originally proposed as a best practice. This site is not currently used for parking and I frankly don't think it would make much sense to try and convert it into a parking lot in the future. Accordingly, I still view it as a very compelling site, particularly in light of the fact that the City recently obtained FAA approval for developing the Duluth Trading site (upon information and belief).

Yes, the City would need to expand water and sewer to the site - but I believe that would be a <~\$200K line item and would pale in comparison to the long-term costs associated with a failing shelter at the Barron Center. Yes, the City would need to pay FMV rent to PWM, but, since PWM is owned by the City, I have to imagine there can be offsetting reductions in appropriations or additional contracts for services that would make the City whole. In any event, even if those funds

could not be offset through municipal budgeting or service contracts, the money would be going back into a city-owned enterprise.

II. A Compromise For Everyone

Regardless of whether this particular District Road site works, I believe there would be fairly broad support for a compromise that can address the concerns of all stakeholders in the vicinity of District Road. So... My proposed compromise is as follows (and if you don't feel comfortable doing this without Council buy-in I would ask that the "hiding the homeless" concept be placed on the agenda at the next available Council meeting):

1. The City drops the "hiding the homeless" mandate;
2. The City focuses all of its resources on selecting a shelter site in the vicinity of District Road / Outer Outer Congress area
3. If the specific District Road site referenced above is not going to work, then the City should be willing pay a premium to site this shelter away from a residential neighborhood (because I would suggest the long-term costs of managing a failing shelter next to a residential neighborhood will far outweigh the short-term cost savings from building on City-owned land);
4. Proceed with building the larger "homeless services center shelter" in the vicinity of District Road with the understanding that the City will:

- Commit to making an effort to reduce bed counts (i.e. long term stayers initiatives, etc.) and lobby for policy changes to make Portland's homeless policy more manageable and suitable to a City of its size;
- Develop the shelter so that all or a portion can be repurposed as bed counts decrease (for municipal or airport uses, maybe);
- Further incentivise/study scattered shelter models and further explore public/private partnerships for specialized shelters (i.e. elder shelter), transitional housing, and housing first developments as part of an overall bed reduction and homeless policy strategy, as well as further explore and lobby for residency requirement modifications and other similar policy changes in Portland and Augusta.

This, to me, seems like an incredibly palatable compromise for all parties involved. It helps depressurize Bayside in the short term, it allows a large emergency "services-centric" shelter to be constructed in the near future, it allows the City flexibility to pursue policy changes aimed at getting to a more effective homeless policy, and it keeps the door open for other scattered / specialty shelters for those who support such an initiative. Importantly, it also doesn't carry the likelihood of throwing a large residential neighborhood like Nason's Corner under the bus. And if the large shelter becomes just as much of a failure as the OSS is in Bayside, the commercial uses in the District Road area can be repurposed to deal with the changing dynamics (i.e. health care tenants, mental health tenants, substance abuse tenants, social services tenants, etc.) - whereas Nason's Corner will be stuck with mostly residential uses - and without much in the way of flexibility.

Thanks and have a great weekend.

Casey

--

Director, Health & Human Services
City of Portland
389 Congress Street
Portland, Maine 04101
o 207.874.8775
c 207.956.3262
dcs@portlandmaine.gov

2 attachments



Shelter Sites on District Road with FAA Elevation Restrictions v2.jpg
332K



Metro Map Page.jpg
292K



Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Fwd: Effects of the Poverello Center

1 message

Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>
To: Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Wed, Aug 29, 2018 at 8:26 AM

public comment ?

Director, Health & Human Services
City of Portland
389 Congress Street
Portland, Maine 04101
o 207.874.8775
c 207.956.3262
dcs@portlandmaine.gov

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Zan Cadman** <cadmana@gmail.com>

Date: Wed, Aug 29, 2018 at 7:55 AM

Subject: Effects of the Poverello Center

To: estrimling@portlandmaine.gov, bsr@portlandmaine.gov, sthibodeau@portlandmaine.gov, bbatson@portlandmaine.gov, ""jcosta@portlandmaine.gov"" <jcosta@portlandmaine.gov>, kcook@portlandmaine.gov, pali@portlandmaine.gov, ""nmm@portlandmaine.gov"" <nmm@portlandmaine.gov>, jduson@portlandmaine.gov, jpj@portlandmaine.gov, Mjs@portlandmaine.gov, dcs@portlandmaine.gov

Good morning City Staff, Council, and Mayor Strimling,

Please read the attached document, which contains excerpts from the public comment portion of 8/13 City Council Meeting in Missoula, MT. Of the 20 people who spoke during public comment, 18 of them commented on the effects that the Poverello Center has had on the surrounding neighborhood. As I'm sure you're aware, the Poverello Center has been cited as a model for the Barron Center proposal, and is half the size.

The full public record can be found at the following link:

<http://missoula.siretechnologies.com/SIREPub/mtgviewer.aspx?meetid=2764&doctype=AGENDA>

Thank you,

Zan Cadman

**Missoula Public Comment.docx**
26K



Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Fwd: Emergency Shelter Placement in District 3

3 messages

Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>
To: Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Fri, Jul 6, 2018 at 1:09 PM

Director, Health & Human Services
[City of Portland](#)
[389 Congress Street](#)
Portland, Maine 04101
o 207.874.8775
c 207.956.3262
dcs@portlandmaine.gov

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Jon Jennings** <jjj@portlandmaine.gov>
Date: Fri, Jul 6, 2018 at 12:53 PM
Subject: Fwd: Emergency Shelter Placement in District 3
To: Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>, Michael Sauschuck <mjs@portlandmaine.gov>

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **andrew graham** <agraham43@mac.com>
Date: Fri, Jul 6, 2018 at 12:44 PM
Subject: Emergency Shelter Placement in District 3
To: bbatson@portlandmaine.gov
Cc: Belinda Ray <bray0002@maine.rr.com>, Jon Jennings <jjj@portlandmaine.gov>

Dear Mr. Batson-

I am a District 3 resident, living at [43 Macy St](#) (off Capisic Street by Capisic Pond. I've resided here since 1978, and both of my children attended Hall School - so I am familiar with the neighborhood. I want to express my support for the plan to site a new emergency shelter adjacent the Barron Center.

It fits so many of the criteria one would want in a location for a shelter - isolated but not hidden, on public transportation, already city property, near a similar facility (Motel 6), accessible to shopping (Westbrook Shaws and the soon to be built Market Basket), and close to existing homeless encampments. It is relatively isolated from residential neighborhoods. I do not believe there is a better place that could have been chosen in the city.

The country has grown increasingly fearful, and NIMBYism seems at an all-time high in Portland. Please believe that there is a silent majority in your district that understands that difficult choices must be made, and that this is the best choice that can be made for the city as a whole. Do what is best for the city as a whole, and accept the criticism you will receive from folks who view the world only through a zero-sum lens. Too long has the city bent to the loudest voices; please understand that those who show up at meetings are typically the ones with a personal ax to grind.

Kindly,
Andy

Mobile 207.650.5535
agraham43@mac.com

--

Jon P. Jennings
City Manager
[City of Portland](#)
[389 Congress Street](#)
Portland, ME 04101
(207) 874-8689 Office
(207) 874-8669 Fax
jjp@portlandmaine.gov
www.portlandmaine.gov
[@portlandmanager](#)

Jon Jennings <jjp@portlandmaine.gov>
To: Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>, ash@portlandmaine.gov

Wed, Jul 18, 2018 at 5:17 AM

For the record

Jon P. Jennings
City Manager
[City of Portland](#)
[389 Congress Street](#)
Portland, ME 04101
(207) 874-8689 Office
jjp@portlandmaine.gov
www.portlandmaine.gov
[@portlandmanager](#)

Begin forwarded message:

From: andrew graham <agraham43@mac.com>
Date: July 6, 2018 at 12:44:30 PM EDT
To: bbatson@portlandmaine.gov
Cc: Belinda Ray <bray0002@maine.rr.com>, Jon Jennings <jjp@portlandmaine.gov>
Subject: **Emergency Shelter Placement in District 3**

Dear Mr. Batson-

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Kindly,
Andy

Andrew **GRAHAM**

Mobile 207.650.5535
agraham43@mac.com

Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>
To: Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Thu, Jul 26, 2018 at 8:05 AM

Public Comment

Director, Health & Human Services
City of Portland
389 Congress Street
Portland, Maine 04101
o 207.874.8775
c 207.956.3262
dcs@portlandmaine.gov

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Jon Jennings** <jjj@portlandmaine.gov>
Date: Fri, Jul 6, 2018 at 12:53 PM
Subject: Fwd: Emergency Shelter Placement in District 3
To: Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>, Michael Sauschuck <mjs@portlandmaine.gov>

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From: **andrew graham** <agraham43@mac.com>
Date: Fri, Jul 6, 2018 at 12:44 PM
Subject: Emergency Shelter Placement in District 3
To: bbatson@portlandmaine.gov
Cc: Belinda Ray <bray0002@maine.rr.com>, Jon Jennings <jjj@portlandmaine.gov>

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2/14/2019

City of Portland Mail - Fwd: Emergency Shelter Placement in District 3

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Kindly,
Andy

Andrew **GRAHAM**

Mobile 207.650.5535
agraham43@mac.com

--

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www.portlandmaine.gov
[@portlandmanager](#)



Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Fwd: Emergency Shelter

1 message

Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>
To: Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Wed, Aug 22, 2018 at 12:04 PM

For the public record.

Director, Health & Human Services
[City of Portland](#)
[389 Congress Street](#)
Portland, Maine 04101
o 207.874.8775
c 207.956.3262
dcs@portlandmaine.gov

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Pious Ali** <pali@portlandmaine.gov>
Date: Wed, Aug 22, 2018 at 11:43 AM
Subject: Re: Emergency Shelter
To: Eric Kane <erickane@maine.rr.com>, Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>, Jon Jennings <jpj@portlandmaine.gov>

Hi Ms. Stiles

I will be forward some emails from Mr. Kane and my response to him so that its added to the public records Thanks.

*Respectfully***Pious Ali**

City Councilor At-Large

City Hall

[389 Congress Street](#)[Portland, ME 04101](#)PALI@PortlandMaine.gov[2078074283](tel:2078074283)<http://www.portlandmaine.gov>[Sign up to receive updates on my work](#)On Fri, Aug 3, 2018 at 1:16 PM, Eric Kane <erickane@maine.rr.com> wrote:

Good Afternoon Pious,

I am a Nason's Corner resident who voted for you. Can you tell me whether you support or oppose the relocation of the emergency shelter to the Barron Center campus? Thank you in advance.

Sent from my iPhone



Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Fwd: Encampments

1 message

Jon Jennings <jpj@portlandmaine.gov>

Mon, Sep 10, 2018 at 11:22 AM

To: Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>, Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>, Michael Sauschuck <mjs@portlandmaine.gov>

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Patrice Perreault** <murphperreault@gmail.com>

Date: Fri, Aug 24, 2018 at 5:16 PM

Subject: Fwd: Encampments

To: <estrimling@portlandmaine.gov>, <jcosta@portlandmaine.gov>, <jduson@portlandmaine.gov>, <bbatson@portlandmaine.gov>, <kcook@portlandmaine.gov>, <sthibodeau@portlandmaine.gov>, <nmm@portlandmaine.gov>, <jpj@portlandmaine.gov>

Afternoon all,

Check out a couple articles below on the homeless situation near wooded areas.

Lots of interesting precedents from all over the country.

The latest from Alaska: <http://www.latimes.com/nation/la-na-alaska-homeless-20180824-story.html>Much closer to home, we have the recent Manchester, NH experience: <http://www.unionleader.com/Mark-Haywards-City-Matters:-Neighbors-say-citys-crackdown-on-camps-puts-pressure-on-them>

--

Jon P. Jennings

City Manager

City of Portland

389 Congress Street

Portland, ME 04101

(207) 874-8689 Office

(207) 874-8669 Fax

jpj@portlandmaine.govwww.portlandmaine.gov

Twitter: @portlandmanager



Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Fwd: Expenses for shelter models

1 message

Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>
To: Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Sat, Nov 10, 2018 at 10:29 AM

Public comments

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **KenCapron1** <kcapron1@maine.rr.com>

Date: Sat, Nov 10, 2018 at 2:14 AM

Subject: Expenses for shelter models

To: Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>

I don't see any cost allocation for **Insurance – auto, property and general liability.**

Why would you have so much overtime rather than keeping someone on call?

Laundry – so do the residents launder their own linen? Shouldn't they?

Is there an allowance for infestations or outbreaks and all those quarantine costs?

What kind of heat will you have?

Do you reimburse staff for travel between the scattered shelters?

Isn't there an accounting/billing clerk? Grants/development staff?

Ken Capron

Virus-free. www.avg.com

--
Director, Health & Human Services
[City of Portland](#)
[389 Congress Street](#)
[Portland, Maine 04101](#)
o 207.874.8775
c 207.956.3262
dcs@portlandmaine.gov



Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Fwd: From a Neighbor - County Way Site concerns

2 messages

Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>
To: Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Thu, Mar 7, 2019 at 11:39 AM

Public Comment

Director, Health & Human Services
City of Portland
389 Congress Street
Portland, Maine 04101
o 207.874.8775
c 207.956.3262
dcs@portlandmaine.gov

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Caroline Losneck** <closneck@gmail.com>
Date: Thu, Mar 7, 2019 at 11:40 AM
Subject: From a Neighbor - County Way Site concerns
To: Kristen Dow <KJD@portlandmaine.gov>, <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>

Good afternoon Dawn and Kristen,

My name is Caroline and I am a long-time (10 plus years) St John Valley/Libbytown resident. I love and use the Portland Trails near the Fore River, walk and bicycle around the area, shop in the area, and have wonderful respectful relationships with the Housing First residents and staff at Logan Place and Florence House. I have an understanding of the area on County Way where the city is considering locating a new mega-shelter, and am writing you today to express why I feel, from my heart, that this is a bad location and site. And for the record, any 150-bed mega shelter in ANY neighborhood is a bad location (as Bayside can attest.)

I share the same concerns that you/HHS raised about the County Way site as a location for a large mega homeless shelter. We have the jail, a new massive looming Maine Med garage, and Maine Med expansion and at least 2 Housing First Shelters in this area. I, and many folks I know who live here, feel that we are willing to welcome models like LOGAN PLACE and Florence House, or a smaller niche shelter (40-50 people per night, maximum) —but that the addition of a large 150 bed shelter would absolutely adversely negatively impact the St John Valley and Libbytown neighborhoods, and set us back to a neighborhood seen as a "dumping ground" for hiding away our social problems that we have begun to address.

Just as recent developments are taking place in our neighborhoods here (Thompson's Point, our Libbytown Community Garden, improvements to the Portland Trail system in the Fore River area, Westfield Street businesses like Bunker Brewing and more...), the city wants to build a mega shelter? It seems very counter-intuitive, and also deeply irresponsible to the residents at the existing Housing First developments and neighbors living here in the neighborhoods. The large shelter model is just too big, as Nason's Corner so well pointed out, and not an adequate or well-reasoned response. Housing First residents have found life-changing stability largely because of the small size and stability and care they receive from staff at both places here in Libbytown and St John Valley. My fear is this stability would be challenges by a larger shelter, and it's impacts right next door.

Also, we have in this area:

- we see needles on the street and in the bushes
- encounter vagrancy, panhandling, inebriation daily
- there numerous little 'nooks' where homeless people congregate and drink
- multiple access points to the trail network where there still are camps in the woods
- poor sidewalk conditions in winter along Congress Street that obliges people to walk in the busy road. I see this on a daily basis, the city has never been able to remove ice and snow along this city plowed school route.

3/14/2019

City of Portland Mail - Fwd: From a Neighbor - County Way Site concerns

I would urge you to oppose the County Way location --- it's not the right site for a mega shelter, and ask the city to look carefully and with increased attention, not decreased, to the needs and successes of other models that are smaller, well-integrated and scaled into the neighborhoods where they are located (Logan Place and Florence House, for example) and where there is a chance of success. The County Way location does not meet the City's own benchmarks.

I'd also invite you to a **Libbytown neighborhood association meeting**. We have one next week and we'd all love to be able to have a conversation, or site visit, with you about this. I'd be happy to send you the date and time of our meeting next week? Please let me know if this is of interest to you?

Thanks for reading and considering,
Caroline Losneck
Huntress Street, Libbytown

Kristen Dow <kjd@portlandmaine.gov>
To: Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>, Jon Jennings <jpj@portlandmaine.gov>

Thu, Mar 7, 2019 at 1:19 PM

[Quoted text hidden]



Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Fwd: HHS & PSC meeting

6 messages

Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>

Mon, Sep 10, 2018 at 4:21 PM

To: Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Cc: Robert Parritt <rwp@portlandmaine.gov>, "MacLean, David" <dem@portlandmaine.gov>

public comment - but please revise the document in the materials for tomorrow night and remove all providers/services listed that are not in Bayside. thanks

Director, Health & Human Services
City of Portland
389 Congress Street
Portland, Maine 04101
o 207.874.8775
c 207.956.3262
dcs@portlandmaine.gov

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Sarah Michniewicz** <sarahmichniewicz@me.com>

Date: Mon, Sep 10, 2018 at 4:14 PM

Subject: Re: HHS & PSC meeting

To: Jay York <jjork2@maine.rr.com>Cc: Belinda Ray <bsr@portlandmaine.gov>, Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>, Jon Jennings <jjp@portlandmaine.gov>

Hi Jay,

Yes, I noticed that too. Hopefully this list can be modified to reflect which services are actually in Bayside and which are in other neighborhoods. on the peninsula.

Sarah

> On Sep 10, 2018, at 3:52 PM, Jay York <jjork2@maine.rr.com> wrote:

>

> Noticed this in the info for tomorrow's meeting and wondered if maybe there was a misunderstanding of the Bayside neighborhood boundaries?

>

> Jay York

>

>

> <Screen Shot 2018-09-10 at 3.37.41 PM.png><Screen Shot 2018-09-10 at 3.40.37 PM.png>

Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>

Mon, Sep 10, 2018 at 5:13 PM

To: Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>, "MacLean, David" <dem@portlandmaine.gov>, Robert Parritt

<rwp@portlandmaine.gov>

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Belinda Ray** <bsr@portlandmaine.gov>

Date: Mon, Sep 10, 2018 at 4:56 PM

Subject: Re: HHS & PSC meeting

To: Jay York <jjork2@maine.rr.com>

CC: Dawn Stiles <dc@portlandmaine.gov>, Sarah Michniewicz <sarahmichniewicz@me.com>, Jon Jennings <jpj@portlandmaine.gov>

Hello all.

There are indeed several organizations whose offices aren't located in Bayside, but which nonetheless operate in Bayside at various locations (Needle Exchange, Frannie Peabody, Maine Behavioral Health, Milestone's HOME Team, et al). Many will continue to operate in the area even after the shelter re-locates, so I think that is why they are all listed here. I do agree, however, that the wording should be clearer so people don't think the organizations themselves are based in Bayside, but rather their programs.

Can we make sure that gets clarified in that answer online?

Thanks,

Belinda

Belinda S. Ray (*she / her / hers*)
City Council, District 1
[389 Congress Street](#)
Portland, ME 04101
BSR@portlandmaine.gov

Sign up for [my newsletter](#) or visit [my blog](#)!

Please Note: Under Maine law, emails sent or received by public officials or city employees may be classified as public records. There are very few exceptions. As a result, please be advised that what is written in an e-mail could be released to the public and/or the media if requested.

On Mon, Sep 10, 2018 at 3:52 PM, Jay York <jyork2@maine.rr.com> wrote:

Noticed this in the info for tomorrow's meeting and wondered if maybe there was a misunderstanding of the Bayside neighborhood boundaries?

Jay York

- *What will remain in Bayside when OSS moves to a new location?*

Existing programming will still remain, the only move will be the adult Emergency Shelter. The City's Family Shelter, General Assistance office, HIRE program and Rep Payee program will still exist in Bayside.

Additionally, these non-City Services are currently located in Bayside: Preble Street Resource Center, the Maine Med Learning Collaborative (medical case management and healthcare services), Greater Portland Health (physical healthcare, dental), Salvation Army (sober living program), The Opportunity Alliance (PATH, Crisis Services, Mental Health Case Management), Maine Behavioral Healthcare (Case Management, Clinical Counseling, Psychiatry, IOP), Community Policing, Goodwill (Employment Assistance), Teen Center (case management, street academy), Milestone (wet shelter for men, detox, HOME Team), Public Library, DHHS, Frannie Peabody Center (case management for HIV positive people, anonymous HIV and Hep C Testing), Pine Tree Legal, Portland HELP Center, St. Vincent's Church (soup kitchen), City of Portland Needle Exchange, Sexual Assault Response and Support Services.

Health & Human Services and Public Safety Committee Agenda

Tuesday, September 11, 2018, 5:30pm

Room 209, City Hall

Councilor Belinda Ray, District 1, Chair

Councilor Brian Batson, District 3

Councilor Pious Ali, At-Large

1. Announcements
2. Review And Approval Of Minutes From The July 10 And 17, 2018 Meetings.
3. City Staff Answers To Committee And Constituent Questions On The Proposed Location For The Homeless Services Center.

Documents:

[HHS AND PS HOMELESS SERVICES CENTER QUESTION ANSWERS.PDF](#)

--
[Quoted text hidden]

Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>
To: Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>
Cc: "MacLean, David" <dem@portlandmaine.gov>, Robert Parritt <rwp@portlandmaine.gov>

Tue, Sep 11, 2018 at 3:28 PM

I've updated it to " *are either currently located or operate programming* in Bayside."

With the addition of Jon's memo the packet should be complete and I will send it out as soon as I confirm the agenda uploaded correctly.

Please let me know if I am missing any other changes to the packet. (the meeting room, minutes, and paid sick leave memos were already updated and uploaded)

Thank you,
Adam

Adam Harr
Executive Assistant
Social Services Division
Health & Human Services Department
City of Portland
196 Lancaster Street
Portland, ME 04101
o: (207) 482-5144
f: (207) 775-7918
ash@portlandmaine.gov

[Quoted text hidden]

Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>
To: Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>
Cc: "MacLean, David" <dem@portlandmaine.gov>, Robert Parritt <rwp@portlandmaine.gov>

Tue, Sep 11, 2018 at 3:42 PM

Thanks Adam.

[Quoted text hidden]

Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>
To: Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>
Cc: "MacLean, David" <dem@portlandmaine.gov>, Robert Parritt <rwp@portlandmaine.gov>

Tue, Sep 11, 2018 at 3:43 PM

Can I add the service provider matrix?

Adam Harr
Executive Assistant
Social Services Division
Health & Human Services Department
City of Portland
196 Lancaster Street
Portland, ME 04101
o: (207) 482-5144
f: (207) 775-7918
ash@portlandmaine.gov

[Quoted text hidden]

Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>
To: Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Tue, Sep 11, 2018 at 3:46 PM

Yes

[Quoted text hidden]



Fwd: Homeless Services Center Site

2 messages

Katherine Jones <kj@portlandmaine.gov>

Tue, Feb 2

To: Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>, Belinda Ray <bsr@portlandmaine.gov>

I have a couple more testimonies for the meeting tonight.
 Katherine Jones, City Clerk, CCM, CMC, Registrar
 City of Portland
[389 Congress Street](#)
[Portland, ME 04101](#)
 (207) 874-8614
 (207) 874-8612 Fax

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **City Clerk** <cityclerk@portlandmaine.gov>
 Date: Tue, Feb 26, 2019 at 8:03 AM
 Subject: Fwd: Homeless Services Center Site
 To: Katherine Jones <kj@portlandmaine.gov>

Forwarded for your review

Donna
 City Clerk's Office
[389 Congress St. Rm. 203](#)
[Portland, ME 04101](#)
 P: 207-874-8610
 F: 207-874-8612

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Bayside Neighborhood** <bnaportland@gmail.com>
 Date: Mon, Feb 25, 2019 at 4:44 PM
 Subject: Fwd: Homeless Services Center Site
 To: <cityclerk@portlandmaine.gov>
 Cc: Bayside Neighborhood <bnaportland@gmail.com>

Good Afternoon,

If it is too late for this email to be added to the packet for tomorrow's HHS meeting, would you please make sure it is placed on the councilors' desks before the meeting?

Thank you!

Sarah Michniewicz

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Bayside Neighborhood** <bnaportland@gmail.com>
 Date: Mon, Feb 25, 2019 at 4:33 PM
 Subject: Homeless Services Center Site
 To: Councilor Belinda Ray <bsr@portlandmaine.gov>, <pali@portlandmaine.gov>, <bbatson@portlandmaine.gov>, Jill Duson <jduson@portlandmaine.gov>, Nick Mavodones, Jr. <nmm@portlandmaine.gov>, <jcosta@portlandmaine.gov>, <kcook@portlandmaine.gov>, <sthibodeau@portlandmaine.gov>, <estrimling@portlandmaine.gov>
 Cc: <jpj@portlandmaine.gov>

To Councilors Ray, Ali and Batson,

Thank you for your sustained focus on locating an appropriate site for a new homeless services center. The Bayside Neighborhood Association continues to support and overdue step of modernizing the City's delivery of services and support to people experiencing homelessness.

We appreciate that City staff is thoroughly and fairly evaluating the merits of potential locations; however, we cannot endorse any site that is located in Bayside. We eliminate 33 Portland Street from the list of potential sites at the February 26 Health and Human Services & Public Safety Committee meeting.

The 33 Portland Street parcel is too small to allow an adequate buffer from nearby residences. It would also not accommodate the preferred design of a single story screened courtyard, nor the space required for security screenings, community partners, and meal delivery as stipulated by the revised conditional use standards for shelters. The land would likely require the same costly remediation that makes much of the former City of Portland Public Works site undesirable for shelter or housing.

Moreover, siting a new facility so close to the location of the current shelter would do little to relieve the pressure on our neighborhood. It would do nothing to disrupt entrenched patterns which perpetuate the difficulties faced by shelter guests and residents. It would not give the new facility, shelter staff, or people experiencing homelessness their best chance at success. These factors also make it an unsuitable location for a partner provider.

For well over two decades Bayside has done far more than its fair share to support Portland's social services network, and it's time for our neighborhood to have some. The recent attention to this issue has led many other neighborhood organizations and citizens to proclaim "solidarity" with Bayside (Zack Barowitz, Libbytown Neighborhood Association), to state that "the crisis should not be Bayside's burden to bear" (Maya Lena, Nason's Corner Neighborhood Association), and to express a desire to "be

3/14/2019

City of Portland Mail - Fwd: Homeless Services Center Site

solution". The BNA urges you to give them that opportunity so that we may all enjoy a secure, equitable, dynamic and authentic city while providing humane, effective support for the vulnerable amongst us.

Sincerely,
Sarah Michniewicz
President, Bayside Neighborhood Association

Jon Jennings <jpj@portlandmaine.gov>
To: Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>, Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>, Kristen Dow <kjd@portlandmaine.gov>

Tue, Feb 26

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Bayside Neighborhood** <bnaportland@gmail.com>

Date: Mon, Feb 25, 2019 at 4:34 PM

Subject: Homeless Services Center Site

To: Councilor Belinda Ray <bsr@portlandmaine.gov>, <pali@portlandmaine.gov>, <bbatson@portlandmaine.gov>, Jill Duson <jduson@portlandmaine.gov>, Nick Mavodones, Jr. <nmm@portlandmaine.gov>, <jcosta@portlandmaine.gov>, <kcook@portlandmaine.gov>, <sthibodeau@portlandmaine.gov>, <estrimling@portlandmaine.gov>

CC: <jpj@portlandmaine.gov>

To Councilors Ray, Ali and Batson,

Thank you for your sustained focus on locating an appropriate site for a new homeless services center. The Bayside Neighborhood Association continues to support and overdue step of modernizing the City's delivery of services and support to people experiencing homelessness.

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Sincerely,
Sarah Michniewicz
President, Bayside Neighborhood Association

--
Jon P. Jennings
City Manager
City of Portland
389 Congress Street
Portland, ME 04101
(207) 874-8689 Office
jpj@portlandmaine.gov
www.portlandmaine.gov



Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Fwd: Homeless Services Center

6 messages

Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>

Sun, Feb 24, 2019 at 6:48 PM

To: Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>, "Geyer, Aaron" <aeg@portlandmaine.gov>

Cc: "Dow, Kristen" <kjd@portlandmaine.gov>

Public Comment

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Maya Lena** <maya.j.lena@gmail.com>

Date: Sun, Feb 24, 2019 at 3:33 PM

Subject: Homeless Services Center

To: Jon Jennings <jpj@portlandmaine.gov>, Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>, Belinda Ray <bray0002@maine.rr.com>, Brian Batson <bbatson@portlandmaine.gov>, Pious Ali <pali@portlandmaine.gov>, <nmm@portlandmaine.gov>, <jcosta@portlandmaine.gov>, Spencer Thibodeau <sthibodeau@portlandmaine.gov>, Ethan Strimling <estrimling@portlandmaine.gov>, <kcook@portlandmaine.gov>, <jduson@portlandmaine.gov>
CC: <cityclerk@portlandmaine.gov>

Dear Councilors,

Many of you know me as the President of the Nason's Corner Neighborhood Association. I am writing this letter to you as a private citizen of Portland. The writing in this letter reflects my own personal opinion.

I will be the first to admit that I had not been closely paying attention to the homelessness situation in Bayside until I received a phone call from City Manager Jon Jennings last June about the City's original proposal to relocate the shelter to Nason's Corner.

Since then, however, I have been doing the best that I can to learn about the issues surrounding homelessness in Portland by attending meetings at City Hall, engaging with other neighborhood association leaders via the Portland Alliance of Neighborhoods (PAN), and consulting with local medical providers, social workers and public health professionals.

I recently attended Portland Press Herald photographer Ben McCanna's presentation "Finding Bayside" at the Portland Public Library on February 7, 2019. According to Mr. McCanna's presentation, about 3 years ago, members of the BNA began documenting increased antisocial behavior in Bayside. The root cause, according to both BNA leaders and the homeless people whom he interviewed, was the growing opioid epidemic. BNA leaders compiled photographic evidence, which they brought to the City Council, and certain commitments were apparently made to remove the shelter from Bayside to provide relief to the neighborhood. Multiple times during his presentation, Mr. McCanna cited opiates and the lack of addiction treatment as the driver of the antisocial behavior and the increased numbers of people seeking shelter. His vivid photography and personal anecdotes made the case that the neglected addiction crisis (in Portland and elsewhere) was the story his readers should be taking away from his work rather than the supposed inadequacy of the Oxford Street Shelter facility.

Over the course of the past few months I have heard many compelling and fact-based arguments for why a large shelter situated away from downtown is NOT the best model. As this process has unfolded it has become more and more clear that the true need is not for more shelter beds, but for access to treatment, and access to housing. However, the HHS Committee and Council continue to push for a megashelter model.

I sat through the last shelter-focused HHS meeting and I was encouraged that multiple private partners are coming forward wanting to create more service locations in order to relieve some pressure from the existing city-run adult emergency shelter.

I also, however, feel that the City is struggling to find a suitable location for a large shelter. There just doesn't seem to be a place to put one that makes sense for both needing emergency shelter, and for the established neighborhoods of Portland where such shelters previously have not been permitted. Bayside "needing relief" is not reason enough to relocate the problem to another neighborhood. This would not be fair to anyone affected by this big change. The push to build a very large (150-200 bed) homeless services center is starting to feel like trying to fit a square peg into a round hole.

I would encourage the HHS Committee to reconsider the position they are presently in. I understand that a vote has been made to pursue the 150 bed model, but it does not mean that the City should continue to pursue this plan just because we are already at this stage. As I know you have heard from many Portland residents there is no model for a 150-200 bed shelter that has successfully integrated into a residential neighborhood. It baffles me that the Council is still pushing for this model without showing proven precedent as an example for what works. Why would Portland spend \$10 million on a project doomed to fail without any evidence suggesting otherwise?

I would strongly encourage you to put aside your current politics and to reflect deeply on the past 8 months of this process. This pause should enable you to consider if the current course is the best decision not just for the loudest voices or the deepest pockets, but for the entire City of Portland and everyone who resides here.

Maya Lena
Essex Street

--

Director, Health & Human Services
City of Portland
[389 Congress Street](#)
[Portland, Maine 04101](#)
o 207.874.8775
c 207.956.3262
dcs@portlandmaine.gov

Jon Jennings <jjj@portlandmaine.gov>

Mon, Feb 25, 2019 at 6:32 AM

To: Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>, Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>, Kristen Dow <kjd@portlandmaine.gov>

For the record.

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **stephanie scherer** <stephanie.f.scherer@gmail.com>

Date: Sun, Feb 24, 2019 at 7:58 PM

Subject: Homeless Services Center

To: Jon Jennings <jjj@portlandmaine.gov>, Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>, Brian Batson <bbatson@portlandmaine.gov>, Pious Ali <pali@portlandmaine.gov>, Nick Mavodones <nmm@portlandmaine.gov>, Justin Costa <jcosta@portlandmaine.gov>, Spencer Thibodeau <sthibodeau@portlandmaine.gov>, Ethan Strimling <estrimling@portlandmaine.gov>, <kcook@portlandmaine.gov>, jduson <jduson@portlandmaine.gov>, CC: <cityclerk@portlandmaine.gov>

Hello Councilors,

I am writing today to express my dismay to see that [33 Portland Street](#) is still on the list of possible locations for the Homeless Services Center.

I understand that you need to explore all possible options, but surely, the fact that Bayside is already home to the teen shelter, the family shelter, and the Resource center which serves upwards of 300 homeless individuals a day is enough to warrant removing this location from the list. **There needs to be more equity amongst neighborhoods, and it is time to start giving Bayside some relief.**

Additionally, building a shelter in Bayside would do nothing to break up the deeply entrenched, illegal and antisocial behavior that has plagued the neighborhood and made it that much harder for those who are genuinely seeking safe shelter and an opportunity to get back on their feet to actually achieve just that. (And especially not when, Dyer's, the business adjacent to this proposed location, is one of the known Bayside "hot-spots" for calls for emergency service, which I don't need to remind you, has the disproportionately highest number of calls in the city.)

Again, I understand that you need to explore all possible options, but I hope that you recognize that Bayside is already doing much more than its fair share when it comes to housing the homeless.

Thank you,
Stephanie Scherer
Resident, Hanover Street

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--

Jon P. Jennings
City Manager
City of Portland
389 Congress Street
Portland, ME 04101
(207) 874-8689 Office
jpj@portlandmaine.gov
www.portlandmaine.gov

Jon Jennings <jpj@portlandmaine.gov>

Mon, Feb 25, 2019 at 6:32 AM

To: Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>, Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>, Kristen Dow <kjd@portlandmaine.gov>

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Maya Lena** <maya.j.lena@gmail.com>

Date: Sun, Feb 24, 2019 at 3:33 PM

Subject: Homeless Services Center

To: Jon Jennings <jpj@portlandmaine.gov>, Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>, Belinda Ray <bray0002@maine.rr.com>, Brian Batson <bbatson@portlandmaine.gov>, Pious Ali <pali@portlandmaine.gov>, <nmm@portlandmaine.gov>, <jcosta@portlandmaine.gov>, Spencer Thibodeau <sthibodeau@portlandmaine.gov>, Ethan Strimling <estrimling@portlandmaine.gov>, <kcook@portlandmaine.gov>, <jduson@portlandmaine.gov>
CC: <cityclerk@portlandmaine.gov>

Dear Councilors,

Many of you know me as the President of the Nason's Corner Neighborhood Association. I am writing this letter to you as a private citizen of Portland. The writing in this letter reflects my own personal opinion.

I will be the first to admit that I had not been closely paying attention to the homelessness situation in Bayside until I received a phone call from City Manager Jon Jennings last June about the City's original proposal to relocate the shelter to Nason's Corner.

Since then, however, I have been doing the best that I can to learn about the issues surrounding homelessness in Portland by attending meetings at City Hall, engaging with other neighborhood association leaders via the Portland Alliance of Neighborhoods (PAN), and consulting with local medical providers, social workers and public health professionals.

I recently attended Portland Press Herald photographer Ben McCanna's presentation "Finding Bayside" at the Portland Public Library on February 7, 2019. According to Mr. McCanna's presentation, about 3 years ago, members of the BNA began documenting increased antisocial behavior in Bayside. The root cause, according to both BNA leaders and the homeless people whom he interviewed, was the growing opioid epidemic. BNA leaders compiled photographic evidence, which they brought to the City Council, and certain commitments were apparently made to remove the shelter from Bayside to provide relief to the neighborhood. Multiple times during his presentation, Mr. McCanna cited opiates and the lack of addiction treatment as the driver of the antisocial behavior and the increased numbers of people seeking shelter. His vivid photography and personal anecdotes made the case that the neglected addiction crisis (in Portland and elsewhere) was the story his readers should be taking away from his work rather than the supposed inadequacy of the Oxford Street Shelter facility.

Over the course of the past few months I have heard many compelling and fact-based arguments for why a large shelter situated away from downtown is NOT the best model. As this process has unfolded it has become more and more clear that the true need is not for more shelter beds, but for access to treatment, and access to housing. However, the HHS Committee and Council continue to push for a megashelter model.

I sat through the last shelter-focused HHS meeting and I was encouraged that multiple private partners are coming forward wanting to create more service locations in order to relieve some pressure from the existing city-run adult emergency shelter.

I also, however, feel that the City is struggling to find a suitable location for a large shelter. There just doesn't seem to be a place to put one that makes sense for both needing emergency shelter, and for the established neighborhoods of Portland where such shelters previously have not been permitted. Bayside "needing relief" is not reason enough to relocate the problem to another neighborhood. This would not be fair to anyone affected by this big change. The push to build a very large (150-200 bed) homeless services center is starting to feel like trying to fit a square peg into a round hole.

I would encourage the HHS Committee to reconsider the position they are presently in. I understand that a vote has been made to pursue the 150 bed model, but it does not mean that the City should continue to pursue this plan just because we are already at this stage. As I know you have heard from many Portland residents there is no model for a 150-200 bed shelter that has successfully integrated into a residential neighborhood. It baffles me that the Council is still pushing for this model without showing proven precedent as an example for what works. Why would Portland spend \$10 million on a project doomed to fail without any evidence suggesting otherwise?

I would strongly encourage you to put aside your current politics and to reflect deeply on the past 8 months of this process. This pause should enable you to consider if the current course is the best decision not just for the loudest voices or the deepest pockets, but for the entire City of Portland and everyone who resides here.

Maya Lena
Essex Street
[Quoted text hidden]

Katherine Jones <klj@portlandmaine.gov>
To: Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Mon, Feb 25, 2019 at 11:24 AM

Katherine Jones, City Clerk, CCM, CMC,Registrar
City of Portland
389 Congress Street
Portland, ME 04101
(207) 874-8614
(207) 874-8612 Fax

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **City Clerk** <cityclerk@portlandmaine.gov>
Date: Mon, Feb 25, 2019 at 8:42 AM
Subject: Fwd: Homeless Services Center
To: Katherine Jones <klj@portlandmaine.gov>

Forwarded for your review

Donna
City Clerk's Office
389 Congress St. Rm. 203
Portland, ME 04101
P: 207-874-8610
F: 207-874-8612

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Maya Lena** <maya.j.lena@gmail.com>
Date: Sun, Feb 24, 2019 at 3:33 PM
Subject: Homeless Services Center
To: Jon Jennings <jpj@portlandmaine.gov>, Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>, Belinda Ray <bray0002@maine.rr.com>, Brian Batson <bbatson@portlandmaine.gov>, Pious Ali <pali@portlandmaine.gov>, <nmm@portlandmaine.gov>, <jcosta@portlandmaine.gov>, Spencer Thibodeau <sthibodeau@portlandmaine.gov>, Ethan Strimling <estrimling@portlandmaine.gov>, <kcook@portlandmaine.gov>, <jduson@portlandmaine.gov>
Cc: <cityclerk@portlandmaine.gov>

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Maya Lena
Essex Street

Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>
To: Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>, "Dow, Kristen" <kjd@portlandmaine.gov>

Mon, Feb 25, 2019 at 12:37 PM

Public Comment

Director, Health & Human Services
City of Portland
[389 Congress Street](https://www.portlandmaine.gov/389)
[Portland, Maine 04101](https://www.portlandmaine.gov/389)
o 207.874.8775
c 207.956.3262
dcs@portlandmaine.gov

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **stephanie scherer** <stephanie.f.scherer@gmail.com>

Date: Sun, Feb 24, 2019 at 7:58 PM

Subject: Homeless Services Center

To: Jon Jennings <jjj@portlandmaine.gov>, Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>, Brian Batson <bbatson@portlandmaine.gov>, Pious Ali <pali@portlandmaine.gov>, Nick Mavodones <nmm@portlandmaine.gov>, Justin Costa <jcosta@portlandmaine.gov>, Spencer Thibodeau <sthibodeau@portlandmaine.gov>, Ethan Strimling <estrimling@portlandmaine.gov>, <kcook@portlandmaine.gov>, jduson <jduson@portlandmaine.gov>, CC: <cityclerk@portlandmaine.gov>

Hello Councilors,

I am writing today to express my dismay to see that [33 Portland Street](#) is still on the list of possible locations for the Homeless Services Center.

I understand that you need to explore all possible options, but surely, the fact that Bayside is already home to the teen shelter, the family shelter, and the Resource center which serves upwards of 300 homeless individuals a day is enough to warrant removing this location from the list. **There needs to be more equity amongst neighborhoods, and it is time to start giving Bayside some relief.**

Additionally, building a shelter in Bayside would do nothing to break up the deeply entrenched, illegal and antisocial behavior that has plagued the neighborhood and made it that much harder for those who are genuinely seeking safe shelter and an opportunity to get back on their feet to actually achieve just that. (And especially not when, Dyer's, the business adjacent to this proposed location, is one of the known Bayside "hot-spots" for calls for emergency service, which I don't need to remind you, has the disproportionately highest number of calls in the city.)

Again, I understand that you need to explore all possible options, but I hope that you recognize that Bayside is already doing much more than its fair share when it comes to housing the homeless.

Thank you,
Stephanie Scherer
Resident, Hanover Street

PS. One of the common arguments I've heard against having the shelter located in a particular neighborhood is that "very large" shelters should not be located in residential neighborhoods. I've never really bought that, as shelters *are* essentially residential housing. But if that *is* something that has swayed any members of the Council, I'd like to remind you that the current Oxford Street Shelter is in an incredibly residential part of Bayside, with houses all around it. And given the fact that there are no big box retailers or highways / major thoroughfares in the neighborhood, I'd argue that the OSS site is in even more residential than the Barron Center site. I just want to underscore this, as if you are going to let the argument that shelters don't belong in residential areas be disqualifier for potential locations in *some* neighborhoods, then again..... **Equity.** That needs to start being a disqualifier for all.

Katherine Jones <klj@portlandmaine.gov>

Tue, Feb 26, 2019 at 2:32 PM

To: Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>, Belinda Ray <bsr@portlandmaine.gov>

I think this is the final one.

Kathy
Katherine Jones, City Clerk, CCM, CMC, Registrar
City of Portland
[389 Congress Street](#)
Portland, ME 04101
(207) 874-8614
(207) 874-8612 Fax

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **City Clerk** <cityclerk@portlandmaine.gov>

Date: Tue, Feb 26, 2019 at 2:00 PM

Subject: Fwd: Homeless Services Center

To: Katherine Jones <klj@portlandmaine.gov>

City Clerk's Office

389 Congress St. Rm. 203
Portland, ME 04101
P: 207-874-8610
F: 207-874-8612

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **stephanie scherer** <stephanie.f.scherer@gmail.com>
Date: Sun, Feb 24, 2019 at 7:58 PM
Subject: Homeless Services Center
To: Jon Jennings <jpj@portlandmaine.gov>, Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>, Brian Batson <bbatson@portlandmaine.gov>, Pious Ali <pali@portlandmaine.gov>, Nick Mavodones <nmm@portlandmaine.gov>, Justin Costa <jcosta@portlandmaine.gov>, Spencer Thibodeau <sthibodeau@portlandmaine.gov>, Ethan Strimling <estrimling@portlandmaine.gov>, <kcook@portlandmaine.gov>, jduson <jduson@portlandmaine.gov>, CC: <cityclerk@portlandmaine.gov>

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Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Fwd: Homeless Shelter near Barron Center

1 message

Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>
To: Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Mon, Aug 6, 2018 at 11:20 AM

Public Comment

Director, Health & Human Services
City of Portland
389 Congress Street
Portland, Maine 04101
o 207.874.8775
c 207.956.3262
dcs@portlandmaine.gov

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **marc kuczewski** <marckuczewski@supremehearing.com>
Date: Mon, Aug 6, 2018 at 10:48 AM
Subject: Homeless Shelter near Barron Center
To: dcs@portlandmaine.gov
Cc: michellekuczewski@supremehearing.com

Dawn,

You stopped in at our hearing aid center, Supreme Hearing Aids, to discuss the homeless shelter being proposed for the location near the Barron Center. We have discussed this proposal with several people since your visit including the mayor of Westbrook. We are adamantly opposed to this proposal. We know that it will be detrimental to our business. Possibly hundreds of homeless individuals out on the streets every day in our general area of business will be alarming to our senior patients and they may choose to go elsewhere for their hearing care.

Thanks,

Marc

Supreme Hearing

Phone (Scarborough): 207-219-8380

Phone (Westbrook) : 207-591-4136

This email is intended only for the use of the individual or entity to which it is addressed. It may contain information that is privileged, confidential and/or exempt from disclosure. If you have received this in error, please

(1) do not use this information in any way; (2) notify the sender by reply e-mail; (3) and delete this message and any attachments.

2/14/2019

City of Portland Mail - Fwd: Homeless Shelter near Barron Center

HIPAA Compliance Notice: This email may contain health related information that is protected by federal and state laws and may be protected health information under HIPAA privacy law provisions. Dissemination or disposal of protected health information may be done only in compliance with HIPAA and other applicable law.



Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Fwd: Homeless Shelter siting

1 message

Katherine Jones <klj@portlandmaine.gov>

Mon, Mar 4, 2019 at 10:34 AM

To: Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>, Belinda Ray <bsr@portlandmaine.gov>

Written testimony for the next HHS meeting.

Kathy
Katherine Jones, City Clerk, CCM, CMC, Registrar
City of Portland
[389 Congress Street](#)
[Portland, ME 04101](#)
(207) 874-8614
(207) 874-8612 Fax

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **City Clerk** <cityclerk@portlandmaine.gov>
Date: Mon, Mar 4, 2019 at 10:20 AM
Subject: Fwd: Homeless Shelter siting
To: Katherine Jones <klj@portlandmaine.gov>

Forwarded for your review.

Donna
City Clerk's Office
[389 Congress St. Rm. 203](#)
[Portland, ME 04101](#)
P: 207-874-8610
F: 207-874-8612

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Maeve Pistrang** <maeve.pistrang@gmail.com>
Date: Mon, Mar 4, 2019 at 8:51 AM
Subject: Homeless Shelter siting
To: <estrimling@portlandmaine.gov>, <bsr@portlandmaine.gov>, <sthobodeau@portlandmaine.gov>, Brian Batson <bbatson@portlandmaine.gov>, <jcosta@portlandmaine.gov>, <kcook@portlandmaine.gov>, <pali@portlandmaine.gov>, <nmm@portlandmaine.gov>, <judson@portlandmaine.gov>
Cc: <cityclerk@portlandmaine.gov>

I would like to share my concerns about the potential siting of a homeless shelter at County Way in the Libbytown neighborhood. Firstly, locating a homeless shelter next to a jail is extremely problematic. It sends the wrong message to the people being served and I believe it does not accurately reflect the values of our community. Additionally, the site reportedly is severely contaminated. What plans are there for remediation of the site to make it safe for people to stay there and for employees to be there every day?

Moreover, a 150-bed shelter does not seem to be appropriate for any neighborhood in Portland. Instead, the idea of multiple scattered shelters needs to be revisited so that the whole city can do its fair share in hosting services that can more easily integrate into neighborhoods.

The opportunity for public input has been woefully inadequate in this process thus far; a robust process that involves the public should be initiated immediately instead of a game of hot potato pitting neighborhoods against each other where the shelter lands in the most politically expedient location. The priority should be the best location and the best model of shelter for residents and the individuals being served. I am not convinced that plunking a huge shelter on a contaminated site next to a jail is the right answer at all.

3/14/2019

City of Portland Mail - Fwd: Homeless Shelter siting

Sincerely,
Maeve Pistrang
165 Bolton Street

--

Maeve W. Pistrang
maeve.pistrang@gmail.com



Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Fwd: Homeless Shelter

1 message

Jon Jennings <jpj@portlandmaine.gov>

Mon, Nov 26, 2018 at 6:11 PM

To: Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>, Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Anne Pringle** <oldmayor@maine.rr.com>

Date: Sat, Nov 24, 2018 at 10:30 AM

Subject: Homeless Shelter

To: Duson, Jill <jduson@portlandmaine.gov>, Cook, Kim <kcook@portlandmaine.gov>, Mavodones, Nick <nmm@portlandmaine.gov>, Ray, Belinda <bsr@portlandmaine.gov>, Strimling, Ethan <estrimling@portlandmaine.gov>, Brian Batson <bbatson@portlandmaine.gov>, Ali, Pious <pali@portlandmaine.gov>, Costa, Justin <jcosta@portlandmaine.gov>, Thibodeau, Spencer <sthibodeau@portlandmaine.gov>
Cc: Jennings, Jon <jpj@portlandmaine.gov>, Sauschuck, Mike <mjs@portlandmaine.gov>, Waxman, Dory <mermaidst@gmail.com>

I am under pressure from my husband to cull my voluminous files and am hard at work. I come across a lot of interesting history in the process.

See attached comments I made to the Council in 2012 as it was deciding to accept the Homeless Task Force Report - and my follow up email.

We are dealing with the same issues, six years later! Hopefully, the Council will step up and address the issues before the community **before** it decided what size shelter we need and where...

Anne

--

Jon P. Jennings
City Manager
City of Portland
389 Congress Street
Portland, ME 04101
(207) 874-8689 Office
(207) 874-8669 Fax
jpj@portlandmaine.gov
www.portlandmaine.gov
Twitter: @portlandmanager

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Anne Pringle <oldmayor@maine.rr.com>

To: "Duson, Jill" <jduson@portlandmaine.gov>, "Leeman, Cheryl" <cal4161@yahoo.com>, "Mavodones, Nick" <NickM@cascobaylines.com>, "Donoghue, Kevin" <kjdonoghue@gmail.com>, "Marshall, Dave" <marshalldistrict2@gmail.com>, "Suslovic, Ed" <edsuslovic@yahoo.com>, "Anton, John" <antonatlarge@gmail.com>, "Coynne, John" <jcoynne@portlandmaine.gov>, "Rees, Mark" <mhr@portlandmaine.gov>, "Gardner, Doug" <dsg@portlandmaine.gov>, "Waxman, Dory" <darichardswaxman@yahoo.com>, "Sauschuck, Mike" <mjs@portlandmaine.gov>

Cc:
Bcc:
Date: Tue, 20 Nov 2012 17:01:08 -0500
Subject: Homeless TF Report

I had to sort of rush through my remarks because the Mayor was trying to stare me down (just kidding, Mike!), so I thought I would send them along, attached.

In thinking about this issue further, as are many people throughout the City (as I hope you know), a few more things occur to me:

- 1) In 1987, City Manager Bob Ganley established the policy that no one would be turned away, in response to the Tent City in Lincoln Park. I am not sure the Council took formal action to adopt that policy as the newspaper implied today. In any case, there were far fewer homeless people then and I suspect the vast majority were from Portland, unlike the current percentages.
- 2) I said that we need a respectful community-wide public debate about this "open door" policy, because, without it, the City is implicitly committing itself to serve an unlimited number of homeless people. 500 now. 1000? 1500? I know that is Preble Street's mission, but is that the City's policy intent, in this day and age of budget limitations?
- 3) The advocates represented that the feds and state are cutting service \$\$, adding to the homeless problem. I agree that this is a problem and it will not be reversed soon. Then, who will fund the services they want to provide to the unlimited number of homeless they wish us to serve? Portland taxpayers?
- 4) The advocates used some strong language in refuting the suggestion that people come here for our services. But only weak assertions were made for why they come here. How do we establish why people from out-of-state, in particular, come here?
- 5) I was struck by the thoughtful comments of the young woman (a social worker herself) who lives in the middle of the shelter complex and has observed the population on a daily basis: 1/3 are chronically homeless, 1/3 are situationally homeless, and 1/3 are "abusers". I have heard people in the field talk about the homeless who travel around the country during the year, moving from one place to another for a while, camping and getting their free services, while often drinking/drugging/panhandling. We see them in Deering Oaks - and over the years City parks staff have even been assaulted by some. They say, "they are not like our local homeless". I suspect that these are the people who use disproportionate police services. Can't we address the three categories of homeless that the woman described? The latter category, which I will characterize as the "travelers", will not agree to be case managed. OK, then they should not get services, as far as this taxpayer is concerned and they should move on....
- 6) Think about it. A residency requirement may be unconstitutional, but if the City found another way to service "its own" (however reasonably defined), more money would be available for better services and better outcomes...
- 7) Re the issue of hospital discharges to the shelter. As most of you know, I have been involved with the mental health arena for almost 20 years, starting from my Council experience with group homes. Hospitals discharge to the shelter if people come to the hospital from the shelter and ask to be returned there, because they have no where else to go. Hospitals are not housing agencies and are not able to keep patients beyond medical necessity. Hospitals are already absorbing a huge and increasing cost of uncompensated care (part of the extended cost of homeless in our community)... For those homeless with mental illness, a large proportion, people have been told it is their "right" to decline the medication and treatment that will help them live a more stable life in the community. This is another difficult topic that requires a respectful community conversation, as "people are dying with their rights on", as a local lawyer with a mentally ill brother said...

Difficult issues. I think the Task Force did some good work and made some good recommendation. I am disappointed that it ducked the "tough questions", but I understand why.

I hope the Mayor will seize on the fundamental issues that this whole community needs to address. I totally agree with Councilor Anton that the City is way overdue for a homeless policy and plan. Until now, that role has been defaulted to Preble Street. Now is the time for the City to devise its own realistic plan.

Thanks for considering these points...

Anne

3 attachments

 **ABP TO COUNCIL Homeless TF Report.docx**
132K

 **COUNCIL – Homeless TF Report.docx**
132K

 **To Council 11.20.12.eml**
186K



Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Fwd: Homeless

1 message

Jon Jennings <jpj@portlandmaine.gov>

Mon, Nov 26, 2018 at 6:12 PM

To: Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>, Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Anne Pringle** <oldmayor@maine.rr.com>

Date: Thu, Nov 22, 2018 at 11:34 AM

Subject: Homeless

To: Ray, Belinda <bsr@portlandmaine.gov>, Jennings, Jon <jpj@portlandmaine.gov>, Thibodeau, Spencer <sthibodeau@portlandmaine.gov>

Cc: Sauschuck, Mike <mjs@portlandmaine.gov>, Waxman, Dory <mermaidst@gmail.com>

See attached letter to the editor from 12.4.04. Same issues...very well stated by the author. As I noted in a prior email to you, Bridge House in Boulder is doing just what this author suggests

Time to step up and update the City policy and approach to services!

Anne

--

Jon P. Jennings

City Manager

City of Portland

389 Congress Street

Portland, ME 04101

(207) 874-8689 Office

(207) 874-8669 Fax

jpj@portlandmaine.govwww.portlandmaine.gov

Twitter: @portlandmanager

**PPH Ltr. to Ed. 12.4.04.pdf**

172K



Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Fwd: Ironing out ironies in the Barron Center proposal public comment emails

1 message

Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>
To: Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Sun, Jul 15, 2018 at 11:04 AM

For public comment folder

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Steve Sclar** <stevesclar@gmail.com>

Date: Fri, Jul 13, 2018 at 3:26 PM

Subject: Ironing out ironies in the Barron Center proposal public comment emails

To: Belinda Ray <bsr@portlandmaine.gov>, Spencer Thibodeau <sthibodeau@portlandmaine.gov>, Brian Batson <bbatson@portlandmaine.gov>, Justin Costa <jcosta@portlandmaine.gov>, Kim Cook <kcook@portlandmaine.gov>, Nick Mavodones <nmm@portlandmaine.gov>, Jill Duson <jduson@portlandmaine.gov>, Pious Ali <pali@portlandmaine.gov>, Ethan Strimling <estrimling@portlandmaine.gov>, Robert Parritt <rwp@portlandmaine.gov>, Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>, Jon Jennings <jpj@portlandmaine.gov>, <mjs@portlandmaine.gov>

Dear Councilors, Mayor, and City Officials,

I read through all the public comment emails that were included in the [July 10th hearing packet](#) with regard to moving the OSS shelter to the Barron Center. I feel the need to iron out some ironies.

First though, I'd note that according to my tally the email record shows 16 individuals opposed and 7 in favor.

Out of the 7 people in favor: 4 live in Bayside; and 3 live in (or near) Nason's Corner.

Allow me to break it down:

Bayside Residents in favor

- Laura U. lives **0.03 miles (154 feet)** from OSS
- Sean K. lives **0.07 miles (371 feet)** from OSS
- Sarah M. lives **0.07 miles (371 feet)** from OSS
- Jim H. lives **0.3 miles (1,584 feet)** from OSS

Nason's Corner* Residents in favor

- Andy G. lives **1.5 miles (7,920 feet)** from Barron Center
 - *Lives in Rosemont, not Nason's Corner
- Debra R. lives **1.2 miles (6,336 feet)** from Barron Center
- Tom B. lives **1.2 miles (6,336 feet)** from Barron Center

The proposal to move the biggest homeless shelter in the state requires us to exercise perspective-taking, which of course is the underpinning of compassion. That's what I'm trying to facilitate. So allow me to point out the glaring ironies:

- The 4 Bayside residents are telling you to ignore the "NIMBY panic" in Nason's Corner while writing with the extreme and breathless urgency of GOOMBY (get out of my backyard) panic. **They have a great deal to gain from the move.**
- The 3 Nason's Corner residents are telling you to ignore the NIMBY fears in Nason's Corner, but their yards are not at stake and **they have very little to lose from the move.** In fact, if you look up the addresses of Andy, Debra, and Tom you will notice a common thread: a vast landscape of beautiful Capisic Pond and Fore River Sanctuary land abuts their yards.

My home, abutting Capisic Pond, is little different than those 3 Nason's Corner supporters. But my involvement and opposition to this proposal has nothing to do with NIMBY and everything to do with compassion, logic, public health, and equitability. The voices that matter more than anything are not listed above. *The voices that deserve preeminence are of those experiencing homelessness (**see footnote) and those living near the Barron Center (including and especially in*

Sagamore Village). Moving forward, I hope and expect these are the voices that will be given the fullest weight of consideration.

I have really worked hard to educate myself on this. I've befriended an expert who intimately understands homelessness in Portland, and talked to my neighbors extensively. I have read every output I could find from the City's studies, task forces and best practice reviews in 2007, 2012, 2015 and 2017. I have listened to some of you address questions at Breakwater on July 5th and City Hall on July 10th (for 5 hours). Having engaged deeply, it truly seems that the Barron Center proposal is politically expedient, not an evidence-based capstone of a 10-year process. There is no "silent majority" in support of this proposal, as Andy asserts in his email. Neighbors around here are beside themselves about the process and substance of this proposal, and this is going to be an extremely bumpy road for the City for the duration of time it's pursued.

As I have expressed in earnest to Councilor Batson and as I said in person at the July 10th hearing: I want to be a part of the solution. All of my neighbors do as well. We know the situation in Bayside is beyond repair. Give us a stake in this. But don't give us a 200-bed shelter and the inevitable 'co-location' of services and smaller shelters. No neighborhood can (or *should be asked to*) safely bear this burden.

The path is plain:

- If the City insists on building one big 200-bed shelter with co-located services, then it shouldn't be in a residential area. It is not a fair and equitable distribution of costs born throughout the City. To this end, I find the District Road counter-proposal (furnished to you by Casey McCormack) very compelling.
- If the City decides to do this the right way, it will build a network of small shelters in residential areas and Nason's Corner will gladly step up to the plate. The City will use this as an opportunity to unite neighborhoods, not divide us. The City will live up to its compassionate, progressive, creative values. (I look forward to reviewing a detailed cost-benefit analysis of the single site vs. scattered site models, as the Mayor requested at the hearing.)
- Please note that the 2 paths above are not mutually exclusive, as explained in the District Road counter-proposal.

Please be in touch if you have any questions or comments. Thank you very much for your time and attention in this important debate. I am looking forward to its continuance.

Steve Sclar, MPH
25 Sandy Terrace

**On the topic of accessing the voices of those currently experiencing homelessness, many neighbors would like to see more than informal surveys which were mentioned at City Hall. If the City has been studying this for the past decade, surely there must be substantial data beyond informal surveys? We hope to see formal surveys, interviews, ethnographic analysis and/or focus group discussions.

--

Director, Health & Human Services
[City of Portland](#)
[389 Congress Street](#)
[Portland, Maine 04101](#)
o 207.874.8775
c 207.956.3262
dcsc@portlandmaine.gov



Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Fwd: Largest Shelter in New England

2 messages

Jon Jennings <jpj@portlandmaine.gov>

Fri, Aug 17, 2018 at 2:50 PM

To: Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>, Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Natasha J** <natashaonfya@gmail.com>

Date: Mon, Jul 30, 2018 at 9:15 PM

Subject: Largest Shelter in New England

To: jpj@portlandmaine.gov

Dear Jon Jennings,

I am writing as a concerned citizen and parent in regards to the City of Portland's proposal to build the largest emergency shelter in New England at the Barron Center campus, near the Portland/Westbrook line on Brighton Avenue in the Nason's Corner Neighborhood.

Since hearing this proposal, I have felt incredibly disappointed in the City of Portland, and sick to my stomach that the City has not engaged in informed decision-making, nor done due diligence in to choosing the site, just a short walk from a newly renovated elementary school-built to draw young families to this neighborhood. I am a young mother, who bought in this neighborhood just before the announcement of this proposal. I spent years picking the perfect house and perfect location for my family's needs, and now my dreams are crumbled. Even since the announcement, our home values have taken a plunge. We bought at the top of the market, believing in the future of this neighborhood and Hall School. What will you do to compensate us for that? I'm a public school teacher, dedicated my life to being a good person and a positive role model. I have spent every penny I have to follow my dream of home-ownership, and now it feels that you have taken that pride and sense of accomplishment away from me.

I am struggling to understand why this proposal is even being contemplated, and I have begun to educate myself and research different city's models and approaches to working to decrease homelessness. Stakeholders in downtown areas and people affected by the problems that arise from homelessness in their own neighborhoods may be attracted to the idea that there would be a facility large enough to house most of the city's homeless citizens. Theoretically they're off the streets, and developers can develop the valuable land, and everyone is happy, right? Wrong. Current research shows that building a large "mega-shelter" is not the answer, and has not worked *anywhere*.

As a citizen, I reject this proposal strongly. In recent years, cities nationally are moving away from this ineffective model, as it creates more problems than it solves and has wasted time and money with adverse results to get people in to permanent housing.

Portlanders deserve for you to take a closer look in to how better results can be achieved. We must look at a more scattered, spread-out demographic diversity and work to get people in to actual housing. How is it consistent with "OnePortland" for one unlucky neighborhood to accept the burden of an enormous homeless facility? Why do you want Portland to be known for the *largest emergency facility in 5 states*? Why are you trying to attract more transient people? News of this mega-shelter

will travel quickly in the transient communities, and not surprisingly, this will quickly lead to more homeless people in Portland.

Whether it is subsidized, affordable, or just within a person's financial ability, we need to be providing affordable options with the needed wraparound services to help people stay afloat. Effective housing models must work to get people housed rapidly, and should not be focused on the large emergency sheltering models that create more problems for the homeless and the surrounding communities, and are not focused on getting people in permanent living situations. We have to stop this backward thinking. The data does not support the clustered model of large homeless centers in one area- that is an invitation for crime and predators to follow. I ask, what will you do to ensure the safety of the children in this neighborhood? The drug dealers, human traffickers, and other predators are going to swarm a giant center such as this, and there are NO PUBLIC SPACES nearby- They will take to our woods and our quiet streets to use drugs, drink, engage in illicit activity. That is completely unacceptable. In this area, we do not have a nearby police station/fire station/hospital.

Putting all homeless people with vastly different needs in one building is negligent and inconsiderate. Why would you repeat this on a grander scale if you have seen the outcomes in the Bayside area? What exactly are you doing to ensure this does not become a repeat of the same congregation of heinous behavior concentrated in one area? The people who live in Bayside moved there knowing the area had a homeless shelter. We bought in Nason's Corner knowing there *wasn't* a homeless shelter out here.

Additionally, the citizens who currently live in the Barron center are those with low-income, who suffer from disabilities such as Dementia and Alzheimer's disease. I sincerely ask how is it best practice to build a large magnet for transient folk all across the Northeast to their exact location, a location that is a quiet, wooded neighborhood full of single-family homes with many young families, a newly renovated elementary school just a short walk away, no public spaces or parks, a 30-45 minute commute to the downtown area, and not a highly consistent public transportation system?

I have had so much excitement and hope and contentment in the Nason's Corner neighborhood. I have enjoyed the short walk to trails, the quiet and serene atmosphere. I have been proud to be a citizen of Portland, and specifically chose this location to start my family, and raise my children. I want to trust my city officials and have faith that you have our best interests at heart. I am positive you will listen to our voices. I encourage and challenge you to please think deeper, to consider more up-to-date options and current models of getting people in to housing. There are other solutions that will benefit everyone involved. Building a bigger, better shelter is not best practice, and seems as though the City is aiming to attract *more* transient people with this proposal. 200 beds is a disproportionately large facility for our small city. I sincerely ask why would you do this? If you build it, more will come.

Mr. Jennings, I'd like you to really think about it: How would you feel if the largest homeless shelter in New England was proposed to be built at the end of your street? Don't build a mega-shelter in *anyone's neighborhood*. Instead, build a few 40 bed shelters that focus on getting people housed.

Please reconsider this proposal.

Thank you,
Kendra J

--

2/14/2019

City of Portland Mail - Fwd: Largest Shelter in New England

Jon P. Jennings
City Manager
[City of Portland](#)
[389 Congress Street](#)
Portland, ME 04101
(207) 874-8689 Office
(207) 874-8669 Fax
jjp@portlandmaine.gov
www.portlandmaine.gov
Twitter: @portlandmanager

Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>
To: Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Fri, Aug 17, 2018 at 2:51 PM

Public Comment

Director, Health & Human Services
[City of Portland](#)
[389 Congress Street](#)
Portland, Maine 04101
o 207.874.8775
c 207.956.3262
dcs@portlandmaine.gov
[Quoted text hidden]



Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Fwd: Message from "RNP002673B8E92D"

1 message

Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>
To: Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Thu, Sep 6, 2018 at 11:34 AM

Public Comment

Director, Health & Human Services
City of Portland
389 Congress Street
Portland, Maine 04101
o 207.874.8775
c 207.956.3262
dcs@portlandmaine.gov

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Jon Jennings** <jjj@portlandmaine.gov>
Date: Thu, Sep 6, 2018 at 11:06 AM
Subject: Fwd: Message from "RNP002673B8E92D"
To: Michael Sauschuck <mjs@portlandmaine.gov>, Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>, David MacLean <dem@portlandmaine.gov>, Robert Parritt <rwp@portlandmaine.gov>, Jessica Grondin <jgrondin@portlandmaine.gov>

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Katherine Jones** <klj@portlandmaine.gov>
Date: Thu, Sep 6, 2018 at 9:03 AM
Subject: Fwd: Message from "RNP002673B8E92D"
To: Belinda Ray <bsr@portlandmaine.gov>, Brian Batson <bbatson@portlandmaine.gov>, Ethan Strimling <estrimling@portlandmaine.gov>, Jill Duson <jduson@portlandmaine.gov>, Jon Jennings <jjj@portlandmaine.gov>, Kim Cook <kcook@portlandmaine.gov>, Nicholas Mavodones <nmm@portlandmaine.gov>, Pious Ali <pali@portlandmaine.gov>, Spencer Thibodeau <sthibodeau@portlandmaine.gov>, Danielle West-Chuhta <dwchuhta@portlandmaine.gov>, Justin Costa <jcosta@portlandmaine.gov>

Good morning,

At last night's City Council meeting, Councilor Duson asked Mr. Cundy if he could give us a copy of the Resolution to reject establishment of a Homeless Service Center at the Barron Center Campus. He provided Councilor Mavodones with a copy of the Resolution and an article that they are giving to neighbors.

The documents are enclosed.

Have a great day
Kathy

Katherine Jones, City Clerk, CCM, CMC, Registrar
City of Portland
389 Congress Street
Portland, ME 04101
(207) 874-8614
(207) 874-8612 Fax

----- Forwarded message -----

From: <cityclerk@portlandmaine.gov>
Date: Thu, Sep 6, 2018 at 8:19 AM
Subject: Message from "RNP002673B8E92D"

To: kjones <klj@portlandmaine.gov>

This E-mail was sent from "RNP002673B8E92D" (MP C3003).

Scan Date: 09.06.2018 08:19:16 (-0400)
Queries to: cityclerk@portlandmaine.gov

--
Jon P. Jennings
City Manager
[City of Portland](http://CityofPortland.org)
[389 Congress Street](http://389CongressStreet.com)
Portland, ME 04101
(207) 874-8689 Office
(207) 874-8669 Fax
jpj@portlandmaine.gov
www.portlandmaine.gov
Twitter: @portlandmanager



20180906081916773.tif
229K



Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Fwd: NCNA Statement - Homeless Services Center

1 message

Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>
To: Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Thu, Jul 26, 2018 at 8:30 AM

Public Comment

Director, Health & Human Services
City of Portland
389 Congress Street
Portland, Maine 04101
o 207.874.8775
c 207.956.3262
dcs@portlandmaine.gov

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Jon Jennings** <jjp@portlandmaine.gov>
Date: Mon, Jul 16, 2018 at 7:38 AM
Subject: Fwd: NCNA Statement - Homeless Services Center
To: Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>

For the record

Jon P. Jennings
City Manager
City of Portland
389 Congress Street
Portland, ME 04101
(207) 874-8689 Office
jjp@portlandmaine.gov
www.portlandmaine.gov
[@portlandmanager](#)

Begin forwarded message:

From: Nick Mavodones <nmm@portlandmaine.gov>
Date: July 14, 2018 at 10:00:21 AM EDT
To: Jon Jennings <jjp@portlandmaine.gov>
Subject: Fwd: NCNA Statement - Homeless Services Center

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Nason's Corner Neighborhood Association** <nasonscornerneighborhood@gmail.com>
Date: Saturday, July 14, 2018
Subject: NCNA Statement - Homeless Services Center
To: Belinda Ray <bsr@portlandmaine.gov>, Pious Ali <pali@portlandmaine.gov>, Brian Batson <bbatson@portlandmaine.gov>
Cc: Ethan Strimling <estrimling@portlandmaine.gov>, nmm@portlandmaine.gov, jduson@portlandmaine.gov, Spencer Thibodeau <sthibodeau@portlandmaine.gov>, kcook@portlandmaine.gov, jcosta@portlandmaine.gov

Dear Health and Human Services and Public Safety Committee and City Council,

Attached, please find the statement from the Nason's Corner Neighborhood Association regarding the Homeless Services Center proposal.

Regards,
Maya Lena

Maya Lena, President
NASON'S CORNER NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION



--

Nick Mavodones
City Council At-Large
389 Congress Street
Portland ME 04101
(207) 874-8685
nmm@portlandmaine.gov

Sent from Gmail Mobile

 **NCNA Statement - Homeless Services Center .pdf**
117K



Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Fwd: New Homeless Shelter Site

1 message

Katherine Jones <klj@portlandmaine.gov>
To: Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Mon, Feb 25, 2019 at 11:25 AM

Katherine Jones, City Clerk, CCM, CMC,Registrar
City of Portland
389 Congress Street
Portland, ME 04101
(207) 874-8614
(207) 874-8612 Fax

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **City Clerk** <cityclerk@portlandmaine.gov>
Date: Mon, Feb 25, 2019 at 8:45 AM
Subject: Fwd: New Homeless Shelter Site
To: Katherine Jones <klj@portlandmaine.gov>

Forwarded for your review

Donna
City Clerk's Office
389 Congress St. Rm. 203
Portland, ME 04101
P: 207-874-8610
F: 207-874-8612

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Dennis Ferrante** <daymaker.ferrante@gmail.com>
Date: Mon, Feb 25, 2019 at 12:35 AM
Subject: New Homeless Shelter Site
To: <cityclerk@portlandmaine.gov>

Dear City Clerk,

I wanted to write to you as a concerned Bayside resident and business owner with the upcoming site selection for a new homeless shelter. I noticed that 33 Portland Street parking lot was one of the 14 sites up for consideration. I'm surprised that the site is on the list for several reasons; the lot is very irregular, the space is at a busy intersection with close proximity to another homeless day shelter, teen shelter, also the Salvation Army Shelter and many single family homes and businesses.

I was under the assumption the city was going to relocate the Oxford Street Shelter out of Bayside to alleviate the pressure of so many shelters in Bayside, and to build a larger more accommodating space to better serve the homeless population and help local residents and businesses alike.

I know the HHS committee has been working hard and still has a lot of work ahead, however, I feel If the City Of Portland is to build a new updated homeless shelter to serve the homeless population of Portland better, 33 Portland Street would not be an appropriate choice, and most likely we would be in the same predicament we are in now.

I really hope the committee will do the right thing and make a decision to relocate the shelter in an area that is conducive for the type of facility needed.

Best Wishes,
Dennis Ferrante

3/14/2019

City of Portland Mail - Fwd: New Homeless Shelter Site

9 Hanover Street
Portland, Maine 04101

Sent from my iPad



Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Fwd: opposed to mega shelter on Brighton Avenue

1 message

Michael Sauschuck <mjs@portlandmaine.gov>

Wed, Sep 5, 2018 at 5:54 AM

To: Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Cc: Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>

Hey Adam,

Please add this to the public comment portion of the packet. Thanks

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **rick zaccaro** <rzaccaro@maine.rr.com>

Date: Tue, Sep 4, 2018 at 9:04 PM

Subject: opposed to mega shelter on Brighton Avenue

To: Ethan Strimling <estrimling@portlandmaine.gov>, <bsr@portlandmaine.gov>, <sthbodeau@portlandmaine.gov>, <jcosta@portlandmaine.gov>, <kcook@portlandmaine.gov>, <pali@portlandmaine.gov>, <nmm@portlandmaine.gov>, <jduson@portlandmaine.gov>, Brian Batson <bbatson@portlandmaine.gov>

CC: <Mjs@portlandmaine.gov>, Jon Jennings <jpj@portlandmaine.gov>

Dear Mayor Strimling and City Councilors Thibodeau, Costa, Cook, Duson, Batson, Mavadones, Pious and Ray, AND City Manager Jennings and Assistant City Manager Sauschuck,

This is Richard and Bonnie Zaccaro, [22 Alden Circle, Portland](#),

We are writing to share our great concern, alarm and fear, about the proposal to build a 200-bed homeless shelter on Brighton Avenue, so close to schools, the Barron Center, residential neighborhoods.

It should not go there. Portland doesn't have enough police officers to handle what's downtown now, and what would come here: crime, loitering, drugs, more panhandler sprawl. It will harm, if not destroy, our area.

A shelter that size is far TOO BIG! We read in the Press Herald that few municipalities in New England have a municipal homeless shelter. Already Portland is a magnet for homeless from outside the city, throughout Maine and out of state. A bigger shelter with more beds will grow that problem, as has been demonstrated in the last 10 years on Preble Street. You build it and they will come.

We are not interested in spending our tax dollars to take care of everyone who comes from outside the city and outside Maine.

If Portland has anything, there should be residency requirements; it should be smaller, scattered shelters in non-residential areas, in locations that doesn't allow drug abuse, horrible behavior, sex and human trafficking.

We are watching. Please reject this location, and this size of shelter for Portland.

Sincerely,
Bonnie and Rick Zaccaro
[22 Alden Circle](#)
[Portland](#)
773-3243--
Michael J. Sauschuck
Assistant City Manager
[City of Portland](#)
[389 Congress Street](#)
Portland, Maine 04101
(207) 874-8681

Fwd: Pious Ali's Statement Regarding His Role on the Health & Human Services Committee

3 messages

Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>
To: Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Wed, Aug 22, 2018 at 12:05 PM

FOr public record.

Director, Health & Human Services
City of Portland
389 Congress Street
Portland, Maine 04101
o 207.874.8775
c 207.956.3262
dcs@portlandmaine.gov

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Eric Kane** <erickane@maine.rr.com>
Date: Wed, Aug 22, 2018 at 9:55 AM
Subject: Pious Ali's Statement Regarding His Role on the Health & Human Services Committee
To: Estrimling@portlandmaine.gov, bsr@portlandmaine.gov, bbatson@portlandmaine.gov, pali@portlandmaine.gov,
nmm@portlandmaine.gov, jduson@portlandmaine.gov, jpj@portlandmaine.gov, dcs@portlandmaine.gov,
mjs@portlandmaine.gov

Good Morning,

I wanted to take a moment to submit the below screenshot of a recent Facebook conversation I had with Councilor Ali for the public record. Unfortunately, he has deleted the conversation from Facebook.

I am an opponent of the construction of the mega shelter and was voicing my concerns regarding Mr. Ali's position. I was absolutely flabbergasted by his response. My at large Councilor considers his mega shelter vote on the Health & Human Services Commission a "nominal" vote and can't understand why one of his constituents from Nason's Corner is so concerned about how he'll vote. I think this clearly demonstrates that Mr. Ali is entirely unfit to serve on this committee or as a City Councilor. He either doesn't understand the importance of the committee on which he sits or simply does not give a damn about his constituents. In either case, I would just like this in the public record so my fellow constituents can see the type of Councilor Mr. Ali truly is. I understand that being a Councilor and dealing with angry constituents must be difficult, but it is clearly not a job Mr. Ali is suited for. Sadly, this kind of dismissiveness has been ever present in the role out of this plan and I certainly hope the city will change course and engage with its citizenry in an honest manner. Have a good day.

Sincerely,
Eric Kane
Raymond Rd.

image1.png
121K



Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>
To: Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Thu, Sep 6, 2018 at 11:31 AM

Public Comment

Director, Health & Human Services
City of Portland
389 Congress Street
Portland, Maine 04101
o 207.874.8775
c 207.956.3262
dcs@portlandmaine.gov

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Eric Kane** <erickane@maine.rr.com>

Date: Thu, Sep 6, 2018 at 10:52 AM

Subject: Re: Pious Ali's Statement Regarding His Role on the Health & Human Services Committee

To: Pious Ali <pali@portlandmaine.gov>

Cc: Ethan Strimling <Estrimling@portlandmaine.gov>, Belinda Ray <bsr@portlandmaine.gov>, Brian Batson <bbatson@portlandmaine.gov>, Nick Mavodones <nmm@portlandmaine.gov>, jduson <jduson@portlandmaine.gov>, Jon Jennings <jjp@portlandmaine.gov>, Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>, Michael Sauschuck <mjs@portlandmaine.gov>, Katherine Jones <klj@portlandmaine.gov>

Hello Pious,

I am just checking in to see if you are yet willing to state your stance on the mega-shelter or are you still conveniently stating that you need more information to make a decision so you don't have to face backlash from your constituents? It is not too late to do the right thing for the citizens of Portland by opposing a mega-shelter model with a proven track record of failure.

Also, it was mentioned to me that you contacted the Nason's Corner Neighborhood Association to complain about our conversation on Facebook. Aside from the fact that I have no relationship with them and am not sure what it is you thought they could do in regards to our interactions, I find it deeply troubling that you would attempt to stymie the free speech of one of your constituents for confronting you about your "position" on the mega-shelter. Shameful! Just shameful! If you support the mega-shelter or refuse to take a position, you should expect to hear from angry constituents. I stand by every word I wrote, not a word of which was inappropriate, and strongly believe that your statement acknowledging that you view your vote on the HHS committee as "nominal" should disqualify you from serving on the committee and respectfully ask that you step down. Your vote is important and should carry weight. The fact that you don't feel this way and seem to think this shelter is already a done deal is cause for serious concern. Please submit this email for the public record.

Sincerely,
Eric Kane

Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 22, 2018, at 11:41 AM, Eric Kane <erickane@maine.rr.com> wrote:

Again, my main concern and what I would like noted for the public record is that Mr. Ali does not appear to understand his role on the committee or the importance of the committee vote. He may spin it any way he likes. His own words demonstrate this and are his own worst enemy. However, his inability to understand and follow where my issue lies in this conversation is causing me to question his mental fitness to serve. I do not say that lightly or as an insult. Based on my recent conversations with him, I find it truly terrifying that he is in a position to make important decisions. Have a great day.

Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 22, 2018, at 11:19 AM, Pious Ali <pali@portlandmaine.gov> wrote:

Mr. Kane

Thank you for your feedback, Like I have said before irrespective of how I may have worded it, the committee's vote is a **recommendation**, irrespective of which direction my vote goes. Whether I used the word **nominal or recommendation**, it is how the process is designed. I am sorry that its difficult for you to accept that at the council committee level there is nothing call deciding vote, even if there is, as an at-large councilor, before I cast that vote I have to consider how my vote will affect all stakeholders and that is the whole city. And I have copied the city clerk Ms. Katherin Jones so that this will be added to the public record. Have a Blessed day !!!

Respectfully

Pious Ali

City Councilor At-Large

City Hall

[389 Congress Street](#)

[Portland, ME 04101](#)

PALI@PortlandMaine.gov

[2078074283](tel:2078074283)

<http://www.portlandmaine.gov>

[Sign up to receive updates on my work](#)

On Wed, Aug 22, 2018 at 9:55 AM, Eric Kane <erickane@maine.rr.com> wrote:

Good Morning,

I wanted to take a moment to submit the below screenshot of a recent Facebook conversation I had with Councilor Ali for the public record. Unfortunately, he has deleted the conversation from Facebook.

I am an opponent of the construction of the mega shelter and was voicing my concerns regarding Mr. Ali's position. I was absolutely flabbergasted by his response. My at large Councilor considers his mega shelter vote on the Health & Human Services Commission a "nominal" vote and can't understand why one of his constituents from Nason's Corner is so concerned about how he'll vote. I think this clearly demonstrates that Mr. Ali is entirely unfit to serve on this committee or as a City Councilor. He either doesn't understand the importance of the committee on which he sits or simply does not give a damn about his constituents. In either case, I would just like this in the public record so my fellow constituents can see the type of Councilor Mr. Ali truly is. I understand that being a Councilor and dealing with angry constituents must be difficult, but it is clearly not a job Mr. Ali is suited for. Sadly, this kind of dismissiveness has been ever present in the role out of this plan and I certainly hope the city will change course and engage with its citizenry in an honest manner. Have a good day.

Sincerely,

Eric Kane
Raymond Rd.

Notice: Under Maine law, documents - including e-mails - in the possession of public officials or city employees about government business may be classified as public records. There are very few exceptions. As a result, please be advised that what is written in an e-mail could be released to the public and/or the media if requested.

Dawn Stiles <dcsc@portlandmaine.gov>
To: Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Thu, Sep 6, 2018 at 2:45 PM

Public Comment

Director, Health & Human Services
City of Portland
389 Congress Street
Portland, Maine 04101
o 207.874.8775
c 207.956.3262
dcsc@portlandmaine.gov

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Pious Ali** <pali@portlandmaine.gov>
Date: Thu, Sep 6, 2018 at 2:41 PM
Subject: Re: Pious Ali's Statement Regarding His Role on the Health & Human Services Committee
To: Eric Kane <erickane@maine.rr.com>
Cc: Ethan Strimling <Estrimling@portlandmaine.gov>, Belinda Ray <bsr@portlandmaine.gov>, Brian Batson <bbatson@portlandmaine.gov>, Nick Mavodones <nmm@portlandmaine.gov>, jduson <jduson@portlandmaine.gov>, Jon Jennings <jpj@portlandmaine.gov>, Dawn Stiles <dcsc@portlandmaine.gov>, Michael Sauschuck <mjs@portlandmaine.gov>, Katherine Jones <klj@portlandmaine.gov>

Mr. Kane

Thanks for your email, my position is not changed. I reached out to Nasons Corner folks because you posted something on their facebook page, and I and asked if they were okay for me to send them the emails we exchanged. It was not a complain. Yes, I did use the word '**nominal**' in place of **recommendation**. I am sorry if that is not okay with you.

Let me say this one more time, I am an at Large Councilor, which means I represent the whole city, so I have to listen to everyone and carefully weigh in their concerns and or support for an issue, look at the information giving to me by city staff and also consider my own research and finding Before I raise my hand to vote on issues. Oh this morning I meet with folks at CBD on Diamond street and they support the proposals as it is, I told them the same thing I told you, Nasons Corner Association, Bayside Neighborhood Association, and some people FROM Homeless Voices for Justice.

I am going to continue to meet with constituents from all over the city until I feel comfortable that I have done my due diligence and comfortable to vote . I hope to see you on Sat and I am sorry its difficult for you to accept that we all do things differently. I have copied City staff to make sure that every email we exchange is added to the public information. Have a wonderful weekend and hopefully I will see you on Sat.

Respectfully

Pious Ali

City Councilor At-Large

City Hall

389 Congress Street

Portland, ME 04101

2/14/2019

City of Portland Mail - Fwd: Pious Ali's Statement Regarding His Role on the Health & Human Services Committee

PALI@PortlandMaine.gov

2078074283

<http://www.portlandmaine.gov>

[Sign up to receive updates on my work](#)

[Quoted text hidden]



Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Fwd: Please consider

1 message

Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>
To: Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Fri, Sep 7, 2018 at 1:25 PM

Public Comment

Director, Health & Human Services
[City of Portland](#)
[389 Congress Street](#)
Portland, Maine 04101
o 207.874.8775
c 207.956.3262
dcs@portlandmaine.gov

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **A Corson** <ajcorson@gmail.com>
Date: Fri, Sep 7, 2018 at 1:14 PM
Subject: Please consider
To: dcs@portlandmaine.gov

Good Afternoon Ms. Stiles,

I am writing to you because sadly I will not be able to attend the forum scheduled tomorrow at Hannaford Hall to discuss the proposed 200 bed homeless shelter.

I am a Registered Nurse and a licensed Social Worker. I have lived in Portland over 25 years and have had the pleasure of working with the homeless population in the Greater Portland area during this time. My jobs have included working with the homeless for the City of Portland, Preble Street Agency and way back when the YWCA was operating, working with young homeless girls and women. I tell you this so you have an understanding that my non-support of this 200 bed shelter comes with years of hands on experience.

I love the fact that the City of Portland is committed to serving those in need in a low barrier setting and I am proud that the city officials, including yourself are committed to continue this. However, the scattered site option does not provides best practice in serving this population. The "one size fits all" has proven itself to fail (evidence of OSS) in providing appropriate and consistent care to its consumers.

I hope that given the opportunity to move forward with the scattered site approach, Nason's Corner is considered a location for providing services to our homeless as it once was. By this I am referencing the "John Masters" bed that the Barron Center used to provide for the medically compromised homeless individual. Should you not be familiar with this, I will provide you some background. As front line staff to the homeless (myself included), if a homeless person was being discharged from the hospital or being seen at the former Homeless Health clinic on Portland St. and they were identified as needing ongoing medical care (but not deemed appropriate for a hospitalization) then the Homeless Health Clinic would refer them to the "John Masters" bed at the Barron Center where their medical needs could continue to be cared for by trained medical professionals. This was a GREAT resource. I'm unsure why it ended, but I do ask that you consider bringing it back and using the Barron Center once again to provide aid and assistance to those homeless in need of inpatient medical care and avoid moving forward with the 200 bed shelter.

I look forward to your response and always welcome the opportunity to talk further on this matter.

Sincerely,
Alice Corson
[25 Kent St.](#)
[Portland, Maine](#)
[207.329.4354](tel:207.329.4354)



Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Fwd: Please consider

2 messages

Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>
To: Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Fri, Sep 7, 2018 at 1:41 PM

Public Comment

Director, Health & Human Services
[City of Portland](#)
[389 Congress Street](#)
Portland, Maine 04101
o 207.874.8775
c 207.956.3262
dcs@portlandmaine.gov

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Jon Jennings** <jjj@portlandmaine.gov>
Date: Fri, Sep 7, 2018 at 1:39 PM
Subject: Fwd: Please consider
To: Michael Sauschuck <mjs@portlandmaine.gov>, Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>, David MacLean <dem@portlandmaine.gov>, Robert Parritt <rwp@portlandmaine.gov>, Jessica Grondin <jgrondin@portlandmaine.gov>

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **A Corson** <ajcorson@gmail.com>
Date: Fri, Sep 7, 2018 at 1:10 PM
Subject: Please consider
To: <jjj@portlandmaine.gov>

Good Afternoon Mr. Jennings,

I am writing to you because sadly I will not be able to attend the forum scheduled tomorrow at Hannaford Hall to discuss the proposed 200 bed homeless shelter.

I am a Registered Nurse and a licensed Social Worker. I have lived in Portland over 25 years and have had the pleasure of working with the homeless population in the Greater Portland area during this time. My jobs have included working with the homeless for the City of Portland, Preble Street Agency and way back when the YWCA was operating, working with young homeless girls and women. I tell you this so you have an understanding that my non-support of this 200 bed shelter comes with years of hands on experience.

I love the fact that the City of Portland is committed to serving those in need in a low barrier setting and I am proud that the city officials, including yourself are committed to continue this. However, the scattered site option does not provides best practice in serving this population. The "one size fits all" has proven itself to fail (evidence of OSS) in providing appropriate and consistent care to its consumers.

I hope that given the opportunity to move forward with the scattered site approach, Nason's Corner is considered a location for providing services to our homeless as it once was. By this I am referencing the "John Masters" bed that the Barron Center used to provide for the medically compromised homeless individual. Should you not be familiar with this, I will provide you some background. As front line staff to the homeless (myself included), if a homeless person was being discharged from the hospital or being seen at the former Homeless Health clinic on Portland St. and they were identified as needing ongoing medical care (but not deemed appropriate for a hospitalization) then the Homeless Health Clinic would refer them to the "John Masters" bed at the Barron Center where their medical needs could continue to be cared for by trained medical professionals. This was a GREAT resource. I'm unsure why it ended, but I do ask that you

consider bringing it back and using the Barron Center once again to provide aid and assistance to those homeless in need of inpatient medical care and avoid moving forward with the 200 bed shelter.

I look forward to your response and always welcome the opportunity to talk further on this matter.

Sincerely,
Alice Corson
[25 Kent St.](#)
[Portland, Maine](#)
[207.329.4354](#)

--
Jon P. Jennings
City Manager
[City of Portland](#)
[389 Congress Street](#)
Portland, ME 04101
(207) 874-8689 Office
(207) 874-8669 Fax
jpj@portlandmaine.gov
www.portlandmaine.gov
Twitter: [@portlandmanager](#)

Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>
To: Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Fri, Sep 7, 2018 at 7:02 PM

Public comment - this is a duplicate but corrects a mistake she made in the original

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **A Corson** <ajcorson@gmail.com>
Date: Fri, Sep 7, 2018 at 4:28 PM
Subject: Please consider
To: <pali@portlandmaine.gov>
CC: <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>, Ethan Strimling <estrimling@portlandmaine.gov>

Dear Councilor Ali,

I just received your phone message. Yes I am comfortable with you including my the letter below into public record. Earlier today Mayor Strimling brought to my attention an error I made in my initial letter I sent out, which I have clarified below by underlying and bolding. My apologies for any confusion.

Alice Corson

I am writing to you because sadly I will not be able to attend the forum scheduled tomorrow at Hannaford Hall to discuss the proposed 200 bed homeless shelter.

I am a Registered Nurse and a licensed Social Worker. I have lived in Portland over 25 years and have had the pleasure of working with the homeless population in the Greater Portland area during this time. My jobs have included working with the homeless for the City of Portland, Preble Street Agency and way back when the YWCA was operating, working with young homeless girls and women. I tell you this so you have an understanding that my non-support of this 200 bed shelter comes with years of hands on experience.

I love the fact that the City of Portland is committed to serving those in need in a low barrier setting and I am proud that the city officials, including yourself are committed to continue this. However, **the 200 bed size shelter does not provides best practice in serving our homeless population.** The "one size fits all" has proven itself to fail (evidence of OSS) in providing appropriate and consistent care to its consumers.

I hope that given the opportunity to move forward with the scattered site approach, Nason's Corner is considered a location for providing services to our homeless as it once was. By this I am referencing the "John Masters" bed that the

Barron Center used to provide for the medically compromised homeless individual. Should you not be familiar with this, I will provide you some background. As front line staff to the homeless (myself included), if a homeless person was being discharged from the hospital or being seen at the former Homeless Health clinic on Portland St. and they were identified as needing ongoing medical care (but not deemed appropriate for a hospitalization) then the Homeless Health Clinic would refer them to the "John Masters" bed at the Barron Center where their medical needs could continue to be cared for by trained medical professionals. This was a GREAT resource. I'm unsure why it ended, but I do ask that you consider bringing it back and using the Barron Center once again to provide aid and assistance to those homeless in need of inpatient medical care and avoid moving forward with the 200 bed shelter.

I look forward to your response and always welcome the opportunity to talk further on this matter.

Sincerely,
Alice Corson
[25 Kent St.](#)
[Portland, Maine](#)
207.329.4354

--

[Quoted text hidden]



Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Fwd: Please move forward with the One Shelter model

2 messages

Jon Jennings <jpj@portlandmaine.gov>

Fri, Nov 16, 2018 at 8:33 PM

To: Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>, Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>, Michael Sauschuck <mjs@portlandmaine.gov>

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Nick Mavodones** <nmm@portlandmaine.gov>

Date: Fri, Nov 16, 2018 at 8:10 PM

Subject: Fwd: Please move forward with the One Shelter model

To: Jon Jennings <jpj@portlandmaine.gov>

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Heidi Souerwine** <heidi.souerwine@gmail.com>

Date: Friday, November 16, 2018

Subject: Please move forward with the One Shelter model

To: estrimling@portlandmaine.gov, bsr@portlandmaine.gov, sthibodeau@portlandmaine.gov, jcosta@portlandmaine.gov, kcook@portlandmaine.gov, pali@portlandmaine.gov, nmm@portlandmaine.gov, jduson@portlandmaine.gov, bbatson@portlandmaine.govCc: cityclerk@portlandmaine.gov

Dear Councilors (& City Clerk):

You have an important Resolution in front of you on Monday. I know that there have been a lot of important conversations in the years leading to this, and I know you will have more ahead of you, so I thank you for your ongoing engagement on this issue.

I write to urge you to vote **for** exploring a **single location** for a Homeless Services Center to replace Oxford Street Shelter. Overcrowding is not the only issue at Oxford Street. A single intake facility with **integrated support services** allows for the greatest level of immediate support from the city for the most vulnerable members of our community. It also provides the best chance at bringing those people back into the fold of being confident, well-prepared, tax-paying citizens. The partnerships on the table with Avesta and Opportunity Alliance seem to provide an additional opportunity for the Committee and Council to strengthen and further streamline what we do and I would ask you to strongly consider them as well. I am not convinced Preble Street belongs in that mix.

Scattered services have **already** proven to be unsuccessful for our city's vulnerable people, the city's financial resources, and most importantly, unhelpful for the experts who are skilled at care and reentry for this population. It would be reckless to ignore the fact that a majority of area service providers have been clear and resolute in their preference for **one facility**. If that is not enough, as a city we have also already looked at this several times over the years and it is just not financially prudent.

The leadership of our new Governor, Janet Mills, provides a phenomenal opportunity for both policy and budget support to move this forward. I urge you to allow us to walk the walk as a progressive city.

Warm regards,
Heidi Souerwine
Portland City Resident

City Clerk: If it's too late for this letter to be included in the packets for the meeting, I request that my letter be placed on their desks at the meeting.

--

Nick Mavodones
City Council At-Large
[389 Congress Street](#)
[Portland ME 04101](#)
(207) 874-8685
nmm@portlandmaine.gov

Sent from Gmail Mobile

--

Jon P. Jennings
City Manager
[City of Portland](#)
[389 Congress Street](#)
Portland, ME 04101
(207) 874-8689 Office
jpj@portlandmaine.gov
www.portlandmaine.gov

Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>
To: Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Fri, Nov 16, 2018 at 9:29 PM

Public comment

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Jon Jennings** <jpj@portlandmaine.gov>
Date: Fri, Nov 16, 2018 at 8:34 PM
Subject: Fwd: Please move forward with the One Shelter model

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[Quoted text hidden]

--

Director, Health & Human Services
[City of Portland](#)
[389 Congress Street](#)
[Portland, Maine 04101](#)
o 207.874.8775
c 207.956.3262
dcs@portlandmaine.gov



Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Fwd: Portland Homeless Shelter Relocation

2 messages

Jon Jennings <jpj@portlandmaine.gov>
To: Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>, ash@portlandmaine.gov

Wed, Jul 18, 2018 at 5:58 AM

Jon P. Jennings
City Manager
City of Portland
389 Congress Street
Portland, ME 04101
(207) 874-8689 Office
jpj@portlandmaine.gov
www.portlandmaine.gov
[@portlandmanager](#)

Begin forwarded message:

From: Nick Mavodones <nmm@portlandmaine.gov>
Date: July 8, 2018 at 4:35:24 PM EDT
To: Jon Jennings <jpj@portlandmaine.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Portland Homeless Shelter Relocation

----- Forwarded message -----

From: <imachikadee@aol.com>
Date: Sunday, July 8, 2018
Subject: Portland Homeless Shelter Relocation
To: bbatson@portlandmaine.gov, jduson@portlandmaine.gov, nmm@portlandmaine.gov,
estrimling@maine.rr.com, jchrisos@wgme.com

While we were not able to attend the meeting on 7/5/18 due to the time it was scheduled (working - these meetings need to be later in the day so people who cannot get out of work early can attend - or would you rather they didn't??) it seems like all of the issues that were discussed and reported in the Portland Press Herald are issues that my husband and I and neighbors are concerned about. Just because this is the only property (the Barron Center) that seems to be available, that doesn't make it the right one! This is a quiet, kids playing outside, dog walking, joggers, etc., residential area. The last thing we need is trouble being transferred here to ruin it. There are already issues with panhandlers, etc., on the end of Brighton Ave near the Westbrook side. Relocating the homeless shelter would not only be dangerous for people who live near there, (near the nursing home, seriously??) but bad for business as well. And there was also a discussion about property value. What does it do to property value to be that close to a homeless shelter? Especially if it goes bad? If there will be police security on the grounds at a new location, why hasn't that happened already at the present location?? The people in the Bayside area are tired of what is going on, so it's going to be dumped elsewhere?? While these homeless people need someplace to go, it has to be the right place and done differently, as the current way isn't working. This sounds like an accident waiting to happen - only this time, it's in this neighborhood!

Dawn Wood

--

2/14/2019

City of Portland Mail - Fwd: Portland Homeless Shelter Relocation

Nick Mavodones
City Council At-Large
[389 Congress Street](#)
[Portland ME 04101](#)
(207) 874-8685
nmm@portlandmaine.gov

Sent from Gmail Mobile

Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>
To: Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Wed, Jul 25, 2018 at 4:30 PM

Public Comment

Director, Health & Human Services
[City of Portland](#)
[389 Congress Street](#)
Portland, Maine 04101
o 207.874.8775
c 207.956.3262
dcs@portlandmaine.gov

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Jon Jennings** <jjj@portlandmaine.gov>
Date: Wed, Jul 18, 2018 at 5:58 AM
Subject: Fwd: Portland Homeless Shelter Relocation
[Quoted text hidden]



Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Fwd: Portland Shelter Proposal

1 message

Jon Jennings <jpj@portlandmaine.gov>

Mon, Nov 26, 2018 at 6:01 PM

To: Michael Sauschuck <mjs@portlandmaine.gov>, Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>, Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Laura S. Underkuffler** <lu27@cornell.edu>

Date: Mon, Nov 26, 2018 at 12:22 PM

Subject: Portland Shelter Proposal

To: bsr@portlandmaine.gov <bsr@portlandmaine.gov>, Spencer Thibodeau <sthibodeau@portlandmaine.gov>, Brian Batson <bbatson@portlandmaine.gov>, jcosta@portlandmaine.gov <jcosta@portlandmaine.gov>, kcook@portlandmaine.gov <kcook@portlandmaine.gov>, Pious Ali <pali@portlandmaine.gov>, Nicholas Mavodones <nmm@portlandmaine.gov>, jduson <jduson@portlandmaine.gov>

Cc: estrimling@portlandmaine.gov <estrimling@portlandmaine.gov>, jpj@portlandmaine.gov <jpj@portlandmaine.gov>

Dear City Counselors,

We have been following the City Council discussion of the replacement for the Oxford Street Shelter closely.

We are also in a unique and unfortunate position because we live at ground zero of the severe problems that have developed around the Oxford Street Shelter over the past 5 or 6 years - ground zero being our house at [215 Oxford Street](#), across the street from the shelter.

Drawing from our experience and considering what has come to light through the debate, we have come to the following conclusions:

1. The City cannot afford to waste millions dollars in taxpayer money to build multiple shelters, in a quest to avoid "the problem." "The problem" is not the idea of one shelter with centralized resources. That idea makes eminent sense. The problem is where that shelter is going to be.
2. A no-barrier emergency shelter CANNOT be located in a residential neighborhood.

We have met some wonderful people who lived at the shelter -- my husband has employed them, often for long periods, in construction. They have often become lasting friends. We have also experienced the deterioration of any semblance of neighborhood norm adherence by many others who are drawn to the Oxford Street Shelter.

This population is very different from the population we had 5 or 6 years ago. This population is extremely difficult to deal with -- whether the institution or person is the Oxford Shelter staff, the Preble Street staff, or neighbors. People who want to yell obscenities in the street all day and night, who sit around smoking on curbs and parking lots 10 feet from residences (ours) no matter how many times they are asked not to do so, who throw the trash on the street and expect other people to run around picking it up, who discard used needles and condoms on private driveways, are not people who have any interest in thinking about others or conforming to neighborhood norms.

I ran across an article in the Forecaster (9/5) about the opposition to the Nason's Corner proposal. In the course of that article that stated: "About two years ago, [Portland] city officials spent a day touring shelter facilities in the Boston area, including a shelter in Cambridge near Harvard University. 'Yes, you can run a homeless shelter with minimal impact on the surrounding neighborhoods and abutters, but neither of those were emergency, no-barrier shelters,' Suslovic said." In Portland, "[o]ne [shelter] would be for folks unready or able to commit to treatment or receive mental health services; they cannot be housed in a residential neighborhood without significant negative impacts,' Suslovic said." Absolutely true. And "residential neighborhood" includes all residential neighborhoods, including ours.

I also looked up the York shelter which is operating very successfully and without any objection from neighbors, the homeless people involved, or others. The website begins with the statement that shelter residents are expected to attend house meetings and participate in community service. Obviously those requirements would eliminate the people who refuse to follow any norms or consider impacts on others in our neighborhood.

The result is what Suslovic says. If the city is going to run a no-barrier shelter (which is effectively what it is running), then it must be in a location without residential or close commercial neighbors. I have considered every other solution: a constant police presence - patrolling the area around the shelter 24 hours a day; making "presence" on the street within "X" number of feet of the shelter a "crime" (an enforceable loitering ordinance?); prohibiting drug use or smoking within "X" number of feet of the shelter or a residence; making the discarding of beer cans, trash, or litter a crime; making the entering of private yards to stash belongings and drugs a crime; etc. All are so fraught with practical or legal problems as to be futile from the beginning. We have tried most of these around the Oxford Street Shelter. The police have done their best. We have called the police to tell them of "X" and "Y" infraction over and over again. It is a futile task.

I understand the need for an emergency shelter for those who are not ready to adhere to basic neighborhood or societal norms. Having experienced people sleeping on the sidewalk 8 feet from our bedroom window, and constantly coughing all night when the weather is 18 degrees, because they "broke the rules" of the shelter, has taught me this truth in a way that nothing else can. (When I have pressed where these people can go, the answer was that they "can be moved on.") However, the solution must acknowledge the reality of the population involved, and the reality of what can be asked of residential neighbors.

Sincerely,

Laura Underkuffler (and David Nowlin)
[215 Oxford Street](#)

--

Jon P. Jennings
City Manager
[City of Portland](#)
[389 Congress Street](#)
Portland, ME 04101
(207) 874-8689 Office
(207) 874-8669 Fax
jpj@portlandmaine.gov
www.portlandmaine.gov
Twitter: [@portlandmanager](#)



Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Fwd: Proposal to Move Bayside Homeless Shelter

2 messages

Jon Jennings <jpj@portlandmaine.gov>
To: Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>, ash@portlandmaine.gov

Wed, Jul 18, 2018 at 5:59 AM

Jon P. Jennings
City Manager
City of Portland
389 Congress Street
Portland, ME 04101
(207) 874-8689 Office
jpj@portlandmaine.gov
www.portlandmaine.gov
[@portlandmanager](#)

Begin forwarded message:

From: Nick Mavodones <nmm@portlandmaine.gov>
Date: July 8, 2018 at 10:11:49 PM EDT
To: Jon Jennings <jpj@portlandmaine.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Proposal to Move Bayside Homeless Shelter

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Mike Amero** <mamero@maine.rr.com>
Date: Sunday, July 8, 2018
Subject: Proposal to Move Bayside Homeless Shelter
To: "Nicholas Mavodones Jr." <nmm@portlandmaine.gov>

Dear Nicholas,

I just heard that the City of Portland is considering moving the Bayside Homeless Shelter to the Barron Center. A couple years ago, I purchased a home on [210 Holm Avenue](#) which is connected to the Barron Center. This is a residential neighborhood and I am completely outraged with the proposal to move the Homeless Shelter near children and the Hall grade school. We have two young boys living here. We do not want our children put at risk.

Many of the homeless people are of questionable character. On 5/6/18 the Portland Press Herald published an article titled, "Bayside at rock bottom: Portland neighborhood is under siege". In this article, it states that the Preble Street Resource Center and the Oxford Street Shelter has people who have drunken brawls, overt sex, burglaries and drug deals. Rough-looking crowds gather on street corners. Alcoholics drink openly on public sidewalks and addicts slide needles into their arms and legs. Others in drug-induced stupors slump over in entryways. Some slip into alleyways and private driveways to relieve themselves.

Please do not expose our children to this mess. I drive through Bayside periodically and I have witnessed public urination, gangs of homeless roaming the streets like zombies and others are passed out on

sidewalks. A residential area is no place for this homeless shelter. I have a pocket of woods behind my house less than a half a mile from the Barron Center. I am seriously worried about child predators hiding out behind my house. It is not fair to everyone in this residential neighborhood. I don't know any of you, or if you have children, but please ask yourself if you would want your children growing up next to this. Please do everything in your power to prevent this move to the Barron Center. It's simply not the right thing to do.

Thank you for your time,

Mike Amero

--

Nick Mavodones
City Council At-Large
[389 Congress Street](#)
[Portland ME 04101](#)
(207) 874-8685
nmm@portlandmaine.gov

Sent from Gmail Mobile

Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>
To: Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Wed, Jul 25, 2018 at 4:28 PM

Public Comment

Director, Health & Human Services
[City of Portland](#)
[389 Congress Street](#)
Portland, Maine 04101
o 207.874.8775
c 207.956.3262
dcs@portlandmaine.gov

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Jon Jennings** <jjj@portlandmaine.gov>
Date: Wed, Jul 18, 2018 at 5:59 AM
Subject: Fwd: Proposal to Move Bayside Homeless Shelter
[Quoted text hidden]



Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Fwd: Proposed 200 Bed Mega-Shelter

2 messages

Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>
To: Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Tue, Sep 11, 2018 at 3:06 PM

Public Comment

Director, Health & Human Services
City of Portland
389 Congress Street
Portland, Maine 04101
o 207.874.8775
c 207.956.3262
dcs@portlandmaine.gov

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Kelli Caiazzo** <kcaiazzo@maine.rr.com>
Date: Tue, Sep 11, 2018 at 3:02 PM
Subject: Proposed 200 Bed Mega-Shelter
To: bsr@portlandmaine.gov, dcs@portlandmaine.gov

To All Concerned,

My name is Kelli Caiazzo, I live at [28 Sandy Terrace](#) which is approximately 1.5 miles from the proposed mega shelter. I have lived in my home for 28 years, have raised 2 wonderful sons here, and my husband has lived in this neighborhood his entire life (57 years). I am feeling incredibly discouraged by this entire process. I have spoken at council meetings and my neighbors have done an enormous amount of research, which should have been done by the city before this plan ever was considered! I am sure you have been inundated with more emails and letters, against this proposal, than you care to discuss. We, including all of you, have wasted an entire summer educating ourselves on the process, the proposal, the meetings, and all of the information that has been thrown at us. Isn't it time that you finally listen. Mr. Jennings has said several times that you all knew you would meet resistance no matter where this site was proposed, if that was the case, then common sense should tell you, that this is not the right proposal. Please make the right decision and reconsider not going ahead with building the mega shelter at the Barron Center. The neighbors, the stores, the elderly at the Barron Center, the school children at the new Rowe and Breakwater Schools, and the homeless population don't deserve this. One large center is not the right option. This decision is something that will have an impact on our generation and future generations. **Do the right thing...we can, in fact, do better.** Don't make all our thoughtful research and caring contributions to the process go unheard and unnoticed.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Kelli Caiazzo

Michael Sauschuck <mjs@portlandmaine.gov>
To: Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>
Cc: Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>

Tue, Sep 11, 2018 at 4:58 PM

Thanks Adam.

Michael J. Sauschuck
Assistant City Manager
City of Portland

389 Congress Street
Portland, Maine 04101
(207) 874-8681

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Kelli Caiazzo** <kcaiazzo@maine.rr.com>

Date: Tue, Sep 11, 2018 at 2:34 PM

Subject: Proposed 200 Bed Mega-Shelter

To: estrimling@portlandmaine.gov, brs@portlandmaine.gov, sthibodeau@portlandmaine.gov,
bbatson@portlandmaine.gov, jcosta@portlandmaine.gov, pali@portlandmaine.gov, nmm@portlandmaine.gov,
jduson@portlandmaine.gov, jpj@portlandmaine.gov, mjs@portlandmaine.gov, jlevine@portlandmaine.gov,
dsc@portlandmaine.gov, dem@portlandmaine.gov, rwp@portlandmaine.gov

To All Concerned,

My name is Kelli Caiazzo, I live at [28 Sandy Terrace](#) which is approximately 1.5 miles from the proposed mega shelter. I have lived in my home for 28 years, have raised 2 wonderful sons here, and my husband has lived in this neighborhood his entire life (57 years). I am feeling incredibly discouraged by this entire process. I have spoken at council meetings and my neighbors have done an enormous amount of research, which should have been done by the city before this plan ever was considered! I am sure you have been inundated with more emails and letters, against this proposal, than you care to discuss. We, including all of you, have wasted an entire summer educating ourselves on the process, the proposal, the meetings, and all of the information that has been thrown at us. Isn't it time that you finally listen. Mr. Jennings has said several times that you all knew you would meet resistance no matter where this site was proposed, if that was the case, then common sense should tell you, that this is not the right proposal. Please make the right decision and reconsider not going ahead with building the mega shelter at the Barron Center. The neighbors, the stores, the elderly at the Barron Center, the school children at the new Rowe and Breakwater Schools, and the homeless population don't deserve this. One large center is not the right option. This decision is something that will have an impact on our generation and future generations. **Do the right thing...we can, in fact, do better.** Don't make all our thoughtful research and caring contributions to the process go unheard and unnoticed.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Kelli Caiazzo



Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Fwd: Proposed Homeless Shelter

2 messages

Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>
To: Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Thu, Sep 6, 2018 at 3:55 PM

Public Comment

Director, Health & Human Services
City of Portland
389 Congress Street
Portland, Maine 04101
o 207.874.8775
c 207.956.3262
dcs@portlandmaine.gov

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Jean Russo** <russo@maine.rr.com>

Date: Thu, Sep 6, 2018 at 3:32 PM

Subject: Proposed Homeless Shelter

To: estrimling@portlandmaine.gov, bsr@portlandmaine.gov, sthibodeau@portlandmaine.gov,
bbatson@portlandmaine.gov, jcosta@portlandmaine.gov, kcook@portlandmaine.gov, pali@portlandmaine.gov,
nmm@portlandmaine.gov, jduson@portlandmaine.gov, jjj@portlandmaine.gov, mjs@portlandmaine.gov,
jlevine@portlandmaine.gov, dcs@portlandmaine.gov, dem@portlandmaine.gov, rwp@portlandmaine.gov

City Officials

Attached is my letter for your review regarding the proposed homeless shelter.

Jean Russo

Portland, Maine

**Homeless Shelter at Barron Center.pdf**

44K

Michael Sauschuck <mjs@portlandmaine.gov>
To: Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>
Cc: Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>

Fri, Sep 7, 2018 at 4:24 PM

Thanks Adam.

Michael J. Sauschuck
Assistant City Manager
City of Portland
389 Congress Street
Portland, Maine 04101
(207) 874-8681

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Jean Russo** <russo@maine.rr.com>

Date: Thu, Sep 6, 2018 at 3:32 PM

Subject: Proposed Homeless Shelter

2/14/2019

City of Portland Mail - Fwd: Proposed Homeless Shelter

To: estrimling@portlandmaine.gov, bsr@portlandmaine.gov, sthibodeau@portlandmaine.gov, bbatson@portlandmaine.gov, jcosta@portlandmaine.gov, kcook@portlandmaine.gov, pali@portlandmaine.gov, nmm@portlandmaine.gov, jduson@portlandmaine.gov, jjp@portlandmaine.gov, mjs@portlandmaine.gov, jlevine@portlandmaine.gov, dcs@portlandmaine.gov, dem@portlandmaine.gov, rwp@portlandmaine.gov

City Officials

Attached is my letter for your review regarding the proposed homeless shelter.

Jean Russo

Portland, Maine



Homeless Shelter at Barron Center.pdf

44K



Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Fwd: Proposed location for the homeless shelter

2 messages

Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>
To: Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Thu, Jul 26, 2018 at 8:20 AM

Public Comment

Director, Health & Human Services
City of Portland
389 Congress Street
Portland, Maine 04101
o 207.874.8775
c 207.956.3262
dcs@portlandmaine.gov

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Sally Bowden-Schaible** <1sallybs@gmail.com>

Date: Mon, Jul 16, 2018 at 1:22 PM

Subject: Proposed location for the homeless shelter

To: "bbatson@portlandmaine.gov" <bbatson@portlandmaine.gov>, "bsr@portlandmaine.gov" <bsr@portlandmaine.gov>, "dcs@portlandmaine.gov" <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>, "estrimling@portlandmaine.gov" <estrimling@portlandmaine.gov>, "jduson@portlandmaine.gov" <jduson@portlandmaine.gov>, "jpj@portlandmaine.gov" <jpj@portlandmaine.gov>, "mjs@portlandmaine.gov" <mjs@portlandmaine.gov>, "nasonscornerneighborhood@gmail.com" <nasonscornerneighborhood@gmail.com>, "nmm@portlandmaine.gov" <nmm@portlandmaine.gov>, "pali@portlandmaine.gov" <pali@portlandmaine.gov>, "rwp@portlandmaine.gov" <rwp@portlandmaine.gov>

To all concerned:

My husband and I just recently moved to the Nason's Corner area—[27 Birchvale Dr.](#) We attended the neighborhood meeting at Breakwater to learn about the shelter proposal, and I left feeling unsettled about it.

I've worked in the mental health profession for over 30 years—nearly 10 of those years I worked in mental health agencies providing services for persons with severe and chronic mental illness, trauma-related mental health challenges, and drug and alcohol addiction. And later, when I went into private practice, for many years I continued to see such clients.

For about three of the early years, I worked as part of what was then the newly developing program, the ACCESS team (an assertive community treatment program—ACT model—the 1st of its kind in Maine). This program was a grant-funded research project initiated by a 26 agency-member collaborative, including (and managed by) Maine Medical Center. Our clients all were homeless, were diagnosed with a major mental illness, experienced drug and/or alcohol addiction and had been in and out of psychiatric hospitals and/or jail. All were referred to our program because of the complexity of their symptoms and behaviors and the difficulty the existing mental health/substance abuse system had in effectively treating and/or 'managing' them.

What was very clear to me from the beginning of the program was that a 'one size fits all' kind of treatment approach was not effective nor appropriate. Something I also learned was that there was a community and a culture within the homeless population we interacted with that was not simple to change and that our model of treatment didn't (couldn't) address.

Like most people, our clients were social beings and wanted to be with others and hang out at places (even if unhealthy) where they felt a semblance of comfort and familiarity, places where they didn't feel obviously out of place. Preble Street, Congress Street, Deering Oaks Park, various downtown routes for retrieving bottles and cans, Amistad, the soup kitchens, Congress Square, Monument Square etc., were places where they could be relatively safe, separate enough, but also part of the larger mainstream Portland community.

They were not the temporarily down-on-their-luck people who, with support and assistance would get back on their feet and lead lives of independence and productivity. All were survivors and most were victims of significant trauma—many during childhood, and most along the way of negotiating their survival through the complexity of their dynamically unfolding symptoms (inside themselves and in their relationships with others)—psychological, cognitive, emotional, physical, behavioral and social.

The proposal to move the Oxford Street Shelter to the Baron Center campus is, in my view, short-sighted and wrought with foreseeable problems. The model described might work very well for people temporarily displaced and experiencing hard times, even for some persons who experience mental illness. But, I cannot envision it as being successful for the people I described above, the people that present the most challenge to the city. As we learned in the early ACCESS team days, a 'one-model-fits-all' kind of program doesn't work.

And, while it is very true that homelessness and criminality do not go hand in hand, it cannot be argued that chronic homelessness oftentimes results from behaviors (and in behaviors), especially as related to substance use, that contribute to homelessness. Sadly, as is well known, these behaviors also affect the surrounding community.

As this is related to the proposed site for the shelter, it surprised me when the location was described as meeting the criteria for an appropriate location: not pushing the homeless to an out-of-sight location, its being accessible to services and resources by centralizing many at the shelter location, and its being on a public transportation bus route. First of all, I can't imagine a location more out of the way than the edge of the city on the Westbrook border, and it is about 3 miles to downtown. Secondly, while some people would use public transportation and shuttle services, many would not. And, to expect people to remain on the Baron Center campus is unrealistic— And, thirdly, what will happen to the many services located downtown? Amistad, the soup kitchens, Preble Street Resource Center, to name a few.

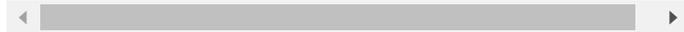
Finally, the concern expressed at the Breakwater meeting about the location abutting an already vulnerable area of the city is an important point. As has also been pointed out, sections of the Nason's Corner area (especially around Sagamore Village) are home to lower income people and most of the area is decidedly lower middle to solidly middle class. It is home to many families who couldn't afford living on the Portland peninsula in ever-growing market of higher income housing and gentrification. (Perhaps developers have in site the Bayside area for such development and

won't proceed with their projects with a shelter site and social services located in the area?) Historically, this is a familiar pattern in our society— pushing to the edge, people on the edge. And it does feel exploitative of an already vulnerable population already living on the edge.

As city Councilor Batson and the Nason's Corner Neighborhood Association has recommended, more study is required and more planning is necessary. I would be very willing to participate in ongoing discussions and strategizing.

Respectfully,

Sally Bowden-Schaible
[27 Birchvale Dr](#)
[Portland, ME 04102](#)
[207-939-3254](#)



--
 Sally Bowden-Schaible, LCPC, CCMHC

Michael Sauschuck <mjs@portlandmaine.gov>

Wed, Sep 5, 2018 at 12:06 PM

To: Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Cc: Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>, Robert Parritt <rwp@portlandmaine.gov>, Jessica Grondin <jgrondin@portlandmaine.gov>

Please add this to the HHS background material. Thanks

Michael J. Sauschuck
 Assistant City Manager
[City of Portland](#)
[389 Congress Street](#)
[Portland, Maine 04101](#)
 (207) 874-8681

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Sally Bowden-Schaible** <1sallybs@gmail.com>

Date: Wed, Sep 5, 2018 at 10:46 AM

Subject: Re: Proposed location for the homeless shelter

To: "bbatson@portlandmaine.gov" <bbatson@portlandmaine.gov>, "bsr@portlandmaine.gov" <bsr@portlandmaine.gov>, "dcs@portlandmaine.gov" <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>, "estrimling@portlandmaine.gov" <estrimling@portlandmaine.gov>, "jduson@portlandmaine.gov" <jduson@portlandmaine.gov>, "jpi@portlandmaine.gov" <jpi@portlandmaine.gov>, "mjs@portlandmaine.gov" <mjs@portlandmaine.gov>, "nasonscornerneighborhood@gmail.com" <nasonscornerneighborhood@gmail.com>, "nmm@portlandmaine.gov" <nmm@portlandmaine.gov>, "pali@portlandmaine.gov" <pali@portlandmaine.gov>, "rwp@portlandmaine.gov" <rwp@portlandmaine.gov>
 Cc: nasonscornerneighborhood@gmail.com, Shelters Portland <portlandshelters@gmail.com>

To city representatives:

Because I'm unable to come to the council meeting this evening, I am sending this email with my thoughts and concerns regarding the proposed low-barrier, 200 bed mega-shelter for the homeless being proposed for the Baron Center campus.

I have been participating in the canvassing of the Nason's Corner neighborhood this past month, attaining nearly 60 signatures from the homes I visited. In the conversations with my neighbors I was impressed by the thoughtfulness of the

concerns expressed— The predominant attitude was compassionate concern for the residents of the Baron Center, nearby residents living in Sagamore Village and the schoolchildren who attend the Amanda Rowe school —perceived as the most vulnerable in the area. Also, I heard concern expressed for persons experiencing homelessness being far from the center of town, away from the hospitals and other needed services and the social experiences that cannot be replicated at the edge of the city. And, the size of the proposed shelter was a big concern.

In addition, frequent comments were made about the city's lack of transparency, the planning process not including members of the community and the lack of a clearly defined plan that would differentiate it from the current Oxford Street Shelter and other shelters of this size in the country. Almost all neighborhood residents suspect that the motive for the move is to make way for higher end business and residential development.

So, like others in my community, I have concerns. And a question—

If there is no **successful** comparable model of shelter for the homeless in the country, why is it that the city of Portland thinks THIS plan will be successful? I am left to believe it is for one of the following reasons:

- 1) indifference to the documented effects of placing a shelter of this size in a community like the Nason's Corner area;
- 2) an unwarranted confidence that Portland can do something that no other community has been able to do;
- 3) willful disregard (or ignorance) of facts based on solid research;
- 4) clouded thinking resulting from the pull of the promise of financial gain when the current shelter is moved from Bayside.

I urge you to pause and reflect upon what you are learning from the research data provided to you and the concerns expressed by the citizens of Portland, your constituents.

Sincerely,

Sally Bowden-Schaible
27 Birchvale Dr
Portland, ME 04102
207-939-3254

Sally Bowden-Schaible, MS, LCPC, CCMHC
Founder of LivingWell
836 Main Street
Westbrook, ME 04092
Tel: 207.939.3254
Email: 1sallybs@gmail.com
www.livingwellcenter.info

On Jul 16, 2018, at 1:22 PM, Sally Bowden-Schaible <1sallybs@gmail.com> wrote:

To all concerned:

My husband and I just recently moved to the Nason's Corner area—[27 Birchvale Dr](#). We attended the neighborhood meeting at Breakwater to learn about the shelter proposal, and I left feeling unsettled about it.

I've worked in the mental health profession for over 30 years—nearly 10 of those years I worked in mental health agencies providing services for persons with severe and chronic mental illness, trauma-related mental health challenges, and drug and alcohol addiction. And later, when I went into private practice, for many years I continued to see such clients.

For about three of the early years, I worked as part of what was then the newly developing program, the ACCESS team (an assertive community treatment program— ACT model—the 1st of its kind in Maine). This program was a grant-funded research project initiated by a 26 agency-member collaborative, including (and managed by) Maine Medical Center. Our clients all were homeless, were diagnosed with a major mental illness, experienced drug and/or alcohol addiction and had been in and out of psychiatric hospitals and/or jail. All were referred to our program because of the complexity of their symptoms and behaviors and the difficulty the existing mental health/substance abuse system had in effectively treating and/or 'managing' them.

What was very clear to me from the beginning of the program was that a 'one size fits all' kind of treatment approach was not effective nor appropriate. Something I also learned was that there was a community and a culture within the homeless population we interacted with that was not simple to change and that our model of treatment didn't (couldn't) address.

Like most people, our clients were social beings and wanted to be with others and hang out at places (even if unhealthy) where they felt a semblance of comfort and familiarity, places where they didn't feel obviously out of place. Preble Street, Congress Street, Deering Oaks Park, various downtown routes for retrieving bottles and cans, Amistad, the soup kitchens, Congress Square, Monument Square etc., were places where they could be relatively safe, separate enough, but also part of the larger mainstream Portland community.

They were not the temporarily down-on-their-luck people who, with support and assistance would get back on their feet and lead lives of independence and productivity. All were survivors and most were victims of significant trauma—many during childhood, and most along the way of negotiating their survival through the complexity of their dynamically unfolding symptoms (inside themselves and in their relationships with others)—psychological, cognitive, emotional, physical, behavioral and social.

The proposal to move the Oxford Street Shelter to the Baron Center campus is, in my view, short-sighted and wrought with foreseeable problems. The model described might work very well for people temporarily displaced and experiencing hard times, even for some persons who experience mental illness. But, I cannot envision it as being successful for the people I described above, the people that present the most challenge to the city. As we learned in the early ACCESS team days, a 'one-model-fits-all' kind of program doesn't work.

And, while it is very true that homelessness and criminality do not go hand in hand, it cannot be argued that chronic homelessness oftentimes results from behaviors (and in behaviors), especially as related to substance use, that contribute to homelessness. Sadly, as is well known, these behaviors also affect the surrounding community.

As this is related to the proposed site for the shelter, it surprised me when the location was described as meeting the criteria for an appropriate location: not pushing the homeless to an out-of-sight location, its being accessible to services and resources by centralizing many at the shelter location, and its being on a public transportation bus route. First of all, I can't imagine a location more out of the way than the edge of the city on the Westbrook border, and it is about 3 miles to downtown. Secondly, while some people would use public transportation and shuttle services, many would not. And, to expect people to remain on the Baron Center campus is unrealistic— And, thirdly, what will happen to the many services located downtown? Amistad, the soup kitchens, Preble Street Resource Center, to name a few.

Finally, the concern expressed at the Breakwater meeting about the location abutting an already vulnerable area of

the city is an important point. As has also been pointed out, sections of the Nason's Corner area (especially around Sagamore Village) are home to lower income people and most of the area is decidedly lower middle to solidly middle class. It is home to many families who couldn't afford living on the Portland peninsula in ever-growing market of higher income housing and gentrification. (Perhaps developers have in site the Bayside area for such development and won't proceed with their projects with a shelter site and social services located in the area?) Historically, this is a familiar pattern in our society— pushing to the edge, people on the edge. And it does feel exploitative of an already vulnerable population already living on the edge.

As city Councilor Batson and the Nason's Corner Neighborhood Association has recommended, more study is required and more planning is necessary. I would be very willing to participate in ongoing discussions and strategizing.

Respectfully,

Sally Bowden-Schaible
[27 Birchvale Dr](#)
[Portland, ME 04102](#)
[207-939-3254](#)





Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Fwd: Proposed Shelter Site

2 messages

Jon Jennings <jpj@portlandmaine.gov>
To: Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>, ash@portlandmaine.gov

Wed, Jul 18, 2018 at 6:02 AM

Jon P. Jennings
City Manager
City of Portland
389 Congress Street
Portland, ME 04101
(207) 874-8689 Office
jpj@portlandmaine.gov
www.portlandmaine.gov
[@portlandmanager](#)

Begin forwarded message:

From: Nick Mavodones <nmm@portlandmaine.gov>
Date: July 9, 2018 at 9:53:48 AM EDT
To: Jon Jennings <jpj@portlandmaine.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Proposed Shelter Site

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Jackie Parker** <jackie.parker77@gmail.com>
Date: Monday, July 9, 2018
Subject: Proposed Shelter Site
To: bsr@portlandmaine.gov, bbatson@portlandmaine.gov, pali@portlandmaine.gov,
nmm@portlandmaine.gov, jduson@portlandmaine.gov, kcook@portlandmaine.gov,
jcosta@portlandmaine.gov, sthibodeau@portlandmaine.gov, estrimling@portlandmaine.gov

Dear City Council Members and Mayor Strimling,

My family resides in Nason's Corner, and we wish to and express our deep concerns about moving emergency shelter services to the Baron Center Campus on Brighton avenue.

My wife and I moved to Nason's Corner in 2010 after living in downtown Portland for almost a decade. At that time, were told by many that because of both the questionable hotels/businesses in the area as well as Sagamore Village, that this was not going to be the kind of neighborhood where we could start raising a family. We were SO glad we didn't listen to any of these people. Yes, at that time I would hardly call the neighborhood warm and inviting, however over the past 8 years it has become a wonderful area that continues to grow with families and people really invested in seeing the neighborhood thrive.

I listened to last week's City Council /Health and Human Services meeting and attended this week's community meeting and I'm glad that many of our concerns were addressed, however I'm not convinced by some of the answers provided by the many folks who spoke.

I truly appreciate the enthusiasm, commitment, and dedication that shelter director Rob Parritt has for his work and the community, still, I have a hard time reconciling some of the things he said. He spoke so passionately

about how we should not hide or push aside our homeless residents, however moving the shelter from the middle of downtown to literally, the city limit border, is doing just that. Most of the services for our homeless residents including job searching, job placement, mental and physical health and wellness services, and food security are in the heart of Maine's largest city. By moving the shelter a significant distance away we will be limiting the support that our most at risk neighbors need most. This was the case when DHHS was moved from Marginal Way to South Portland, and folks are still having a hard time accessing those services. It feels to us that the city would be moving the shelter away from the eyes of tourists and a growing dining and entertainment district to somewhere it wouldn't be seen at all by those bringing money in to the city. While the proposed move will make one neighborhood safer, it could significantly alter the growth and safety of Nason's Corner.

I understand the plan for transportation, but question what bringing multiple buses, shuttles, vans, personal vehicles and taxi-cabs into the neighborhood is going to do to the traffic and walk-ability, especially down Holm Ave. Currently, the "walking school bus" to Hall/Rowe School walks right down Holm Ave, and many of the walking residents of the Baron center and those who live in the area take walks/bike rides down the street as well. I have concerns about the safety of those residents and our neighborhood kids as what sounds like a huge increase in traffic is being proposed on what is already a major gateway through the neighborhood.

He also mentioned how no one could ever conceive of needing 200 beds for emergency shelter when the Oxford Street facility opened years ago. I have serious concerns about the rising numbers of Portland's homeless population that I don't think this shelter will address. Portland rents are already higher than they have ever been and every day more and more residents are being pushed out of their homes to make way for luxury condos and high rent apartments all over the city. The Press Herald reported on May 1 that a "mystery" investor is buying multiple properties in Bayside and I feel that this investor, or other investors, are going to be the only ones to benefit from the shelter moving. I understand that what is happening in the area around the current shelter isn't OK on any level and there needs to be a solution, but removing it to make way for expensive properties is likely going to be the result - which will not benefit the people most in need of housing. With the current state of Portland and the surrounding area's market of available and affordable housing, as well as the opioid crisis wreaking havoc on our Maine cities and towns, the homelessness problem is going to keep increasing and we worry that the needs will not be met by this new shelter either by its location or model of support, and will create the Oxford Street "situation" in Nason's Corner within a few years.

Particularly concerning to me was the statement made by Police Chief Sauschuck at the HHS meeting stating that he didn't think there would be crossover problems between residents of Sagamore Village and clients at the new shelter, citing that he didn't believe that problems in Kennedy Park had been caused by those visiting the Oxford Street Shelter. This is deeply concerning and misleading for a few reasons. We have found that while there is occasional police presence in Sagamore Village, the folks who live there are very hard working and are grateful to have housing in Portland for their families. Lawns are clean and well kept and lots of kids play together - from all over the neighborhood which is how it should be. Kennedy Park also has its own set of problems and positives, but it is OVER half a mile from the Oxford Street Shelter, and has a huge natural barrier of the Franklin Arterial separating East and West Bayside! Sagamore Village has homes on Taft Avenue, and the shelter would be about a block and a half away from the closest home on that street. This is a little too close for comfort for many neighborhood residents, including those who live in Sagamore Village! As came out in the community meeting, Chief Sauschuck only thought there were 50 units in Sagamore Village, he is mistaken, there are 200. It seems that those doing the endorsing of this project are not actually in-tune with the needs of the neighborhood they're proposing, nor have they taken the time to research what currently exists in Nason's Corner!

Additionally, the proximity of the proposed shelter location to the before mentioned hotel properties is also a concern. While a Hampton Inn is replacing the problematic TravelLodge, and we have hopes it will bring great guests to stay in our neighborhood, the Motel 6 is still a den of people outside at all hours, conducting illicit activities in the parking lot. It has seen some improvement over the years, but having the new facility so close to what is already a problem does not put neighborhood residents at ease. We are not convinced that with the

addition of the shelter that the neighborhood will continue to improve or that the shelter residents (as well as existing Baron Center/Loring House residents) will have the safe, supportive environment that they need.

We would also like to be updated on the status of the Avesta housing project that has been slated to break ground next Spring and was to be located at [977 Brighton Avenue](#). This is planned to bring 40 low income senior housing units to a mere 4 blocks away from the proposed new shelter location. That, combined with Sagamore Village already in the neighborhood and the Baron Center itself is enough saturation of city services and assisted or low income housing in one neighborhood. Such a cluster threatens to overwhelm the availability of the services and the resources of the neighborhood to the detriment of both the people who already live in Nason's Corner as well as the people who so need those services. No matter how convenient it might be for the city to put the proposed shelter on land they already own rather than look for other locations OR solutions such as the small vacancy unit housing shelters that had been talked about in the past, ultimately such convenience is short sighted and does not serve anyone but the developers looking at the land on which the current shelter exists.

I know that other residents have additional concerns with regards to proximity of the new Rowe School, as well as the new shopping/housing project in Westbrook in the Pike quarry, and while I do worry about how a shelter will affect both of those new additions to this part of Cumberland County (as well as how many non-Portland homeless this shelter will attract) those concerns pale in comparison to the ones I've outlined above. I do believe that shelters CAN be good neighbors – but the City of Portland needs to look elsewhere this time around. I'm sure that there are few homeowners who would actively want these kinds of services in their neighborhoods, but they are necessary and it's time for other neighborhoods to step up and share in the solution.

After years of hard work and folks deciding to buy in the neighborhood, invest in their homes, and get involved with the public school community and their neighbors, Nason's Corner has become a vibrant community. It would be short sighted of the city to move the shelter to this neighborhood, one which has been open to accepting challenges in the past, but would be pushed to the breaking point with more of a burden. It's time to look at other locations, or other shelter models.

Thank you for your time.

Jackie Parker

--

Nick Mavodones
City Council At-Large
[389 Congress Street](#)
[Portland ME 04101](#)
(207) 874-8685
nmm@portlandmaine.gov

Sent from Gmail Mobile

Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>
To: Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Wed, Jul 25, 2018 at 4:22 PM

Public Comment

Director, Health & Human Services
City of Portland
389 Congress Street
Portland, Maine 04101
o 207.874.8775
c 207.956.3262
dcs@portlandmaine.gov

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Jon Jennings** <jjj@portlandmaine.gov>

Date: Wed, Jul 18, 2018 at 6:02 AM

Subject: Fwd: Proposed Shelter Site

[Quoted text hidden]



Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Fwd: Proposed shelter

3 messages

Jon Jennings <jpj@portlandmaine.gov>
To: Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>, ash@portlandmaine.gov

Wed, Jul 18, 2018 at 5:59 AM

Jon P. Jennings
City Manager
City of Portland
389 Congress Street
Portland, ME 04101
(207) 874-8689 Office
jpj@portlandmaine.gov
www.portlandmaine.gov
[@portlandmanager](#)

Begin forwarded message:

From: Sean Kerwin <cairdhubain@gmail.com>
Date: July 9, 2018 at 7:55:37 AM EDT
To: bbatson@portlandmaine.gov
Cc: pali@portlandmaine.gov, Belinda Ray <BSR@portlandmaine.gov>, Ethan Strimling <estrimling@portlandmaine.gov>, Spencer Thibodeau <sthibodeau@portlandmaine.gov>, jcosta@portlandmaine.gov, kcook@portlandmaine.gov, jduson@portlandmaine.gov, nmm@portlandmaine.gov, John Jennings <jpj@portlandmaine.gov>, Robert Parritt <rwp@portlandmaine.gov>, Michael Sauschuck <mjs@portlandmaine.gov>
Subject: Proposed shelter
Reply-To: cairdhubain@gmail.com

Greetings Councilor Batson,

I read with disappointment your letter to the Nason's Corner Neighborhood Association on their Facebook page regarding the siting of a new shelter on the Barron Center property. It is to be expected that the residents of any neighborhood where a shelter is proposed will offer resistance, but I had hopes that you - particularly given your experience in the healthcare field - would demonstrate greater leadership than your communication with them indicates.

As you know, this is an issue that the city and stakeholders have been working on for years. There have been two separate homeless shelter task forces, and countless hours of meetings between stakeholders over the years that have lead to this proposal. Of course, until it potentially impacts them personally, most citizens of Portland are not going to tune into that long process until it becomes more concrete and personal, but we cannot, and should not, wind back the clock on years of hard and open work as every new participant enters the process.

Threading the needle of what we need to see in a new shelter to provide the best situation for the homeless, for our service providers, and for our neighborhoods is admittedly tricky, but this location addresses all of those concerns. It is located in a neighborhood (rather than an industrial area like some feared) yet it is contained to its own campus, a well thought out system to access transportation is part of the proposal, partner providers will have space on

site to serve their clients, a medical center will exist on site as well as a community policing office, and the fact that it is city owned land makes the financing of this proposal hard to improve upon. This proposal has the support of the police department, the manager of the shelter, and most of the social service providers who work with the homeless. This proposal is absolutely based on a review of "best practices" that you call for.

Again, I understand that the people of Nason's corner are concerned - that is to be expected. I have hopes that, instead of feeding their fears, you will have the courage to step up and lead - to push to make this project the very best it can be, but to explain to your constituents that what is proposed is not what they fear, and is critically needed. I assume you agree that the current situation is untenable chaos destructive to all, most particularly to the homeless themselves. We do not need to step back and study the situation. That has been done - for years. We are in a moment of crisis and the time to lead is now.

Thank you for considering my concerns and opinion.

Respectfully,

Sean Kerwin
[18 Parris St.](#)

Jon Jennings <jjp@portlandmaine.gov>
To: Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>, ash@portlandmaine.gov

Wed, Jul 18, 2018 at 6:00 AM

Jon P. Jennings
City Manager
City of Portland
389 Congress Street
Portland, ME 04101
(207) 874-8689 Office
jjp@portlandmaine.gov
www.portlandmaine.gov
[@portlandmanager](#)

Begin forwarded message:

From: patrice perreault <murphperreault@gmail.com>
Date: July 9, 2018 at 8:21:50 AM EDT
To: jjp@portlandmaine.gov, bbatson@portlandmaine.gov, nmm@portlandmaine.gov, estrimling@portlandmaine.gov
Cc: nasonscornerneighborhood@gmail.com, omc@maine.rr.com
Subject: Proposed shelter

Dear City Staff,

I saw the the outline for the proposed new shelter. I didn't see the pro's and con's ect. for each location. I see cost and connectivity appear to be the criteria according to the study.

10 million dollars should not be a factor in any other location, period. Buses run through St.John St., Forest Ave. and Washington Ave.

Business are also located in these districts along with shopping centers and restaurants.

Mercy Quick Care can be accessed from County Wy, Bishop St and Washington Ave, would be about the same distance if not closer. Maybe a littler further form Washington Ave.

These other locations are not as densely populated and wouldn't have such a negative affect on residential areas. Please, think about it.

The city doesn't want to "hide the homeless", but yet move this shelter out of in town and relocate it to furthest city border. It will be well hidden from in town Portland. The city will pay for transportation to shuttle clients back and forth. This is a problem that was "created" and now it's out of control.

Bishop St & County Wy appear to be a much more practical choice,if the shelter must be moved from the Baysite area due to the development. allowing close access to the necessary amenities.

I believe what the former officer said at the other night at the meeting."You don't want this in your yard". (I know NIMBY) If anyone knows it's the officers. I sincerely hope before the city makes this decision, they **choose not to impact a residential area and destroy it**. That being said, I know other councilors feel the same about the area they represent. Why wouldn't they?

The trails, Fore River Sanctuary and Capisic Pond are in the Brighton Ave area, This makes camping a lot easier. Saturday evening I saw campers at Lucas St. The pond is a nice area to spend an evening along with the all other wooded areas in this district.

Hopefully this decision hasn't been made, as a lot of people feel this is already a done deal. I'm not sure how this could be true with an impact as huge as this could be for an entire district.

Sincerely,

Patrice Perreault

Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>
To: Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Wed, Jul 25, 2018 at 4:25 PM

Public Comment

Director, Health & Human Services
[City of Portland](#)
[389 Congress Street](#)
Portland, Maine 04101
o 207.874.8775
c 207.956.3262
dcs@portlandmaine.gov
[Quoted text hidden]

Fwd: Proposed use of County Way land

Kristen Dow <kjd@portlandmaine.gov>

Thu, Mar 7, 2019

To: Jon Jennings <jpj@portlandmaine.gov>, Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>, Jeff Levine <jlevine@portlandmaine.gov>

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Jennifer Packard** <jp@pkrealtymgmt.com>

Date: Thu, Mar 7, 2019 at 5:15 PM

Subject: Proposed use of County Way land

To: dcs@portlandmaine.gov <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>, KJD@portlandmaine.gov <KJD@portlandmaine.gov>

Dear Dawn and Kristen,

Our family is invested in this immediate neighborhood, owning [17 Westfield St](#), 1020 Congress and [1006 Congress St](#) properties. We have renovated what used to be a industrial building at [17 Westfield](#), into the new home of 4 thriving businesses, Bunker Brewing, Xpress Copy, Architectural Salvage and Red Hook Design. We are in the renovating 1006 Congress (Located at the corner of Westfield and Congress Sts), adding 9 market rate residential units, a café with a market and storage space in the b our tenant at 17 Westfield, Xpress Copy. Paulin Tire is slated for cosmetic work and in the process of us making these improvements, our neighbor Fitzgerald Tile decide our lead and renovated their building to its now classy state.

In the process of improving the properties on Westfield/Congress Streets, we also looked into developing the County Way property, which led us to a number of discussi MDOT regarding the possibilities and restrictions of that site. The upshot of our discussions with MDOT led to the understanding that the site is under VRAP, initiated in 1 updated in 2005/2006 and that there are concerning environmental issues with the land, causing the DEP to declare several restrictions to uses permissible for this spec land. You will find these conditions excerpted below, as well as listed in the attached document Declaration of Environmental Covenant.

We currently rent land from MDOT on the County Way Property for overflow parking on our sites. We have been informed by MDOT during the planning and execution o upgrades to the parking area on the County Way property, that we are not to disturb any soil within the bounds of the mounded soil, which is surrounded by a soil screen and topped with what seem to be methane chimneys. MDOT confirmed in our interaction at the time that the soil was contaminated and under no circumstances was it to uncapped or disturbed. In addition to this, we were required to heed the setback to the wetland on the site. We also were made aware that the site is under VRAP and th clear restrictions on the deed pertaining to the land use, the documentation of which you will find attached.

During a recent meeting on the Portland Harbor Dredging Project, we were able to learn more about the challenge of dealing with contaminated dredge material, which fr the backfill on the county way site – To put it mildly, there is a hefty cost and a great deal of permitting involved in getting a site like this clean again. As far as we have be understand, the site was first a landfill, then contaminated dredge material was dumped there along with contaminated soil from the construction of the Fore River Parkw

After sitting in on the recent meetings regarding the shelter, we have come to understand that there is a high priority set on keeping costs to a minimum and getting this s as quickly as possible. We want to be sure that the city is aware of some of the restrictions which may require additional time and financial investment to bring any develv fruiton on this site. At this stage it would be helpful to get the

We look forward to clarifying the environmental situation on this site and are happy to share any information we have with you.

With warm regards,

Jen Packard

CONDITIONS

1. The installation of groundwater extraction wells on the Protected Property is prohibited without the written permission of MaineDEP.
2. Future development of the Protected Property for residential purposes is prohibited.
3. Removal of cover systems over contaminated materials on the Protected Property is prohibited.

ADDITIONAL TERMS

- A. Liberal Construction. It is intended that this Declaration shall be construed liberally to protect the health and welfare of the public and the quality of the environment from the risk of adverse effects of exposure to hazardous substances.

Assessor's Office | 389 Congress Street | Portland, Maine 04101 | Room 115 | (207) 874-8486

City Home Departments City Council E-Services Calendar Jobs

This page contains a detailed description of the Parcel ID you selected.

[New Search!](#)

Current Owner Information:

CBL 076 A019001
 Land Use Type GOVERNMENTAL
Verify legal use with Inspections Division
 Property Location 0 OGDENSBURG ST
 Owner Information STATE OF MAINE
 16 STATE HOUSE STATION
 AUGUSTA ME 04333
 Book and Page 18587/254
 Legal Description 76-A-19 76-A-A-1
 OGDENSBURG ST
 COUNTY WAY 1-21
 267726 SF

Current Rental Registration
 Acres 6.1461

Current Assessed Valuation:

TAX ACCT NO.	13917	OWNER OF RECORD AS OF APRIL 2018
LAND VALUE	\$604,100.00	STATE OF MAINE
BUILDING VALUE	\$0.00	
STATE OF MAINE	(\$604,100.00)	16 STATE HOUSE STATION AUGUSTA ME 04333
NET TAXABLE - REAL ESTATE	\$0.00	
TAX AMOUNT	\$0.00	

Any information concerning tax payments should be directed to the Treasury office at 874-8450 or e-mailed.

Building Information:

Building 1
 Year Built
 Style/Structure Type

Sales Information:

Sale Date	Type	Price	Book/Page
12/20/2002	LAND + BUILDING	\$0.00	18587/254
10/4/1995	LAND + BUILDING	\$0.00	12148/146

[New Search!](#)

Site	Site Name	Address	Program	Status Date	Status
PORTLAND					
REM02024	ELDRIDGE LUMBER AND HARDWARE	165 PRESUMPCOT STREE	VRAP	2/25/2015	REMEDY IN PLACE: CLOSED - UNDERTAK POST-CLOSURE OBLIGATIONS
REM02318	EMERY WATERHOUSE	7 RAND ROAD	VRAP	6/27/2014	REMEDY IN PLACE: CLOSED - UNDERTAK POST-CLOSURE OBLIGATIONS
REM02034	ENVIROLOGIX	500 RIVERSIDE INDUSTRIA	VRAP	10/13/2011	REMEDY IN PLACE: CLOSED - UNDERTAK POST-CLOSURE OBLIGATIONS
REM01112	FAMILY WORKSHOP, INC.	207-217 CONGRESS ST.	VRAP	12/2/1995	REMEDY IN PLACE: CLOSED - NO (OR DE-MINIMIS) CONTAMINATION LEFT ON SITE
REM01521	FILL IT UP, PLEASE	1185 FOREST AVENUE	VRAP	2/18/2005	REMEDY IN PLACE: CLOSED - UNDERTAK POST-CLOSURE OBLIGATIONS
REM01978	FJM LOT 2	201 FORE STREET	VRAP	6/9/2011	REMEDY IN PLACE: CLOSED - UNDERTAK POST-CLOSURE OBLIGATIONS
REM00784	FORE RIVER TRANSPORTATION	OGDENSBURG STREET	UNCONTROLLED SITES	1/1/1950	REMEDY IN PLACE: CLOSED - UNDERTAK POST-CLOSURE OBLIGATIONS
REM00784	FORE RIVER TRANSPORTATION	OGDENSBURG STREET	VRAP	1/1/1950	REMEDY IN PLACE: CLOSED - UNDERTAK POST-CLOSURE OBLIGATIONS
REM01556	FOREST AVENUE MOBIL	518 FOREST AVENUE	VRAP	7/20/2005	REMEDY IN PLACE: CLOSED - UNDERTAK POST-CLOSURE OBLIGATIONS
REM02458	FORMER CARQUEST	126 NORTH BOYD STREET	RCRA	11/22/2017	INVESTIGATION STAGE - NEED (AWAITING RESOURCES)
REM02458	FORMER CARQUEST	126 NORTH BOYD STREET	VRAP	11/22/2017	INVESTIGATION STAGE - NEED (AWAITING RESOURCES)
REM01361	FORMER FLEET CLUB		FEDERAL FACILITIES	1/1/1950	COMPLAINT INVESTIGATED - RECEIVING PRELIMINARY SITE INFORMATION
REM01113	FORMER HOLDEN COMPANY	75 BISHOP STREET	VRAP	8/12/1994	REMEDY IN PLACE: CLOSED - UNDERTAK POST-CLOSURE OBLIGATIONS
REM01649	FORMER STEECO BUILDING	46 BEEFORD ST/89 WINSLOW	VRAP	04/27/2006	REMEDY IN PLACE: CLOSED - UNDERTAK POST-CLOSURE OBLIGATIONS

2 attachments

- Declaration of Env Covenants Book 23747;pg28[3].pdf
187K
- Release Deed 18587; page254[1].pdf
273K



Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Fwd: Questions for City Council

5 messages

Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>
To: Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Tue, Sep 4, 2018 at 4:11 PM

Public Comment

Director, Health & Human Services
[City of Portland](#)
[389 Congress Street](#)
Portland, Maine 04101
o 207.874.8775
c 207.956.3262
dcs@portlandmaine.gov

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Jon Jennings** <jjj@portlandmaine.gov>
Date: Tue, Sep 4, 2018 at 1:53 PM
Subject: Fwd: Questions for City Council
To: Michael Sauschuck <mjs@portlandmaine.gov>, Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>

FYI--

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Pious Ali** <pali@portlandmaine.gov>
Date: Thu, Aug 30, 2018 at 8:18 AM
Subject: Re: Questions for City Council
To: Tania Tonos <tonostania@gmail.com>, Belinda Ray <bsr@portlandmaine.gov>, Jon Jennings <jjj@portlandmaine.gov>

Ms. Tonos

Thanks for your detailed email. I am sharing this with the chair of the HHS&PS committee chair Councilor Ray and the city manager, Mr. Jon Jennings. so that the response to some of the questions that are directly related to the moving of the shelter be printed and shared at the September 10th meeting you are organizing. Thanks

*Respectfully***Pious Ali**

City Councilor At-Large

City Hall

[389 Congress Street](#)[Portland, ME 04101](#)PALI@PortlandMaine.gov[2078074283](tel:2078074283)<http://www.portlandmaine.gov>[Sign up to receive updates on my work](#)

On Fri, Aug 24, 2018 at 2:34 PM, Tania Tonos <tonostania@gmail.com> wrote:

August 24th, 2018

Council Member Mr. Pious Ali
389 Congress St, Portland, ME 04101

Dear Councilman Ali:

Hello, Mr. Ali. I hope that you have had a pleasant week. I can share with you some of the comments that the those living in homelessness have. Please be aware that these comments may not reflect the views of myself or Homeless Voices for Justice.

Some of the questions from the homeless community for City Council are:

- why do people at Oxford Street Shelter have to leave the area where they go to social service providers in the area, such as Maine Behavioral Health, and employment day labor agencies?
- why were those experiencing homeless not asked beforehand, and left out of the decision-making process?
- why does City Council move forward with the new shelter when they have not experienced homelessness?
- what makes City Council think the same problems will not happen at "the new Oxford" on Brighton Avenue?
- why aren't any of the City Council members coming to Preble and Oxford themselves to speak to those in homelessness?
- why Brighton Avenue? It's the DHHS to Jetport all over again
- why \$10 million dollars when everyone could just be housed for less money? Why are landlords allowed to raise rent above vouchers?
- why is no one addressing no cause evictions that send the housed back to the shelter where they may not be allowed back in as in several cases?
- why aren't other areas of Maine addressing their own homeless issues and sending them to Portland?
- why does City Council keep avoiding affordable housing? It's responsible for this whole mess, and just makes new "homeless people"
- why aren't they putting up tiny houses?
- why are "homeless people" forced to move away from friends, resources, and loved ones?
- why don't we see City Council at the (Preble Street) soup kitchen?
- why can't we have our service animals in the shelter? emotional service animals?
- why is City Council only exploring the option that personally benefit City Council members?

Those are the more popular questions in the homeless community. Jane's concerns were safety issues in shelters themselves: violence, theft, exposure to substance use, health issues unaddressed of those with disabilities, seniors, teens, the aged, domestic violence, those with alternative lifestyles, etc. My concerns were having exposed bio-hazards in clinical and eating areas. Also, I fully agree with Mark Swann in that there should never be sleeping areas on the ground floor. A one floored unit is unsafe, unsanitary, and congested. Many diseases are contracted in confined spaces. Illnesses are very easily transmitted to staff, volunteers, and clients. And what of allowed animals?

I also had issues with the lack of set policies and rules for staff to follow when dealing with emergencies, theft, violence, re-entry, and clients being forced out into inclement weather and no one being held accountable. Clients are not being able to fill out police complaints, complaint forms go missing, and people are told to leave for the slightest of offenses. People are forced to take apartments, and some far away, or they must leave the shelter. The blind, deaf/mutes, those with disabilities, and those with sever illnesses are not given priority housing status. Long term stayers are given priority. Pregnant women are placed at the Oxford Street Shelter instead of in family shelters-7 months pregnant and with medical histories that affect their pregnancies. Teens are being asked to engage in alternative lifestyles and/or sexual activities against their will, partake in criminal activities, and take substances-illegal and otherwise. Those who choose alternative lifestyles are verbally insulted by staff and clients, threatened, and physically harmed-including being kicked in the head repeatedly. Many of these incidents I have witnessed first hand. And where are the incident reports that should have been forwarded to authorities?

The lists go on and on. No matter who you ask that are involved in the community that sincerely empathize with homelessness, the greatest fears are: wasting 10 million dollars on a band aid solution that does nothing to end homelessness, ignoring the root causes of homelessness, going through great lengths to waste time, energy, resources, and money on another failed Oxford Street Shelter, ignoring true concerns of homelessness, and those that experience homeless, and not exploring other options of small scattered shelter sites and other solutions to homelessness, ignoring affordable housing solutions, ignoring the concerns of social service providers, not consulting

these providers, and rushing headlong into the decision of the one shelter location despite the obvious problems with the site.

My concern is also that of City Council making these decisions without asking "homeless experts" to join in the decision making process. I thank you Mr. Ali for getting involved and asking to meet with different individuals in the homeless community to find out what is involved and at stake for those living in homelessness.

I would ask for a committee watchdog group that would oversee client complaints, shelter regulations being met, police reporting and handling, legal concerns, code enforcement measures, exiting and re-entry policies being met and how all of these issues are being enforced and regulated. This committee would not be handled by shelter or social service provider staff, but people that are experienced in the community without personal stake in the outcomes of these decisions. A group of people that those being regulated must answer to and be held accountable for their actions and decisions.

I hope that this gives you some idea of how great an importance City Council decisions will be and the multitude of vulnerable lives they will affect. I hope that I have answered all of your questions satisfactorily. Please contact me if you or other Council members need clarification. Thank you and the rest of City Council for taking an active interest in the community. I appreciate the presence of City Council at different functions around Portland, and for the dedication shown to finding viable solutions to this now growing problem of homelessness in the community, Bayside, Portland, Maine, and The United States.

Respectfully,

Tania T.

--

Jon P. Jennings
City Manager
City of Portland
389 Congress Street
Portland, ME 04101
(207) 874-8689 Office
(207) 874-8669 Fax
jjp@portlandmaine.gov
www.portlandmaine.gov
Twitter: @portlandmanager

Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>

Wed, Sep 5, 2018 at 9:42 AM

To: Robert Parritt <rwp@portlandmaine.gov>, Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>, Jessica Grondin <jjgrondin@portlandmaine.gov>

Cc: "MacLean, David" <dem@portlandmaine.gov>

Great - maybe they can get posted at the end of the day with the other material. thanks

Director, Health & Human Services
City of Portland
389 Congress Street
Portland, Maine 04101
o 207.874.8775
c 207.956.3262
dcs@portlandmaine.gov

On Wed, Sep 5, 2018 at 9:28 AM, Robert Parritt <rwp@portlandmaine.gov> wrote:

I can have them answered by lunch.

On Wed, Sep 5, 2018 at 9:28 AM, Robert Parritt <rwp@portlandmaine.gov> wrote:

I am happy to just answer these today and send along to you guys for comment.

On Tue, Sep 4, 2018 at 4:12 PM, Dawn Stiles <dc@portlandmaine.gov> wrote:

We need to respond to these when you return Rob.

[Quoted text hidden]

--

Rob Parritt
Director
City of Portland
Oxford Street Shelter
rwp@portlandmaine.gov
(207) 482-5213
fax (207) 761-0536

--

Rob Parritt
Director
City of Portland
Oxford Street Shelter
rwp@portlandmaine.gov
(207) 482-5213
fax (207) 761-0536

Robert Parritt <rwp@portlandmaine.gov>

Wed, Sep 5, 2018 at 9:50 AM

To: Dawn Stiles <dc@portlandmaine.gov>

Cc: Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>, Jessica Grondin <jgrondin@portlandmaine.gov>, "MacLean, David" <dem@portlandmaine.gov>

No problem!

[Quoted text hidden]

Robert Parritt <rwp@portlandmaine.gov>

Wed, Sep 5, 2018 at 3:56 PM

To: Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>, Jessica Grondin <jgrondin@portlandmaine.gov>

Adam, we are just adding the questions. The City Manager wants to respond directly.

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Dawn Stiles** <dc@portlandmaine.gov>

Date: Tue, Sep 4, 2018 at 4:12 PM

Subject: Fwd: Questions for City Council

[Quoted text hidden]

[Quoted text hidden]

Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Wed, Sep 5, 2018 at 4:01 PM

To: Robert Parritt <rwp@portlandmaine.gov>

Cc: Jessica Grondin <jgrondin@portlandmaine.gov>

I understand, I was just fuzzy on the email original of the public comments but I see them above.

Adam Harr
Executive Assistant
Social Services Division
Health & Human Services Department
City of Portland
196 Lancaster Street
Portland, ME 04101

2/14/2019

City of Portland Mail - Fwd: Questions for City Council

o: (207) 482-5144

f: (207) 775-7918

ash@portlandmaine.gov

[Quoted text hidden]



Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Fwd: Regarding the proposed homeless shelter at the Barren Center

2 messages

Jon Jennings <jpj@portlandmaine.gov>

Wed, Jul 18, 2018 at 5:11 AM

To: Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>, ash@portlandmaine.gov

For the record.

Jon P. Jennings
City Manager
City of Portland
389 Congress Street
Portland, ME 04101
(207) 874-8689 Office
jpj@portlandmaine.gov
www.portlandmaine.gov
[@portlandmanager](https://twitter.com/portlandmanager)

Begin forwarded message:

From: Mara Sullivan <marasullivan4444@yahoo.com>
Date: July 11, 2018 at 11:52:23 AM EDT
To: "estrimling@portlandmaine.gov" <estrimling@portlandmaine.gov>
Cc: "bsr@portlandmaine.gov" <bsr@portlandmaine.gov>, "bbatson@portlandmaine.gov" <bbatson@portlandmaine.gov>, "pali@portlandmaine.gov" <pali@portlandmaine.gov>, "nmm@portlandmaine.gov" <nmm@portlandmaine.gov>, "jduson@portlandmaine.gov" <jduson@portlandmaine.gov>, "jpj@portlandmaine.gov" <jpj@portlandmaine.gov>, "mjs@portlandmaine.gov" <mjs@portlandmaine.gov>
Subject: Regarding the proposed homeless shelter at the Barren Center

To whom it may concern,

I am a resident of the Nason's Corner Neighborhood. I have attended all three meetings provided by the committee to learn more about the proposed Homeless Shelter on Brighton Ave and have read all possible materials made available. I have not at this point provided any public comments on the matter, as I believe in being educated as much as possible about a topic before taking sides and sharing my opinion. This morning I woke up compelled to speak out. I love the diversity the city of Portland offers. Our neighborhood in particular with Sagamore Village creates a beautifully diverse population. I believe that all people deserve the right to a safe environment in which to live, a community that they feel connected to and neighbors that treat them with dignity and respect. It wasn't until I started attending the meetings and doing my research that I began to feel uneasy about the plan proposed by the city. As a resident I feel completely unsatisfied with the level of planning and communication surrounding this plan. There is an emergency situation happening in Oxford Street, I understand that and something needs to change. This massive 200 bed shelter on the outskirts of town feels like a band aid to this situation. I feel the answers to all our questions as concerned neighbors have blatantly been disregarded. We are being asked to buy into a model that has no proven track record of success. There are so many inaccuracies in the handout provided by Oxford street shelter last night. Just a few I would point out are outdated budget numbers, incomplete lists of other sites researched, and blatant lies about walk-ability (Mercy Quick Care in Westbrook is almost three miles away from the barren center, down busy, sidewalk-less roads). I also need to point out the possible conflicts of interest. This includes a committee chair who has property in the Oxford Street Area, a chief of police who promises us safety but then accepts a high paying position as assistant city manager, an absent city manager from the meeting & the fact that anonymous buyers are buying up properties in Bayside just waiting to develop that land as soon as the homeless move out. Everything about this plan feels rushed, corrupt and misleading. The city is ultimately asking a small residential neighborhood to support a 200 bed emergency all inclusive shelter 4 miles outside of the center of town. There has been no plans provided to us on how our neighborhood will be kept safe. We have been given answers such as "the bad actors will be

easier to spot" and " first floor windows should be locked anyways" I urge the committee to take a look at their way too aggressive timeline, slow down, and come up with a plan that works for all of Portland's residents. One that keep all of us safe.

My husband and I love Portland, We have lived here for 17 years. Unfortunately, like all of our friends, we were driven off the peninsula 11 years ago due to the cost of living. As a public school teacher and an electrician we didn't make enough to even rent let alone buy in town. We found this beautiful little house on the outskirts of town that allowed us make our dream of raising our family in Portland a reality. We now have two children in Portland Public Schools and have fallen in love with our tree lined, quiet neighborhood. Although our house and yard are way too small and our tax bill is way to big we are still committed to staying here because we love Portland so much. This proposal feels like a kick in the face to us. We once again feel as if we are being pushed out of the area we love. I have to be honest, it's becoming more and more obvious that Portland cares nothing about it's middle class citizens. It's so discouraging to care so much for a city who does not care about you. This is completely evident in the lack of communication with our neighborhood at ANY point in this process. I encourage you all to come for a walk behind the Barren center into our neighborhood. You will see so many kids riding their bikes in the street or playing massive games of tag through out each other's yards. You will see elderly people sitting in their driveways who have lived in this neighborhood for years and raised their own kids here. They love to chat you up about life and tell you stories from back in the day. Please take a walk in the beautiful paths surrounding our neighborhood where I run every night after dinner and never feel unsafe. Swing into Sagamore and see the amazing progress this community has made, you would never believe it is the same development that had such a bad reputation years ago. Our neighborhood is unique this day in age. It a special place, and one I am so proud to raise my kids in. Please, do your research on the impact this shelter will have on our neighborhood before moving forward. Do your due diligence. Come knock on our doors and shake our hands and talk to us face to face like you all did when you were campaigning. WE are your people too. WE voted for you because we hoped you would represent us. I once again urge you to slow down this process and to extend the timeline. The proper work has not been done by the city to make sure this is the right move for all of it's residents.

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter, I look forward to any future conversations with the committee.

Sincerely,

Mara Sullivan
49 Pinecrest Ave

Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>
To: Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Thu, Jul 26, 2018 at 8:11 AM

Public Comment

Director, Health & Human Services
[City of Portland](#)
[389 Congress Street](#)
Portland, Maine 04101
o 207.874.8775
c 207.956.3262
dcs@portlandmaine.gov
[Quoted text hidden]



Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Fwd: Request for City staff to organize stakeholder meeting before HHS vote

1 message

Jon Jennings <jpj@portlandmaine.gov>

Thu, Nov 15, 2018 at 11:15 AM

To: Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>, Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

For the public record.

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Nick Mavodones** <nmm@portlandmaine.gov>

Date: Thu, Nov 15, 2018 at 11:09 AM

Subject: Fwd: Request for City staff to organize stakeholder meeting before HHS vote

To: Jon Jennings <jpj@portlandmaine.gov>

FYI

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Gloria Driessnack** <gloria.driessnack@gmail.com>

Date: Thursday, November 15, 2018

Subject: Request for City staff to organize stakeholder meeting before HHS vote

To: Ethan Strimling <estrimling@portlandmaine.gov>, Belinda Ray <bsr@portlandmaine.gov>, Spencer Thibodeau <sthibodeau@portlandmaine.gov>, Brian Batson <bbatson@portlandmaine.gov>, Justin Costa <jcosta@portlandmaine.gov>, Kim Cook <kcook@portlandmaine.gov>, Pious Ali <pali@portlandmaine.gov>, Nick Mavodones <nmm@portlandmaine.gov>, Jill Duson <jduson@portlandmaine.gov>

Dear City Councilors and Mayor Strimling,

I am writing to urge you to *not vote* this coming Monday on the Homeless Services Center proposal.

I have reviewed the new materials provided by the City and heard from neighbors and Homeless Voices for Justice (HVJ) members on how the HHS committee meeting went on Tuesday.

It is clear that the City has considered additional locations for the new Homeless Services Center and is looking into some partnerships. However, the City must take one more important step before a vote can be called - **bring everyone to the table**. Before voting on the proposal, it is vital for the council to request City Staff organize a meeting among the following key stakeholders to elicit their feedback:

- **HVJ members**
- **service providers** (Preble Street, Amistad, Milestone Recovery, Greater Portland Health, CHOM, Avesta, Opportunity Alliance, etc.)
- **UNE Professor - Dr. Thomas Chalmers McLaughlin** (who has studied cost-effectiveness of different services for people experiencing homelessness and been consulted by the City before on such topics)
- **neighborhood association presidents**

I understand that some of these groups have been engaged by the City on a one-on-one basis. However, it is *more strategic and effective* to bring all stakeholders to the same table for feedback and collaborative thinking on the proposal. This is a common practice for legislative bodies and organizations when making evidence-based decisions.

Please consider asking City Staff to take this **one additional step** before calling for a vote.

All best,
Gloria Sclar, MPH
25 Sandy Terrace

--

Nick Mavodones
City Council At-Large
[389 Congress Street](#)
[Portland ME 04101](#)
(207) 874-8685
nmm@portlandmaine.gov

Sent from Gmail Mobile

--

Jon P. Jennings
City Manager
[City of Portland](#)
[389 Congress Street](#)
Portland, ME 04101
(207) 874-8689 Office
(207) 874-8669 Fax
jpj@portlandmaine.gov
www.portlandmaine.gov
Twitter: [@portlandmanager](#)

Fwd: Response to City's memo about shelter canvassing script

5 messages

Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>

Mon, Aug 20, 2018 at 3:51 PM

To: Michael Sauschuck <mjs@portlandmaine.gov>, "MacLean, David" <dem@portlandmaine.gov>, Robert Parritt <rwp@portlandmaine.gov>, Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Looks like we have some more questions to address.

Director, Health & Human Services
 City of Portland
 389 Congress Street
 Portland, Maine 04101
 o 207.874.8775
 c 207.956.3262
dcs@portlandmaine.gov

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Gloria Driessnack** <gloria.driessnack@gmail.com>

Date: Mon, Aug 20, 2018 at 1:17 PM

Subject: Response to City's memo about shelter canvassing script

To: Ethan Strimling <estrimling@portlandmaine.gov>, Belinda Ray <bsr@portlandmaine.gov>, Spencer Thibodeau <sthibodeau@portlandmaine.gov>, Brian Batson <bbatson@portlandmaine.gov>, Justin Costa <jcosta@portlandmaine.gov>, Kim Cook <kcook@portlandmaine.gov>, Pious Ali <pali@portlandmaine.gov>, Nick Mavodones <nmm@portlandmaine.gov>, Jill Duson <jduson@portlandmaine.gov>, Jon Jennings <jjp@portlandmaine.gov>, mjs@portlandmaine.gov, Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>, dem@portlandmaine.gov, Robert Parritt <rwp@portlandmaine.gov>, jlevine@portlandmaine.gov

Dear Dawn and All,

Please find attached a detailed response to Dawn's recent memo titled "Corrections to 'Homeless Services Center Canvasser Script.'" Dawn's memo was in regards to a canvass training that I led for people going door to door talking with residents about the proposed Barron Center shelter.

If the City is in fact interested in having as much information as possible available to the public, we would request that our response also be uploaded to the City's "Planning for a New Homeless Services Center" webpage to ensure full transparency. Both documents will be added to PortlandShelters.org.

Dawn - thank you for your offer to answer questions. The attachment includes our additional questions to which we would appreciate responses. We have also asked to see several documents to which you alluded to, such as the safety plan developed in partnership with the Portland Police Department.

Many thanks and have a good day,
 Gloria Sclar, MPH
 25 Sandy Terrace



Response to Canvasser Script 8.14_RebuttalbyCanvassGroup.pdf

227K

Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>

Thu, Aug 30, 2018 at 2:06 PM

To: Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Email and attachment for Public Comments. thanks - not sure if I sent this previously.

Director, Health & Human Services
 City of Portland
 389 Congress Street
 Portland, Maine 04101
 o 207.874.8775
 c 207.956.3262
dcs@portlandmaine.gov

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Gloria Driessnack** <gloria.driessnack@gmail.com>

Date: Mon, Aug 20, 2018 at 1:17 PM

Subject: Response to City's memo about shelter canvassing script

To: Ethan Strimling <estrimling@portlandmaine.gov>, Belinda Ray <bsr@portlandmaine.gov>, Spencer Thibodeau <sthibodeau@portlandmaine.gov>, Brian Batson <bbatson@portlandmaine.gov>, Justin Costa <jcosta@portlandmaine.gov>, Kim Cook <kcook@portlandmaine.gov>, Pious Ali <pali@portlandmaine.gov>, Nick Mavodones <nmm@portlandmaine.gov>, Jill Duson <jduson@portlandmaine.gov>, Jon Jennings <[jpp@portlandmaine.gov](mailto:jpj@portlandmaine.gov)>, mjs@portlandmaine.gov, Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>, dem@portlandmaine.gov, Robert Parritt <rwp@portlandmaine.gov>, jlevine@portlandmaine.gov

Dear Dawn and All,

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Many thanks and have a good day,
 Gloria Sclar, MPH
 25 Sandy Terrace



Response to Canvasser Script 8.14_RebuttalbyCanvassGroup.pdf

227K

David MacLean <dem@portlandmaine.gov>

To: Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Tue, Sep 4, 2018 at 4:02 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Gloria Driessnack** <gloria.driessnack@gmail.com>

Date: Tue, Sep 4, 2018 at 11:17 AM

Subject: Re: Response to City's memo about shelter canvassing script

To: Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>

Cc: Jeff Levine <jlevine@portlandmaine.gov>, Robert Parritt <rwp@portlandmaine.gov>, Nick Mavodones <nmm@portlandmaine.gov>, Michael Sauschuck <mjs@portlandmaine.gov>, "MacLean, David" <dem@portlandmaine.gov>, Kim Cook <kcook@portlandmaine.gov>, Pious Ali <pali@portlandmaine.gov>, Jon Jennings <[jpp@portlandmaine.gov](mailto:jpj@portlandmaine.gov)>, Jill Duson <jduson@portlandmaine.gov>, Justin Costa <jcosta@portlandmaine.gov>, Brian Batson <bbatson@portlandmaine.gov>, Spencer Thibodeau <sthibodeau@portlandmaine.gov>, Belinda Ray <bsr@portlandmaine.gov>, Ethan Strimling <estrimling@portlandmaine.gov>

Dear Dawn,

It is disappointing to learn that our response to your memo will not be posted to the City's webpage. Although the response will be part of public comment, this is not sufficient transparency. Your memo was posted on the City's webpage on Aug. 15th but compiled public comment will not be available until Sept. 7th (a full 3 weeks later). In the meantime, several Portland residents have approached me about your memo and asked if anyone plans to respond. I then have to explain the background and send them our rebuttal document. As a result of this lack of transparency, I struggle to find your original statement ("it is critical that members of the public have access to accurate information") to be genuine.

- **Have you come across any evidence that counter the literature and references we cited in our response?**

Finally, in hopes of making things easier for you and your staff, please find attached a summary list of the follow-up questions and document requests that were asked for in our response. Questions that only require a Yes or No response are noted. One additional document request is for an actual proposal. So far, for this multi-million dollar proposal, I have only found [this ppt slide deck](#) presented by Rob Parritt (which has still not been updated to reflect the latest version used at the July 10th hearing and the August 7th PAN meeting).

- **Is there a written proposal that the HHS committee will get to review before voting on Sept. 25th? Or will their vote be based on this powerpoint?**

Many thanks for your time. I hope you enjoyed the holiday weekend.

Gloria Sclar, MPH
25 Sandy Terrace

On Thu, Aug 30, 2018 at 2:05 PM, Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov> wrote:

Gloria, All backup material & Q & A will be posted no later than the 7th. Your response will be posted with all of the public comments. Regards, Dawn

Director, Health & Human Services
City of Portland
389 Congress Street
Portland, Maine 04101
o 207.874.8775
c 207.956.3262
dcs@portlandmaine.gov

On Thu, Aug 30, 2018 at 11:48 AM, Gloria Driessnack <gloria.driessnack@gmail.com> wrote:

Dear Dawn,

I am following up on my email that was sent 7 days ago. Can you please provide a response to these two quick follow-ups:

- When will the documents I requested (e.g. safety plan, cost analysis) be made available?
- Will our response be posted to the City's webpage?

Thank you,
Gloria Sclar, MPH
Sandy Terrace

On Thu, Aug 23, 2018 at 4:42 PM, Gloria Driessnack <gloria.driessnack@gmail.com> wrote:

Dear Dawn,

Thank you for the reply and information that questions will be addressed at the committee meeting on Sept. 11th.

Two quick follow-ups:

- Will the requested documents (e.g. safety plan, cost analysis) also be made available to the public at the Sept. 11th meeting?
- Will our response be posted to the City's webpage?

Thank you,
Gloria Sclar, MPH

[25 Sandy Terrace](#)

On Thu, Aug 23, 2018 at 3:52 PM, Dawn Stiles <dcx@portlandmaine.gov> wrote:

Thank you for your note Gloria, We are compiling all of the questions we have received from the public hearings and other venues and will have responses prepared for the PS & HHS Committee meeting on Sept. 11th.
Regards, Dawn Stiles

Director, Health & Human Services
City of Portland
389 Congress Street
Portland, Maine 04101
o 207.874.8775
c 207.956.3262
dcx@portlandmaine.gov

On Thu, Aug 23, 2018 at 10:23 AM, Gloria Driessnack <gloria.driessnack@gmail.com> wrote:

Dear Dawn,

I am following up about the email I sent on Monday with a response to your canvassing script "corrections" memo.

Please let me know if you plan to upload our response to the City's webpage. Both your memo and our response have been added to PortlandShelters.org. We ask the City to do the same in the spirit of reciprocity and transparency. As you stated in your memo: "it is critical that members of the public have access to accurate information." Because our response is based on in-depth research and includes credible cited sources, it is a great way for citizens to get accurate information.

Also, please let me know when we can expect responses to the ~31 questions and document requests contained in our response.

For easy reference, I am attaching our response again to this email or you can find a direct link to it [here](#).

We look forward to hearing back from you.

Many thanks,
Gloria Sclar, MPH
[25 Sandy Terrace](#)

On Mon, Aug 20, 2018 at 1:17 PM, Gloria Driessnack <gloria.driessnack@gmail.com> wrote:

Dear Dawn and All,

Please find attached a detailed response to Dawn's recent memo titled "Corrections to 'Homeless Services Center Canvasser Script.'" Dawn's memo was in regards to a canvass training that I led for people going door to door talking with residents about the proposed Barron Center shelter.

If the City is in fact interested in having as much information as possible available to the public, we would request that our response also be uploaded to the City's "Planning for a New Homeless Services Center" webpage to ensure full transparency. Both documents will be added to PortlandShelters.org.

Dawn - thank you for your offer to answer questions. The attachment includes our additional questions to which we would appreciate responses. We have also asked to see several documents to which you alluded to, such as the safety plan developed in partnership with the Portland Police Department.

Many thanks and have a good day,
Gloria Sclar, MPH
[25 Sandy Terrace](#)

Notice: Under Maine law, documents - including e-mails - in the possession of public officials or city employees

about government business may be classified as public records. There are very few exceptions. As a result, please be advised that what is written in an e-mail could be released to the public and/or the media if requested.

Notice: Under Maine law, documents - including e-mails - in the possession of public officials or city employees about government business may be classified as public records. There are very few exceptions. As a result, please be advised that what is written in an e-mail could be released to the public and/or the media if requested.

--
David MacLean

Administrator

Social Services Division
Health & Human Services Department
City of Portland
196 Lancaster Street
Portland, ME 04101
o: (207) 482-5124
f: (207) 775-7918
dem@portlandmaine.gov

**Questions & Documents Request_04Sep2018.docx**

150K

Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>
To: "Stiles, Dawn" <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>

Tue, Sep 4, 2018 at 4:10 PM

Hi Dawn,

I am in the home stretch but could use some help on 2-3 documents:

- Are the missing answers to questions to spoke about this morning in the "Response to Canvasser Script 8.14_RebuttalbyCanvassGroup" document, or another document responding to that?
- Do you have a more up to date version of Mike's memo than what is attached?
- Have you had a chance to look at the questions that were sent today that appear to attempt to replace those in the previous response to the canvass response?

As an aside, I do have some academic sources that contradict those Gloria presented.

Thank you!
Adam

Adam Harr
Executive Assistant
Social Services Division
Health & Human Services Department
City of Portland
196 Lancaster Street
Portland, ME 04101
o: (207) 482-5144
f: (207) 775-7918
ash@portlandmaine.gov

[Quoted text hidden]

3 attachments

 **Questions & Documents Request_04Sep2018.docx**
150K

 **Response to Canvasser Script 8.14_RebuttalbyCanvassGroup (2).pdf**
227K

 **HSC Memo.docx**
17K

Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>
Draft To: Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>

Thu, Feb 14, 2019 at 3:10 PM

Hi Dawn

I want to confirm that this is the document with answers

Adam Harr
Executive Assistant
Social Services Division
Health & Human Services Department
City of Portland
196 Lancaster Street
Portland, ME 04101
o: (207) 482-5144
f: (207) 775-7918
ash@portlandmaine.gov

[Quoted text hidden]



Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Fwd: Response to Nov 13 HHS-Council Committee Meeting

1 message

Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>
To: Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Mon, Nov 19, 2018 at 3:50 PM

Public Comment

Director, Health & Human Services
City of Portland
389 Congress Street
Portland, Maine 04101
o 207.874.8775
c 207.956.3262
dcs@portlandmaine.gov

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Sally Bowden-Schaible** <1sallybs@gmail.com>
Date: Mon, Nov 19, 2018 at 3:39 PM
Subject: Re: Response to Nov 13 HHS-Council Committee Meeting
To: Belinda Ray <bsr@portlandmaine.gov>
Cc: Brian Batson <bbatson@portlandmaine.gov>, <estrimling@portlandmaine.gov>, <bsr@portlandmaine.gov>, <pali@portlandmaine.gov>, <nmm@portlandmaine.gov>, <jduson@portlandmaine.gov>, <jpj@portlandmaine.gov>, <rw@portlandmaine.gov>, <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>, <mjs@portlandmaine.gov>, Nason's Corner Neighborhood Association <nasonscornerneighborhood@gmail.com>

Thank you for your prompt response, Councilor Ray.

First, I think, perhaps, that we have a different interpretation of the section of the memo you are referring to:

- "City staff has been tasked by the HHS Committee to bring forth additional information regarding different shelter models. **It is our hope that once the Committee reviews this information**, it will provide concrete guidance to staff in order to shape and facilitate the City's discussion on improving the emergency shelter system. This memo will summarize information and potential talking points for a variety of different emergency shelter models for single adults."

I interpret this statement as I believe Mayor Strimling did— *the meeting that night was to present information and then it was to be reviewed prior to a decision*. Certainly, there was not sufficient time to think about and process the information, especially the new information presented that evening. (Brian Batson's proposal of one shelter on the peninsular and one off the peninsular, collaborating with Preble St, and information Mayor Strimling presented re: annual costs of existing shelter programs.) And, both of the other HHS committee members, Brian Batson and Pious Ali, were making a case for giving a bit more time to review and process the information before moving ahead with a recommendation (to *take a step back in order to move forward*.) Your position was different than theirs and your role as Chair gave you, it appeared to me, more floor time and more power regarding steering the unfolding of the meeting in a direction you deemed the right one.

Also, I recently learned that John Jennings *had requested full Council attendance* for the meeting. If that is the case, then it wasn't that it just happened that the full Council was present. And, I am surprised, Councilor Ray, that you feel you were not applying pressure regarding making a decision given that you agreed with my view of your tenacity in the process:

- *The fact that we had the entire council in attendance at the meeting made it an ideal time for *all* councilors to weigh in on the information presented and ask any questions they needed to ask in order to get to a place where*

they felt comfortable offering guidance on the shelter model they wanted staff to pursue. That said, **no one was pressured to offer guidance**, and in fact Councilor Costa declined to do so at this meeting.

- **So yes, I was indeed tenacious in making sure that we got clear council guidance--on the record--on Tuesday night.** And I was definitely tenacious in making sure that my fellow council members and I had all heard the same guidance, because I didn't want there to be ambiguity this time around.

Please know that I do appreciate the urgency of the homeless shelter situation. I only request that you pause on behalf of what I (and many others) believe will lead to the probability of a much better long-term solution. Again, many things have changed, namely the election of a more compassionate and forward thinking Governor and Legislature.

As you are very aware, over these past years under the LePage administration, funding for *many* crucial services and programs that affect the lives of people who are struggling and who need the most help— many of the people we are now seeing displaced and on the streets— have been cut to the bare bone. The consequence has been increased suffering and despair. And the problems that arise out of suffering and despair include what we are now experiencing in Portland and elsewhere: the opioid crisis (and other substance use and addiction), untreated mental health conditions, debilitating physical health issues, unemployment, deepening poverty and despair.

It is a cliché, but the rich (in Portland and across the country) have gotten richer and the poor, poorer. Portland's affordable housing problem is an indication of this; the gentrification of the peninsula another.

I encourage you to review the emails sent to you by very informed and experienced citizens of Portland. And please consider the perspective I've offered here and in earlier emails.

I unfortunately will not be able to attend this evening's meeting or the meeting on November 27th.

Sincerely,
Sally

Sally Bowden-Schaible, MS, LCPC, CCMHC
207.939.3254
1sallybs@gmail.com
www.livingwellcenter.info

On Nov 18, 2018, at 5:34 PM, Belinda Ray <bsr@portlandmaine.gov> wrote:

Hi Sally.

I appreciate your email, and I thank you for sharing your thoughts. I've read through your concerns about the way the meeting unfolded on Tuesday, and I'd like to make a few clarifications with regard to the process around selecting a shelter model and site.

First off, regarding Tuesday night's meeting, the first memo in the committee's packet for the meeting states quite clearly that staff was requesting guidance from the committee with regard to the model to be pursued. The first paragraph of the memo states:

- "City staff has been tasked by the HHS Committee to bring forth additional information regarding different shelter models. It is our hope that once the Committee reviews this information, it will provide concrete guidance to staff in order to shape and facilitate the City's discussion on improving the emergency shelter system. This memo will summarize information and potential talking points for a variety of different emergency shelter models for single adults."

And the closing paragraph includes the following:

- "Staff is look forward to hearing additional direction and guidance regarding models and possible sites in order to provide a more respectful, safe and dignified service model for our most vulnerable neighbors."

The fact that we had the entire council in attendance at the meeting made it an ideal time for *all* councilors to weigh in on the information presented and ask any questions they needed to ask in order to get to a place where they felt comfortable offering guidance on the shelter model they wanted staff to pursue. That said, no one was pressured to offer guidance, and in fact Councilor Costa declined to do so at this meeting.

The guidance offered by the councilors in attendance included six council members wishing to pursue one city-operated central homeless services center of approximately 150 beds (with two of those six council members expressing a preference for fewer than 150 beds); one council member not ready to offer guidance; and two stating a preference for a scattered shelter model. This guidance is not binding, but it is an important indicator of what the full council would like to see and what the full council is inclined to support.

I mentioned at the meeting that I was not surprised by the guidance that was offered. That is because it is the virtually same guidance that was offered last year by both the HHS & PS committee and by the full council.

In 2016, the HHS & PS Committee consisted of myself, Ed Suslovic, and David Brenerman. In 2017, the HHS & PS committee consisted of myself, Brian Batson, and Nick Mavodones. After much study in both 2016 and 2017 as well as a great deal of public comment during which the idea of "scattered sites" was consistently raised, the 2017 HHS & PS committee made it clear that it was the intent of the city to pursue one large central shelter operated by the city. At our October 24th meeting, we did a final review of an updated mock-up of a 200-bed facility, including a second round of public comment on the design and model, and we discussed how to proceed from there. We knew that our next steps would be to seek a location, but first the committee decided to request a council workshop on this topic so that the entire council could weigh in, ask questions, and offer guidance on the single central facility model.

The committee's concern was that we didn't want city staff to go out and look for a location for one central shelter facility until the full council had agreed that was the course to follow. Staff presented all of the information that had been vetted by the HHS & PS committee at a workshop on December 13, 2017. Included in the materials for that workshop was a timeline detailing when we could expect a new central shelter to replace the Oxford Street Shelter to be designed and built with a goal of being ready to apply for a building permit in the Fall of 2018 with the facility being ready for occupancy by late 2019 or early 2020.

There was nothing ambiguous in this presentation. It was clear that we were considering pursuing a single central shelter to be operated by the city, and the guidance from the council was for staff to go ahead and begin looking for locations.

Following this workshop, city staff engaged in months of research and came forward with a proposal to site the facility on the Barron Center Campus. During discussions of that potential site, the concept of scattered shelter sites was once again raised. Despite the fact that this concept had been discussed and supplanted by the one central site model on multiple occasions in the past, the HHS & PS Committee requested that staff do one more analysis of comparing the financial implications and the pros and cons of various models.

One reason to do this analysis again was to get an updated financial comparison of models using modern data. The last financial comparison between five sites vs. one site vs. two gender specific sites occurred back in 2015 toward the end of the last shelter task force, and to my knowledge we've never had a comparison of the costs associated with running one central site vs. three smaller facilities.

Another reason to do the analysis again was to get guidance from service providers with regard to their preference for model. Multiple service providers testified in favor of the single central facility during the public hearing on the Barron Center site proposal, and many of the same providers once again stated their preference for a single central facility leading up to the November 13th meeting.

And a final reason to do this analysis and discuss the models one more time was to get clear council guidance on this issue since at least two members of the council stated that they felt the past guidance was ambiguous.

So yes, I was indeed tenacious in making sure that we got clear council guidance--on the record--on Tuesday night. And I was definitely tenacious in making sure that my fellow council members and I had all heard the same guidance, because I didn't want there to be ambiguity this time around.

That said, our path forward at this point will be for the HHS & PS Committee to vote on the model we would like staff to pursue at our next HHS & PS Committee meeting on November 27th. There will be public

comment taken at that meeting prior to the vote. That meeting will take place at City Hall, in Council Chambers, at 5:30pm.

I hope this information is helpful to you, and I hope that you have a wonderful Thanksgiving. I expect I'll be seeing you on the 27th.

Best,

Belinda

Belinda S. Ray (*she / her / hers*)
City Council, [District 1](#)
[389 Congress Street](#)
[Portland, ME 04101](#)
BSR@portlandmaine.gov

Sign up for [my newsletter](#) or visit [my blog!](#)

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On Sun, Nov 18, 2018 at 10:21 AM Sally Bowden-Schaible <1sallybs@gmail.com> wrote:

To City Councilors, Mayor Strimling and City Manager Jennings,

I was in attendance at the November 13th HHS committee meeting and want to offer reflections on what I observed related to the **process** of the meeting.

First of all, my understanding of the intention of the meeting was that it was to be informational, as you, Mayor Strimling, pointed out.

Very early on, however, Councilor Ray stated something different than this— she wanted a *decision* to be made regarding choosing the specific shelter model prior to proceeding further with site location, etc. And, she wanted that decision to be made that night. I was surprised when she stated this, and then as the meeting progressed, from my perspective, it became clear that her agenda (as well as the agenda of city staff) from the outset was to go with the one shelter model. As the meeting progressed, I became increasingly surprised and concerned about the *process* of the meeting and at the tenaciousness of Councilor Ray's behavior. As an observer of the process, I found it disrespectful. (Granted I'm not a politician, but I am a Portland citizen and someone with experience related to what is healthy interpersonal and system process.)

Also, when the suggestion was given that there should be a meeting for public comment prior to the making of a decision, I was VERY taken aback with Councilor Ray's reaction (something to the effect of "I think we've had enough of public comment!")— And, it did, indeed, seem like a reaction (immediacy of response, facial expression, tone of voice, as well as what was said) rather than a *thoughtful* response. This was, to me, quite revealing of her opinion regarding citizen participation.

It seemed an appropriate compromise to, as Councilor Ali suggested, take a step back in order to move forward. Councilor Batson's suggestion of two low-barrier shelters—one on the peninsular that would not require a full-spectrum of services because of being near already existing services and a service-rich one elsewhere seems a reasonable approach to flush out. He also had questions from his constituents that he was unable to ask because of the change in agenda. Would any of you feel good about the process had you, as representatives of your districts, been in his position?

I have strong praise for the collaborative work being done with Avesta and Opportunity Alliance, and think it is an excellent direction to be going and to expand upon. I also believe that a healthy and transparent process leads to healthier (and happier) outcome.

Related to this, the information presented by Mayor Strimling of the annual costs of other existing shelters should be considered much more fully, especially since the information is in sharp contrast to

figures presented by city staff. And, these figures would be relevant to Councilor Batson's proposal of one shelter being located on the peninsular near already existing services. The information was much too quickly dismissed, from my view, and further demonstrated a premature resolve for the one shelter model.

I needed to leave before the conclusion of the meeting, so learned of the decision to "postpone" a decision related to the model direction until Monday. I continue to be concerned about the wisdom of a large, low-barrier shelter for the homeless given 1) the *research* on problems that inevitably occur in shelter locations, 2) the lack of consideration of input from *experts outside the city* and interested *citizen experts in the community* with public health and urban planning expertise, 3) and the clear absence of input from groups representing the homeless (HJV, HAA) . While you have presented information from some expert providers in the city, I think it would be wise to examine expert advice from around the country in cities similar to Portland. Also, I encourage you to consider the voices of representatives of persons experiencing homelessness. If you do this, I truly believe the city of Portland will be better for it and can be a model for other cities around the country.

As Councilor Costa stated, much will be affected from the election of a more progressive state government. Janet Mills as governor, and a Democratic controlled legislature will loosen restrictions on funding for mental health and substance abuse services, and much more appropriate attention will be given to the opioid crisis we are experiencing that is significantly contributing to homelessness and to problems within the homeless community. (Am I remembering correctly that the opioid epidemic wasn't even referenced during your meeting or the meeting of ESAC?)

When, at Tuesday evening's meeting, comments (Councilor Ray and Councilor Duson) were made about Preble Street not having moved forward with plans to develop a women's shelter—comments to the effect of "they've been saying this for years and haven't done it." Did you consider that the reason for this and the reason for cutbacks with their existing services was funding-related and just not words without intent and action? I encourage you to please move beyond preconceived ideas and conclusions so to best serve the homeless community and the Portland community in general.

Finally, influences on decision-making can be clear and overtly stated; they can also be subtle and unconscious. Influences on decision-making also can be clearly known but kept quiet with information selectively offered that is in the best interest of certain stake-holders. I am concerned about this as related to location selection.

I'm including here also my earlier email to you and a comment I made months ago regarding the location of a shelter location away from the city center. My questions, I think are very relevant to this discussion. I also believe that emails you've received from others in the community offer additional perspectives well worth the effort to consider.

Sincerely,

Sally

To the City Council:

After reviewing various articles/documents, the agenda & slides prepared for the November 13 meeting, and questions posed for the councilors from Nason's Corner residents, I'd like to add the following questions for you to discuss:

1. *Looking back over time, what were the various factors contributing to the homeless shelter crisis? It would be good to view a **timeline** related to cuts in funding and the closing of shelter and SA/MH treatment programs, etc. over these past 8 years under the LePage administration. This is relevant, I believe, because it is important to consider the co-existing conditions that led to the homeless shelter crisis. And...*

2. With the election of Janet Mills as our governor and with Democrats soon-to-be in the majority of the state legislature, how might funding for services be affected? With Mills supporting the expansion of Medicaid and stating that a top priority of hers is addressing the opioid crisis, new doors will most likely open for housing and mental health/substance abuse/addiction treatment services. (I don't think any final decision should be made about shelter locations/programs & services without exploring Portland's situation with the new administration)

3. What options have been explored as related to partnering with other agencies/organizations?

- Shalom
- Amistad
- Milestone
- Preble St
- Churches

4. What is the status of the city of Portland's lawsuit against Mercy Hospital? How has this lawsuit affected (is affecting) treatment services available for persons suffering from opioid addiction?

As Ed Cundy stated (after attending the UNE Global Humanities lecture on "Creating Healthier Cities"), "the overarching societal problem we face is called despair. Opioid addiction and homelessness are the symptoms. Believing in the the need and importance of responsible government and distributing wealth and opportunity more equitably are fundamental to rekindling hope." I hope you will consider this truth in your planning.

Thank you,

Sally

And, adapted from a July email to you:

Something I learned during the years I worked with persons who were chronically homeless was that there was a community and a culture within the homeless population we interacted with that was not simple to change and that our model of treatment didn't (couldn't) address.

Like most people, our clients were social beings and wanted to be with others and hang out at places (even if unhealthy) where they felt a semblance of comfort and familiarity, places where they didn't feel obviously out of place. Preble Street, Congress Street, Deering Oaks Park, various downtown routes for retrieving bottles and cans, Amistad, the soup kitchens, Congress Square, Monument Square etc., were places where they could be relatively safe, separate enough, but also **part of the larger mainstream Portland community.**

These people were not the temporarily down-on-their-luck people who, with support and assistance would get back on their feet and lead lives of independence and productivity. A one-size fits all model doesn't work, nor is it appropriate.

Sally Bowden-Schaible, MS, LCPC, CCMHC

207.939.3254

1sallybs@gmail.com

www.livingwellcenter.info

836 Main Street

Westbrook, Maine 04092

36 Verona Park

Verona Island, ME 04416

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Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Fwd: Riverside Industrial Parkway

1 message

Kristen Dow <kjd@portlandmaine.gov>

Wed, Mar 6, 2019 at 8:04 PM

To: Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>, Jon Jennings <jpj@portlandmaine.gov>

Public comment.

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Bridget Rauscher** <bnevers@portlandmaine.gov>

Date: Wed, Mar 6, 2019 at 6:46 PM

Subject: Fwd: Riverside Industrial Parkway

To: Kristen Dow <kjd@portlandmaine.gov>

Forwarding an email I just received.

Thanks,
Bridget

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Patricia Nealand** <patricianealand@gmail.com>

Date: Wed, Mar 6, 2019 at 6:31 PM

Subject: Riverside Industrial Parkway

To: <bridget.rauscher@portlandmaine.gov>

I have lived in the Riverton neighborhood for 59 of my 59 years. I was born at Mercy Hospital . I went to the old Reed School on Homestead Avenue and my daughter who is now 32 went to Riverton School Which is less than a mile or two from where you proposed to put the city's homeless shelter. Please reconsider and put it down where the jails are where the police are where they won't be the residents of Riverton Portland ... Please Please Please and Thank You

--

Bridget K Rauscher, PPS
Chronic Disease Prevention Program
Portland Public Health Division
389 Congress Street
Portland, ME 04101
ph (207)874-8798 / fax (207)874-8913

 Image result for PHAB logo

--

Kristen Dow
Portland Public Health & Human Services
389 Congress Street
Portland, ME 04101
207-874-8634



Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Fwd: Shelter capacity concerns

1 message

Jon Jennings <jpj@portlandmaine.gov>

Mon, Feb 4, 2019 at 3:33 PM

To: Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>, Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

For the record.

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Nick Mavodones** <nmm@portlandmaine.gov>

Date: Sat, Feb 2, 2019 at 4:05 PM

Subject: Fwd: Shelter capacity concerns

To: Jon Jennings <jpj@portlandmaine.gov>

FYI -

----- Forwarded message -----

From: <shambaugh@gwi.net>

Date: Saturday, February 2, 2019

Subject: Shelter capacity concerns

To:

Dear friends,

I applaud the city's continuing exploration of ideas for the homeless shelter. Having been deeply involved in work with homelessness and hunger through my work at St Luke's Cathedral, Preble Street's board, and the 100,000 homes campaign and housing first movement for more than a dozen years, I am very much aware of the need to replace Oxford Street with a solution that works. I am delighted to be a continued partner in this work.

One issue that concerns me about current conversations is the issue of capacity. For the past many nights, Oxford Street has had more than 250+ people, a number which is growing, not going down. Preble Street, Salvation Army, and others have provided constant overflow space, both to the regular shelter and the Family Shelter as well. Despite these numbers, discussions seem to be focused on a 150 bed facility. Other housing ideas being brought up, while wonderful additions to our community, are not shelters and will not serve the same purpose.

My fear is that if a 150 bed facility is built, we will have an increase of almost 150 additional people with no place to go, which means they will be sleeping on our streets, in doorways, and in parks. In short, the situation will be worse than it is now -- and the good efforts and political capital of this work will be lost.

Please consider capacity as well as location as you move ahead.

Thank you for your continued great work in this great city.

Yours Sincerely,

Ben Shambaugh

[147 Clinton Street](#)[Portland, ME 04103](#)

207 400-7516

--

Nick Mavodones
City Council At-Large
[389 Congress Street](#)
[Portland ME 04101](#)
(207) 874-8685
nmm@portlandmaine.gov

Sent from Gmail Mobile

--

Jon P. Jennings
City Manager
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[Portland, ME 04101](#)
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(207) 874-8669 Fax
jpj@portlandmaine.gov
www.portlandmaine.gov
Twitter: [@portlandmanager](#)



Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Fwd: Shelter locations

1 message

Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>

Thu, Mar 7, 2019 at 11:11 AM

To: Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>, "Dow, Kristen" <kjd@portlandmaine.gov>

Public Comment

Director, Health & Human Services

[City of Portland](#)

[389 Congress Street](#)

[Portland, Maine 04101](#)

o 207.874.8775

c 207.956.3262

dcs@portlandmaine.gov

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Kate** <katesreilly@earthlink.net>

Date: Thu, Mar 7, 2019 at 10:10 AM

Subject: Shelter locations

To: <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>

Dear Ms. Stiles, I am writing to add my voice to a number of others concerned about the potential of locating the new shelter in Libbytown near the County jail. This site has many problems and I am not sure how it made it through the first steps of the process. I am in favor of several smaller sites scattered around the city. Thank you.

Kate Reilly

31 Pine Street, Portland, ME 04102

203-554-2119 (Cell)

katesreilly@earthlink.net



Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Fwd: shelter model

1 message

Jon Jennings <jpj@portlandmaine.gov>

Tue, Nov 27, 2018 at 4:40 PM

To: Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>, Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>, Michael Sauschuck <mjs@portlandmaine.gov>

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Nick Mavodones** <nmm@portlandmaine.gov>

Date: Tue, Nov 27, 2018 at 4:33 PM

Subject: Fwd: shelter model

To: Jon Jennings <jpj@portlandmaine.gov>

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Susan McCloskey** <smccloskey@maine.rr.com>

Date: Tuesday, November 27, 2018

Subject: shelter model

To: Belinda Ray <belindaray@maine.rr.com>, Ethan Strimling <estrimling@portlandmaine.gov>, Brian Batson <bbatson@portlandmaine.gov>, Jill Duson <jduson@maine.rr.com>, Nick Mavodones <nmm@portlandmaine.gov>, Pious Ali <pali@portlandmaine.gov>, Justin Costa <jcosta@portlandmaine.gov>, Spencer Thibodeau <sthibodeau@portlandmaine.gov>, kcook@portlandmaine.gov

HHS Committee members and other members of the Council:

I'm writing to advocate for the single-site shelter model to help the city's homeless population. It's rare when best practices coincide with the likelihood that a facility will be developed, but I believe that this is just such an instance. Providers attest that services can best be offered and accessed at a single site at the same time that a single site would be most economical to build--strong arguments in its favor. Please, let's not dilute the likelihood of providing much-needed help by chasing distractions.

Thanks--

Susan McCloskey

--

Nick Mavodones
City Council At-Large
[389 Congress Street](#)
[Portland ME 04101](#)
(207) 874-8685
nmm@portlandmaine.gov

Sent from Gmail Mobile

--

Jon P. Jennings
City Manager
[City of Portland](#)
[389 Congress Street](#)
Portland, ME 04101
(207) 874-8689 Office

2/14/2019

City of Portland Mail - Fwd: shelter model

jjp@portlandmaine.gov
www.portlandmaine.gov



Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Fwd: Shelter Proposal

1 message

Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>
To: Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Thu, Sep 6, 2018 at 1:41 PM

Just found this in my emial - public comment - not sure if I already sent it as it looks like he has sent this before.

Director, Health & Human Services
City of Portland
389 Congress Street
Portland, Maine 04101
o 207.874.8775
c 207.956.3262
dcs@portlandmaine.gov

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Bkefer Hrhoda** <bkhr@hotmail.com>

Date: Tue, Sep 4, 2018 at 3:33 PM

Subject: Shelter Proposal

To: "estrimling@portlandmaine.gov" <estrimling@portlandmaine.gov>, "bsr@portlandmaine.gov" <bsr@portlandmaine.gov>, "sthibodeau@portlandmaine.gov" <sthibodeau@portlandmaine.gov>, "jcosta@portlandmaine.gov" <jcosta@portlandmaine.gov>, "kcook@portlandmaine.gov" <kcook@portlandmaine.gov>, "Bbatson@portlandmaine.gov" <Bbatson@portlandmaine.gov>, "piousali@portlandmaine.gov" <piousali@portlandmaine.gov>, "jpj@portlandmaine.org" <jpj@portlandmaine.org>, "mjs@portlandmaine.gov" <mjs@portlandmaine.gov>, "dcs@portlandmaine.gov" <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>, "dem@portlandmaine.gov" <dem@portlandmaine.gov>

To All, as my July 18th letter was never answered by any of you. I have edited it with some newer information that is highlighted.

I remain opposed to this idea and because I work in affordable housing and have first hand knowledge of the ramifications not of a homeless shelter but of the unintended consequences that this will have on a neighborhood, it families and our children. The city, as evidenced in Bayside, do not have the resources to deal with this overwhelming problem.

Bill Keefer
405 Ludlow Street
Portland

 **Newest Shelter Letter.docx**
19K



Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Fwd: shelter

2 messages

Jon Jennings <jpj@portlandmaine.gov>

Mon, Jul 16, 2018 at 8:50 AM

To: Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>, Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

For the record,

----- Forwarded message -----

From: <jesposi1@maine.rr.com>

Date: Thu, Jul 12, 2018 at 6:11 PM

Subject: shelter

To: bbatson@portlandmaine.gov

Cc: estrimling@portlandmaine.gov, bsr@portlandmaine.gov, pali@portlandmaine.gov, nmm@portlandmaine.gov, jduson@portlandmaine.gov, jpj@portlandmaine.gov

As our district's elected official, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for the interest you have shown in our neighborhood, Nason's Corner area.

After being a resident on Rowe Ave. for 60 years, I find it very difficult to accept the fact that it appears that the majority of city officials are pushing to replace a shelter in this residential neighborhood and have done so behind "closed doors". I am appalled that there isn't more concern for the neighbors in this area from those who are representing our city governing body.

I have had a 47 year career in health care before retiring, so I certainly understand the obligations and challenges before you. Nevertheless, I have concerns.

With this new facility combined services will be possible. Increased much needed bed capacity, conference room, office space for outside services, an interest in a mini library, and even a medical clinic for the residents and neighbors. It was stated that a medical interest in the proposed clinic, but no name was mentioned. What are the cost implication for the city for such a service and why is one needed with those same facilities available on many a corner?

I'm sure concerns regarding the families and visitors for patients at the Barron Center as well as those residents on the present site were addressed.

It has been stated that 30% of the residents are from this area, 30% are from surrounding areas, and the rest come from other states and/or countries. Why aren't we trying to reduce those numbers and is Portland the only shelter in the state? Change in traffic patterns due to the increase of shuttles, vans, taxi vouchers given, RTS services and the individual staff using these services for the residents. I understand there will be improved lights and signals, sidewalks and bike lanes, for who? Bike lanes on Brighton Ave., are you kidding me? This appears to be another "Morrill's Corner" traffic nightmare for all residents of the Nason's Corner area. Who pays for all these changes?

After the "start up" year, what is the extra expense to the city, or will this be another excuse to increase the property taxes?

In closing: I have never seen any system, change in policies, and/or procedures, or the implementation of new programs that don't effect extra staffing, increased funding, and in this case, extra traffic flow and patterns.

I hope that we are not fooling ourselves by thinking that building a new "Taj Mahal" in a residential neighborhood that we can expect major change in the present behavior and/or criminal activity. As previously stated, these residents are very vulnerable to sex trafficking and drug dealers. Do you really think by moving from the Oxford Street area to Brighton Avenue is going to change habits and behaviors? I don't think so. (Where do they get the money for drugs?)

With the millions spent on a new school, play grounds, the nature trails, the falls, the new shopping facility on the Blue Rock areas coming in Westbrook, our great shopping areas, and all the beautiful wooded areas, it appears the city officials are pushing this on us. Please stay with us. It does not need to be in a residential neighborhood, and certainly not in the Nason's Corner area. Thank you for your time.

Estella Esposito from Nason's Corner in Portland

--

Jon P. Jennings
City Manager

City of Portland
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Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>
To: Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Thu, Jul 26, 2018 at 8:29 AM

Public Comment

Director, Health & Human Services
[City of Portland](#)
[389 Congress Street](#)
Portland, Maine 04101
o 207.874.8775
c 207.956.3262
dcs@portlandmaine.gov
[Quoted text hidden]



Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Fwd: shelter

1 message

Jon Jennings <jpj@portlandmaine.gov>

Mon, Mar 4, 2019 at 3:15 PM

To: Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>, Kristen Dow <kjd@portlandmaine.gov>, Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Raymond Jos Di Donato, Sr.** <kdidonato@aol.com>

Date: Mon, Mar 4, 2019 at 1:33 PM

Subject: shelter

To: <jpj@portlandmaine.gov>

Cc: <kcook@portlandmaine.gov>, <bsr@portlandmaine.gov>, <sthibodeau@portlandmaine.gov>

I am writing about the County Way location for the shelter. I really would like to reconsider this .location. I can not think of any neighborhood in Portland that could handle this large shelter. I really feel this belongs downtown and that you should reconsider the middle st location. I feel it would be a much better site. We already have the Florence House, Logan place in our neighborhood. Plus some of the land near County Way has contaminated landfill, a big expense. Count Way was at the bottom of the list for long time, how is it suddenly at top of list. it did not meet your criteria for the original list. I feel you are moving too fast to use this site without a real plan. Please reconsider this site. I feel like you do not consider Libbytown a real "neighborhood" but we are so please reconsider this idea. Thank you Mary Didonato

--

Jon P. Jennings

City Manager

City of Portland

[389 Congress Street](#)[Portland, ME 04101](#)

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(207) 874-8669 Fax

jpj@portlandmaine.govwww.portlandmaine.gov

Twitter: @portlandmanager



Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Fwd: Site of Homeless Service Center

1 message

Katherine Jones <klj@portlandmaine.gov>
To: Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Mon, Feb 25, 2019 at 11:23 AM

Adam I will be sending a long several written testimonies from constituents regarding the Shelter from the City Clerk's office. City Manager asked that I send them to you for the record.

Thank you
Kathy
Katherine Jones, City Clerk, CCM, CMC, Registrar
City of Portland
[389 Congress Street](#)
[Portland, ME 04101](#)
(207) 874-8614
(207) 874-8612 Fax

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **City Clerk** <cityclerk@portlandmaine.gov>
Date: Mon, Feb 25, 2019 at 8:45 AM
Subject: Fwd: Site of Homeless Service Center
To: Katherine Jones <klj@portlandmaine.gov>

Forwarded for your review

Donna
City Clerk's Office
[389 Congress St. Rm. 203](#)
[Portland, ME 04101](#)
P: 207-874-8610
F: 207-874-8612

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Jim Hall** <mtjimhall@gmail.com>
Date: Sun, Feb 24, 2019 at 9:43 PM
Subject: Site of Homeless Service Center
To: Belinda Ray <bsr@portlandmaine.gov>, <pali@portlandmaine.gov>, <bbatson@portlandmaine.gov>
Cc: <jduson@portlandmaine.gov>, <sthibodeau@portlandmaine.gov>, <kcook@portlandmaine.gov>, <nmm@portlandmaine.gov>, <jcosta@portlandmaine.gov>, <estrimling@portlandmaine.gov>, <cityclerk@portlandmaine.gov>

To members of HHS Committee and City Council,

I appreciate your continued efforts to inch ever closer toward taking actual action that may eventually provide adequate services for the homeless. I do wish the process could be a bit more efficient, but I guess that's not how the sausage gets made. This is an opportunity to improve how we support those in need, protect the most vulnerable among us, as well as buffer their neighbors from the same bad actors who would prey on them,

I have to admit I was ashamed of the uncivil discourse in our city that derailed the initial proposal (which I still feel had merit). The current process does appear to be narrowing down options again, and hopefully the delays will pay off with the council better able to defend its choice, which will inevitably not please every constituent.

I'm somewhat concerned about the smaller sites that are still on the truncated list – 33 Portland St. and 83 Middle St. in particular don't appear to fit the model the council has already decided to pursue. For other reasons I also believe it would

be an *extremely* poor decision to consider transplanting the new center a few blocks from the current mess. The low barre on standards of behavior that was allowed to become status quo on the streets of Bayside can only be interrupted with a fresh start. I know not everyone agrees, but my personal opinion is that a shelter that's out of the fray would be much better able to help those who are trying to improve their lives.

I definitely support the partnership model that has allowed the city to reduce its plan to 150 beds, but given the long standing problems with overflow at the current shelter, any additional attenuation to fit a tiny land site just wouldn't make sense. Room for the proposed embedded services is an absolute must, and the architectural considerations for line-of-sight, a campus with contained open space, etc etc all recommend a larger block of land. And if there were still an option that's already in the city's possession, so much the better for taxpayers.

Sincerely,
Jim Hall



Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Fwd: Support for Immediate Action on New Shelter Model

1 message

Jon Jennings <jpj@portlandmaine.gov>

Mon, Nov 26, 2018 at 4:49 AM

To: Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>, Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>, Michael Sauschuck <mjs@portlandmaine.gov>

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Nick Mavodones** <nmm@portlandmaine.gov>

Date: Sun, Nov 25, 2018 at 7:53 PM

Subject: Fwd: Support for Immediate Action on New Shelter Model

To: Jon Jennings <jpj@portlandmaine.gov>

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Jim Hall** <mtjimhall@gmail.com>

Date: Sunday, November 25, 2018

Subject: Support for Immediate Action on New Shelter Model

To: Belinda Ray <bsr@portlandmaine.gov>, bbatson@portlandmaine.gov, pali@portlandmaine.gov

Cc: sthibodeau@portlandmaine.gov, jcosta@portlandmaine.gov, kcook@portlandmaine.gov, nmm@portlandmaine.gov, jduson@portlandmaine.gov, estrimling@portlandmaine.gov

To HHS committee members and the full city council,

I am writing to ask the HHS committee, and the full council, to move forward with the single location model for a new Homeless Services Center, supported by partnerships with Opportunity Alliance & Avesta.

Expert partners have stated their preference for such a model, city staff has indicated it would consolidate costs, and a majority of councilors have publicly stated their support. Please do not allow any more obstructive tactics to delay action at this time.

Another winter is upon us, and you know that means deaths in the homeless population, because the current system is inadequate. We've debated the options already. Please move forward.

Sincerely,

James Hall

1 (207) 939-3741

[47 Cedar Street, Portland ME 04101](#)

--

Nick Mavodones

City Council At-Large

[389 Congress Street](#)

Portland ME 04101

(207) 874-8685

nmm@portlandmaine.gov

Sent from Gmail Mobile

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2/14/2019

City of Portland Mail - Fwd: Support for Immediate Action on New Shelter Model

Jon P. Jennings
City Manager
[City of Portland](#)
[389 Congress Street](#)
Portland, ME 04101
(207) 874-8689 Office
jjp@portlandmaine.gov
www.portlandmaine.gov



Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Fwd: Thoughts on Barron Center megashelter proposal

1 message

Jon Jennings <jpj@portlandmaine.gov>

Tue, Sep 4, 2018 at 1:37 PM

To: Michael Sauschuck <mjs@portlandmaine.gov>, Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>, Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Lois Winter** <loiswinter54@gmail.com>

Date: Mon, Sep 3, 2018 at 2:24 PM

Subject: Thoughts on Barron Center megashelter proposal

To: Jon Jennings <jpj@portlandmaine.gov>, Mike Murray <msm@portlandmaine.gov>, Mona Bector <mbector@portlandmaine.gov>, Jeff Levine <jlevine@portlandmaine.gov>, Ethan Strimling <estrimling@portlandmaine.gov>, Belinda Ray <bsr@portlandmaine.gov>, Spencer Thibodeau <sthibodeau@portlandmaine.gov>, Brian Batson <bbatson@portlandmaine.gov>, Justin Costa <jcosta@portlandmaine.gov>, Kimberly Cook <kcook@portlandmaine.gov>, Pious Ali <pali@portlandmaine.gov>, Nick Mavodones <nmm@portlandmaine.gov>, Jill Duson <jduson@portlandmaine.gov>

Nearly a month ago, on August 8, I sent a note to you and a dozen other City officials that I believe to be directly involved in decision-making pertaining to the proposed new homeless shelter in Portland. I have been dismayed and a little disillusioned to have not received a single response from any of you. I appreciate that you are busy with much City business, but I have written other notes to you on other issues over the years, and always received responses in the past. Why not this time? I hope you can appreciate that I am also busy and took time to write a carefully crafted letter, with the intent of sharing my concerns for the welfare of all -- shelter residents and other City residents. Please refer back to your August 8th emails and find the note from me about the homeless shelter, focusing on the design of the facility and the location of the facility. I am now writing you a second letter and would appreciate a response from you regarding your ideas and position on a new approach to dealing with homelessness in Portland, surrounding communities and the state of Maine.

To me, the bottom line is that the need for a homeless shelter in the first place demonstrates the failures in our society to help the weak and vulnerable, and I hope we can collectively come up with a solution that truly helps solve problems and alleviate suffering, by doing more than offering a cheap/expedient fix that exacerbates current problems and transports those problems to a new location. Can we carefully consider how to move people away from homelessness to a better future and maintain quality in our current residential neighborhoods at the same time? I believe that the process of selecting a new model for homeless sheltering that won't simply dump the considerable problems of Oxford St. elsewhere needs to be careful, compassionate, transparent and deeply engaging with interested community members. From what I have read and heard, I am not convinced that the decision-making process to-date has been any of that. It feels as if some in the City are focusing on an exceptionally short-sighted decision to ramrod a new megashelter in as quickly and cheaply as possible. The decision to select the Barron Center location seemingly ignores a recent City study regarding a number of presumably more appropriate locations for shelters and instead selects the Barron Center simply because the land is already owned by the City and because (contrary to what has been said by some City officials), the Barron Center location will be out-of-sight and as far from the "hot real estate districts" on the Peninsula. Clearly, the Barron Center is located on the fringe of the City, in a moderate-income and not-well-connected neighborhood adjacent to lots of woods that are challenging to police -- and also with ready access to the Northeast's notorious drug-running corridor of I-95. Selecting the Barron Center location also ignores the very real difficulties inherent in locating a large megashelter in a quiet residential neighborhood that also hosts vulnerable populations -- homeowners, elementary school children, Barron Center residents and Sagamore Village residents.

In addition, any social services professional "in the know" tells me that megashelters are a discredited and ineffective model for providing decent support for shelter residents. In contrast, the scattered model of smaller shelters housing no more than 40-50 people, segregated by the needs that residents, is far more humane and effective for shelter residents and stands a better chance of heading people back to self-sufficiency. The scattered model is also far better for the quality of life and even safety of nearby residents, avoiding the problems associated with one large facility that acts as a magnet, attracting large numbers of criminals to prey on shelter residents (as nearby residents). Perhaps, the scattered model is more costly in the short-term, but there's nothing more expensive than dumping an estimated \$10 million in construction costs towards a megashelter model that is likely to fail on multiple fronts -- for shelter residents and for nearby residents. Let's think clearly about the problems and figure out how to not just spend money, but to spend money

wisely. Clearly, a more expensive approach that actually works to solve a problem is more cost-effective than a cheaper approach that fails.

The proposed megashelter at the Barron Center seems to provide short-term wins only to the real estate developers hoping to make a lot of money on luxury condo developments near Oxford St. After all, our country has a sad history of kicking poor people out-of-site and out-of-mind when the real estate that has long harbored poor people becomes attractive to those with wealth and power.

It's disparaging, insulting and inaccurate to characterize those who question the location of a new shelter (or shelters) in Portland as a NIMBY issue. It is probably true that some people living nearby have paid more attention, researched and learned about the issues -- After all, people first pay attention to what they know and love, and that's usually the starting point for many people that become deeply involved in civic action for social and environmental justice. Those with power and position often try to discredit civic action with disparaging terms like NIMBYism when it runs counter to their plan. There's nothing compassionate or cost-effective about throwing \$10 million and more at a problem without solving it or by simply transferring existing problems elsewhere. That's an issue that should be of concern to all Portland residents. If we blow \$10 million today on a problem we don't solve and maybe make worse, will City officials come back in a few years asking for :

- more money to expand the megashelter?
- funds for more emergency police runs?
- funds for more emergency room visits?
- ways to deal with a neighborhood that declines in quality and value as people contend with the problems associated with a nearby megashelter?
- money to establish the scattered shelter approach that we should have tried in the first place?

Effective solutions to homelessness are an issue of vital importance to the entire City, surrounding cities and state of Maine. We deserve to give the issue appropriate clarity of intent and thought to devise a comprehensive approach that stands a chance at solving the complex problem of homelessness.

Please send me your response.

With concern and respect for coming up with a better solution,
Lois Winter
[50 Alden Circle, Portland](#)
207-871-8029
loiswinter54@gmail.com

--

Jon P. Jennings
City Manager
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www.portlandmaine.gov
Twitter: [@portlandmanager](#)



Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Fwd: Thoughts on homeless shelter proposal

1 message

Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>
To: Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Thu, Aug 9, 2018 at 2:10 PM

Public Comment

Director, Health & Human Services
City of Portland
389 Congress Street
Portland, Maine 04101
o 207.874.8775
c 207.956.3262
dcs@portlandmaine.gov

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Jon Jennings** <jjp@portlandmaine.gov>
Date: Wed, Aug 8, 2018 at 4:08 PM
Subject: Fwd: Thoughts on homeless shelter proposal
To: Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Lois Winter** <loiswinter54@gmail.com>
Date: Wed, Aug 8, 2018 at 3:28 PM
Subject: Thoughts on homeless shelter proposal
To: Jon Jennings <jjp@portlandmaine.gov>, Mike Murray <msm@portlandmaine.gov>, Mona Bector <mbector@portlandmaine.gov>, Jeff Levine <jlevine@portlandmaine.gov>, Ethan Strimling <estrimling@portlandmaine.gov>, Belinda Ray <bsr@portlandmaine.gov>, Spencer Thibodeau <sthibodeau@portlandmaine.gov>, Brian Batson <bbatson@portlandmaine.gov>, Justin Costa <jcosta@portlandmaine.gov>, Kimberly Cook <kcook@portlandmaine.gov>, Pious Ali <pali@portlandmaine.gov>, Nick Mavodones <nmm@portlandmaine.gov>, Jill Duson <jduson@portlandmaine.gov>

As a Portland resident for more than 25 years, I am writing to share my thoughts on the proposed new homeless shelter near the Barron Center.

First, I recognize that homeless people can be any of us, and accordingly, for whatever reason those folks ended up down on their luck, they deserve our compassion and support.

Second, the biggest issue is NOT who's neighborhood the shelter is or isn't built in. After all, any shelter is, will be and should be located near somebody! The main issue, in my mind is a City-wide issue regarding whether we are spending the funds wisely, adhering to best practices recommended by social services professionals, for constructing and locating a shelter -- or shelters.

Third, I want to thank all of you for your hard work on behalf of our city. I recognize that you have many competing needs and far too much to do with never enough resources.

That said, I have two major concerns with the current proposal for the homeless shelter -- one having to do with the design of the proposed facility, and the other having to do with the location of the facility.

Design:

My understanding is that in contrast to the discredited large "warehouse facility" (200 residents) as currently proposed near the Barron Center, the "scattered model" of multiple smaller facilities (40 - 50 residents), tailored with specialized services that can support the variety of reasons people become homeless, in concert with an emphasis, when feasible, on "Housing First!" is a better approach. The "scattered model" more effectively serves shelter residents and can also be more successfully integrated into existing communities (residential neighborhoods or commercial business complexes). I understand that some City officials counter that the scattered model would be more expensive. That claim, in itself, shouldn't end the discussion, for the following reasons:

1. Let's examine all the costs. First, as I understand it, the cost of building the "warehouse facility" is only a preliminary estimate, without sight plans completed that could change the price tag significantly. Second, let's be sure we are comparing the total costs associated not only with construction but with annual administration and emergency services. Might the "warehouse model" costs go up if associated emergency services (police/hospital), transportation costs and higher and longer residency rates for clients are included?
 2. Let's think strategically about what we are trying to accomplish by building new shelter(s). Is it to simply serve more and more homeless people, or is it help homeless people find their way back to dignity, to a home/apartment of their own -- and over time, reduce the number of shelter residents? Is it to build a giant facility today, only to find that we need to spend more money to add more beds in a few years? Is it to spend a pile of money now to move an existing problem from Oxford St. neighborhood to the Nason's Corner neighborhood, or is it to build new facilities that honor the needs of the homeless as well as honor the quality of life requirements of surrounding City residents?
 3. Let's take the time needed to take a positive approach to dealing effectively with homelessness in our community, and let's avoid a quick knee-jerk response that will simply move a problem away from Oxford St. Let's get creative about fundraising. Can we locate more funding sources (i.e. larger contributions from local real estate developers, federal and state grants, GPCOG, and city taxpayers, foundation grants, local hospitals that benefit from less uninsured emergency room visits, etc.).
- In the end, let's have facilities for our most vulnerable homeless citizens that our city can be proud of.

Location:

It appears that the process by which the Barron Center location was selected was hurried, secretive and flawed.

1. Simply moving a "warehouse facility" shelter from Oxford St. to the Barron Center property doesn't appear to be a "win" for anyone in the City, except for Oxford St. neighborhood real estate developers and nearby Oxford St. residents. It wouldn't be the first time in the sad history of social injustice in our country that vulnerable people get kicked out of an area that has turned into "hot real estate" and pushed into less desirable neighborhood. It's pretty tempting to believe that the overarching interest in moving the shelter right now is to cater to the interests of real estate developers and city planners who are working hard to gentrify the Peninsula.
2. Why were all the other sites identified in a recent City planning process dismissed? And why was one of the key criteria in that planning document of avoiding nearby residential neighborhoods for siting a shelter ignored? (Wouldn't the scattered model of multiple small shelters make it more feasible to co-locate shelters near residential communities?)
3. Why were existing community members and many other City stakeholders not invited into the early planning process?
4. The proposal to move a "warehouse facility" shelter to the Barron Center seems to demonstrate little regard for legitimate needs of other city neighborhoods, including vulnerable people already living in the Nason's Corner neighborhood -- elementary school kids walking to school, Barron Center residents enjoying the outdoors, or Sagamore Village residents that may be unaware of dangers in their new country. I appreciate that most shelter residents are not a threat to anyone, but it's also true that "warehouse facility" shelters are hard to police and that "warehouse facility" shelters attract criminal hangers-on that prey on the shelter residents and any other vulnerable people nearby. That's another important reason for working with the "scattered model" approach in order to minimize issues of community safety.
5. Is law enforcement even more costly, time consuming and challenging/ineffective than at Oxford St. if a new facility is located near lots of woodlands, near the Maine Turnpike (with ready get-away access) and distant from the downtown police department headquarters?
6. Why have shelter residents depend on inconvenient public bus schedule on Brighton Ave. and a new costly community-funded shuttle service to receive needed services?

In my opinion, these are some of the questions of City-wide importance that need to be addressed before moving forward with planning a new "warehouse facility" shelter at the Barron Center. There's nothing compassionate or cost-effective about throwing \$10 million and more at a problem without solving it or by simply transferring existing problems elsewhere.

With concern and respect for coming up with a better solution,
 Lois Winter
[50 Alden Circle, Portland](mailto:loiswinter@portlandmaine.gov)
 207-871-8029

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Jon P. Jennings
 City Manager
[City of Portland](http://www.portlandmaine.gov)
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2/14/2019

City of Portland Mail - Fwd: Thoughts on homeless shelter proposal

Twitter: @portlandmanager



Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Fwd: Tonight's meeting

1 message

Jon Jennings <jpj@portlandmaine.gov>

Tue, Nov 27, 2018 at 3:59 PM

To: Michael Sauschuck <mjs@portlandmaine.gov>, Dawn Stiles <dcs@portlandmaine.gov>, Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Sally Bowden-Schaible** <1sallybs@gmail.com>

Date: Tue, Nov 27, 2018 at 3:58 PM

Subject: Tonight's meeting

To: Belinda Ray <bsr@portlandmaine.gov>, Brian Batson <bbatson@portlandmaine.gov>, estrimling@portlandmaine.gov <estrimling@portlandmaine.gov>, jcosta@portlandmaine.gov <jcosta@portlandmaine.gov>, jduson@portlandmaine.gov <jduson@portlandmaine.gov>, jpj@portlandmaine.gov <jpj@portlandmaine.gov>, kcook@portlandmaine.gov <kcook@portlandmaine.gov>, nmm@portlandmaine.gov <nmm@portlandmaine.gov>, pali@portlandmaine.gov <pali@portlandmaine.gov>, sthibodeau@portlandmaine.gov <sthibodeau@portlandmaine.gov>

Cc: Nason's Corner Neighborhood Association <nasonscornerneighborhood@gmail.com>

Dear Councilors, Mayor Strimling and Mr. Jennings:

Unfortunately, I am unable to attend the meeting this evening but I did want to add my voice to the other voices being heard.

Last evening I attended the community meeting at Rowe Elementary School at which the developers of the Rock Row project presented their plans. I left thinking that this is a very good example of a good planning process.

While my earlier emails to you say all else I'm wanting to say (I'm resending the most recent ones since not all of you were on my email list), I would like to emphasize what I believe is the wisdom of pausing, being much more transparent, and involving the community more fully (a citizen task force, for example), as the planning for sheltering the homeless proceeds.

Sally Bowden-Schaible

Sent from my iPhone

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Sally Bowden-Schaible, LCPC, CCMHC

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Jon P. Jennings

City Manager

[City of Portland](http://www.cityofportland.com)[389 Congress Street](http://www.cityofportland.com)

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Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Re: Citizen Feedback: 200 kittens <— Not junk mail

1 message

Brian Batson <bbatson@portlandmaine.gov>

Sat, Sep 15, 2018 at 4:00 AM

To: "Sanborn, Gail" <SanbornG@booksamillion.com>, Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Cc: Jon Jennings <jpj@portlandmaine.gov>

Gail,

Thank you for your thoughtful email and questions. I have forwarded to Adam to be part of the HHS record as well as the city manager.

Respectfully,

Brian Batson

On Mon, Sep 10, 2018, 8:40 PM Sanborn, Gail <SanbornG@booksamillion.com> wrote:

Respectfully -

As life-long Mainer, 22 year Portland resident, 16 year homeowner and citizen of Portland, I've seen a transformation in a positive direction in my immediate community of Nason's Corner. When I first moved in, it was common to question if we just heard gunshots in Sagamore Village or fireworks. It was common to have fake door-to-door sales solicitations to see if residents were home or not. It was common to find drug paraphernalia/alcohol bottles left behind. Over the past decade or so, Saggamore has cleaned up dramatically and now includes a thriving preschool. Neighbors worked hard to clean up the streets and Portland Trails of debris and dealer activity. Immigrants have been bolstered by community support to have a welcoming space in our neighborhood. The turnaround has been rewarding for all involved. That, in part, is why this short-sighted proposal is all the more disheartening.

The proposed 200 bed Megashelter for the Barron Center area has far more issues than may be apparent to the general public. Yes, it's near where I live (Dorset St.), but that's not the only reason for my concerns. In researching this heavily, the large shelter model has proven time and time again to be unsuccessful. (Not just the Missoula model that claims of its failure are solely related to funding. It's not. Other models in other cities needed to be 100 beds or smaller for moderate success.) Smaller, multi-site solutions are more likely to help people to a successful outcome and make it hard for "bad actors" to thrive. The data is clear. Similar to my analogy of combining all Portland Schools to one site (at the City Council Meeting), a combined site for anything frequently has associated costs that are not factored into the proposal. In the case of combined schools, I'm sure you can imagine the quality of education would be significantly diminished. So too, is the potential care for those on a Megashelter site. The goal must be for a successful outcome.

From day 1 of learning of this, I've struggled to find the logic of why this proposed site and why so large? To date, those questions have still not been answered.

I've attended several meetings (Breakwater, City Council, Hannaford Hall, etc.), performed my own research, as well as leveraging the www.portlandshelters.org (site developed by our neighbors). Unfortunately, the city provided meetings have resulted in frustrating efforts to find any answers to questions posed.

The Breakwater meeting left the community feeling their voices were not heard. Concerns were deflected as unreasonable, just a "not in my backyard" mentality, hatred for the homeless, etc. If you decided to release 200 kittens in the neighborhood, we'd have concerns and we'd want to know why. It's not about the population involved in caring for those needing support, it's about a logical SOLUTION to a need in our city, without creating other, compounding issues. The Nason's Corner community has welcomed other facilities, housing and supporting those in need.

The recent City Council meeting involved numerous neighbors trying to convey legitimate concerns and hoping this feedback did not fall on deaf ears. That remains unclear. The promise of answers being communicated in the Saturday meeting at USM was given. Later in the meeting, only to learn that financial information was dumped online by the City manager's team DURING the last Council meeting that citizens could provide feedback on this issue. (That seems quite intentional.)

The Hannaford Hall meeting was extremely disappointing. The first hour of self-congratulating, inaccurate slides** and

little substance of actual answers was highly frustrating. This only to be outdone by the break out sessions that made it impossible for anyone to attend all sessions and only divided the group that needed to hear answers. (It seemed that was the intent.) The promise of a more intimate dialogue was more non-answers and growing frustrations.

** 257 people placed in housing at a claimed "95.1% success rate with 45 LTers left to house." That's 302 people served total, according to the presentation.

Using minimal numbers of the stay duration information provided:

27.8% 1-3 nights (365/3=122 turns x 56 people.) 6,832 people.

48.3% 4-60 nights (365/60=6 turns X 97 people.) 582 people.

84.4% 1-90 nights (365/90=4 turns X 169 people.) 675 people.

* Based on the 200 bed average per night stated.

[Were 302 people served or 8,089 people served? The math is incorrect. 257 people placed out of 8,089 served is 3% success rate.]

Not taking away from the placement of 257 people. That's fantastic! However, the full picture involves many more that were not placed, were rejected from the programs altogether, were drawn to the facility as a predator to the vulnerable. Where are those people going?

So many questions remain:

* What were the 45 item criteria for each site? Were they all weighted the same? Is an itemized evaluation available to view?

* Why is the City manager so locked in on this site and what becomes of the Oxford Street location? Are we shifting to pushing those in need to the margins of the city and gentrifying the Bayside area? (Sure seems that way.)

* How is it that the Oxford Street site attracts "bad actors" preying on the vulnerable and this new site will not have the same? Or, the claim that the community policing plan will cure that issue? (40 hrs. For a policing representative and 40 hrs. to an officer leaves 88 hours in the week with no community policing presence.)

* The city is short on officers, currently. 18 short was the last count noted with two classes of 10 in "the works." Good, but officers in training are not certified officers. How do we plan to staff this effort, when current staffing cannot be met?

* The single fire engine on Stevens Ave. will be the closest support to this proposed shelter and all the surrounding community. How is that event remotely adequate?

* Why was a slide (Hannaford Hall meeting) presenting area businesses listed with a statement that "not all of these businesses are in support of this site," when the neighborhood outreach cited all but 2 businesses even knew about this proposal?

* What's the logic of placing this site in immediate proximity to a senior living/Alzheimer's care facility, the Loring House, Saggamore Village (housing those transitioning to housing/immigrant populations), a preschool, Breakwater School, Rowe School, near vast Portland Trails networks, near I-95, etc. There are so many bad factors that I cannot list them all here. How is this not part of the conversations and how did none of this flag the proposed site evaluation?

* I'm shocked this has been in process since 2017 and no one reached out to the community for conversations. Even since the Breakwater meeting, our neighbors took the time to reach out and have conversations and learned a lot. How is this not part of any city process? These people were not elected to do this. Maybe next time they will be?

* Have alternatives truly been explored? The nature of the communication to the public has caused much concern

* What would it take to build a site in the church (partnership) site, Barron's center and renovate the existing Oxford St. shelter?

* Is the food pantry portion of the proposed shelter only for residents or others? If others, where does that population go between meals?

* The mission to not "hide the homeless" is valiant in concept, but the proposal reality is moving this population to the margins, freeing up Bayside real estate for the wealthy and hiding the middle class citizens and other vulnerable populations from representation in our city. How is that the right thing to do?

* The list goes on.

There's nothing adding up to a reasonable answer to those initial questions. What is adding up is a rush to push through a \$10M proposal (listed as \$4.7 on the presentation slide) that will have significant, additional costs (beyond financial) to the city, our communities and any hope of improving the lives of the population in need.

I can only continue to urge the rejection of the Barron Center proposal. I can only hope the words of citizens, constituents and neighbors can resonate with each of you. We all want something better. We all NEED a plan that will work. More of the same & moving the existing model with shiner beds will not work.

I'm happy to be part of a solution. I only hope you all will listen to the feedback provided and make a logical vote.

Regards,

Gail Sanborn
District Manager - ME, NH, CT, NJ & PA
207-318-4812

2/14/2019

City of Portland Mail - Re: Citizen Feedback: 200 kittens <— Not junk mail

Sanborng@booksamillion.com

Sent from my iPad



Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Re: New shelter

2 messages

Pious Ali <pali@portlandmaine.gov>

Sun, Jul 22, 2018 at 11:02 AM

To: Mary <marvy00@hotmail.com>, Belinda Ray <bsr@portlandmaine.gov>, Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Mary

Thanks for your email, as per our communication via FB I am copying Councilor Ray (HHS Chair) and Mr. Harr (HHS staff) so that it is added to the public records. I hope your weekend is going well.

Please excuse any discrepancy, this email is sent from a mobile device.

> On Jul 21, 2018, at 5:17 PM, Mary <marvy00@hotmail.com> wrote:

>

>

> Hello,

> As a Portland community member and taxpayer I wanted to let you know that I hope you listen to your community members and plan on voting against the construction of the new homeless shelter on Brighton Ave. I am for the building of a new shelter and providing services for those in need. I do not like how this project is being done and presented.

> The first problem is that the reason some want this to happen is so that they can build expensive housing in the area.

> I have no doubt that once the new shelter moves out, expensive condos will move in. Further gentrification of Portland is not needed.

> The second problem with this plan is the current unfortunate problems and crimes that seem to happen near the shelter are not controlled well. To move the shelter further means that some of the problems will be moving to Brighton and even more likely to get worse given that the area has even less police presence.

> The area near the shelter is home to drug use, violence, and crime in general. I am not saying that this all due to people who are homeless. There are people who also prey on the homeless that are in this area. For example, human trafficking has been linked to the area.

> The area where they are proposing the new shelter is close to wooded and secluded areas which will become breeding grounds to crime. Having an on-site police officer at the shelter will not stop things from happening in these woods and trails.

> Many members of the community, myself included feel the city is just moving its problems instead of solving them. The homeless aren't going to benefit from these problems not being solved and neither will the Nason Corner community.

> Why not work on solving the problem before creating new ones.

> Thank you,

> Mary Labady

Mary <marvy00@hotmail.com>

Tue, Jul 24, 2018 at 1:52 PM

To: Pious Ali <pali@portlandmaine.gov>

Cc: Belinda Ray <bsr@portlandmaine.gov>, Adam Harr <ash@portlandmaine.gov>

Thank you!

Mary Labady

Sent from my iPhone

[Quoted text hidden]

> --

> Notice: Under Maine law, documents - including e-mails - in the possession
> of public officials or city employees about government business may be
> classified as public records. There are very few exceptions. As a result,
> please be advised that what is written in an e-mail could be released to
> the public and/or the media if requested.

**DECLARATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL COVENANTS
AFFECTING PROPERTY OF THE STATE OF MAINE, by and through its
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AFFECTING THE
INTERSTATE 295 CONNECTOR, CITY OF PORTLAND,
CUMBERLAND COUNTY, STATE OF MAINE**

THIS DECLARATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL COVENANTS is made this 15TH day of FEBRUARY, 2006, by the **STATE OF MAINE**, by and through its **Department of Transportation**, having an address of 16 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04333-0016, ("Declarant");

WHEREAS, Declarant holds title to certain real property situated in Portland, Maine, as shown on Maine Department of Transportation Right-of-Way Map entitled "State of Maine Department of Transportation - Right of Way Map - State Highway '10' - Portland - Cumberland County - Federal Aid Project No. TCSP-7589(200)X" dated September, 2002, Declarant File No. 3-483, Sheets 1 through 12, on file in the Declarant office at Augusta, Maine, and described in a Notice of Layout and Taking dated November 13, 2002, recorded in the Cumberland County Registry of Deeds, Book 19154, Page 155 on April 7, 2003 and a Release Deed from Portland Terminal Company to the Maine Department of Transportation dated December 19, 2002, recorded in the Cumberland County Registry of Deeds, Book 18587, Page 254 on December 20, 2002; and

WHEREAS, Declarant acquired the above-referenced properties for the purpose of establishing adequate right of way to construct a new connector road between Exit 5 of Interstate 295 and the westerly end of Commercial Street in Portland (the "I-295 Connector"); and

WHEREAS, past operations on portions of the above-referenced properties included use as a rail yard and other railroad-associated activities; and

WHEREAS, Declarant submitted a Voluntary Response Action Plan ("VRAP") application to the Maine Department of Environmental Protection ("MaineDEP") pursuant to Title 38 M.R.S.A. §343-E for that portion of the I-295 Connector that begins at the Interstate 295 Exit 5 interchange near Congress Street and extends southerly to the Veterans Memorial Bridge

(the "Protected Property") and subsequently completed the remedial actions proposed in the VRAP to the satisfaction of MaineDEP; and

WHEREAS, MaineDEP issued a Commissioner's Certification of Completion of Remedial Actions under a Voluntary Response Action Plan on December 15, 2005 (the "Certification"), which requires that Declarant prepare and record this Declaration of Environmental Covenants affecting the Protected Property consistent with the provisions of the Certification.

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the foregoing and in order to preserve the protections from liability afforded by Title 38, M.R.S.A. §343-E, Declarant does hereby covenant and agree that the Protected Property is and shall be held, and if conveyed shall be subject to, the conditions set forth below, which shall inure to the benefit of and be binding upon Declarant, its successors and assigns, and shall be binding upon the Protected Property as described above. This Declaration is an environmental covenant executed pursuant to the Maine Uniform Environmental Covenants Act ("UECA"), Title 38, M.R.S.A. §§ 3001 – 3013.

CONDITIONS

1. The installation of groundwater extraction wells on the Protected Property is prohibited without the written permission of MaineDEP.
2. Future development of the Protected Property for residential purposes is prohibited.
3. Removal of cover systems over contaminated materials on the Protected Property is prohibited.

ADDITIONAL TERMS

- A. **Liberal Construction.** It is intended that this Declaration shall be construed liberally to protect the health and welfare of the public and the quality of the environment from the risk of adverse effects of exposure to hazardous substances.

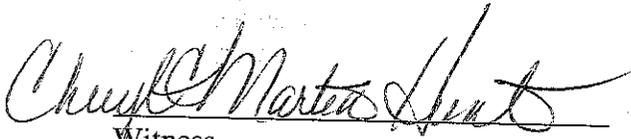
- B. Activity and Use Limitations. In no event shall the Protected Property be used for residential purposes, schools, childcare facilities, or long-term care facilities, even if such uses are allowed under applicable municipal zoning.
- C. Right of Access to Protected Property. The Declarant and future landowners or users of the Protected Property shall provide, without cost, access to the Protected Property to MaineDEP as well as to its authorized employees, agents, representatives, and independent contractors, upon presentation of credentials, for the purposes of monitoring and enforcing this Declaration.
- D. Modification and Termination of Covenant. The terms and conditions hereof may not be terminated, altered, or modified except by an instrument duly executed by the Declarant or its successors in interest in the Protected Property, and approved by MaineDEP, or its successor in legal function, in writing, which instrument is duly recorded in the Cumberland County Registry of Deeds, in accord with 38 M.R.S.A. §§3009 and 3010. The Declarant hereby waives the right to consent to any future consensual amendment or termination of this Declaration after it has transferred title to the Protected Property by deed to a third party.
- E. Duration and Binding Nature of Covenant. This Declaration and each and every covenant shall be a covenant running with the land in perpetuity and shall bind both the Protected Property, the Declarant, its successors and assigns, and all those acting by, through, or under the Declarant, for the duration hereof unless terminated pursuant to §§3009 or 3010 of the UECA.
- F. Invalidity. If any part of this Declaration shall be decreed to be invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction, all of the other provisions hereof shall not be affected thereby and shall remain in full force and effect.
- G. Period During Which Declarant Bound. The Declarant shall be bound for the duration of this Declaration by each and every covenant, restriction, agreement, and obligation hereunder, during the period that Declarant owns or possesses the Protected Property.
- H. Recording of Declaration and Notification of Recording. The Declarant shall cause this Declaration to be duly recorded in the Cumberland County Registry of Deeds within thirty (30) days of execution by the last signatory and shall, within thirty (30) days of this recording of the Declaration, notify MaineDEP of the book and page at which it is recorded, and submit to DEP a copy of the signed Declaration date-stamped by the Register of Deeds.
- I. Representation of Ownership and Encumbrances. By its execution hereof, the Declarant hereby represents that it is the fee simple owner of the Protected Property and that there are no mortgages, easements, or other encumbrances on the Protected Property that

would materially adversely affect the effectiveness or enforceability of this environmental covenant.

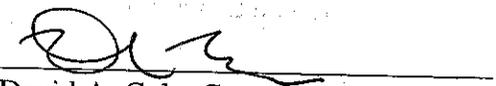
- J. Identity of Holder of Environmental Covenant. MaineDEP is the environmental agency with enforcement authority pursuant to the UECA, and is also the only holder of the environmental covenants granted by Declarant in the Declaration. The administrative record for the Protected Property is located at MaineDEP headquarters, whose mailing address is 17 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04333-0017, with a street address of the Ray Building, 28 Tyson Drive, Augusta, Maine. The administrative record is MaineDEP's facility file for the Protected Property.
- K. Grant of Environmental Covenant Pursuant to Law. This Declaration grants environmental covenants subject to the UECA, and no defenses waived by the UECA may be raised in any action to enforce any of these environmental covenants.
- L. Enforcement of Covenant. This environmental covenant shall be enforced as authorized by Title 38, M.R.S.A. §3011. Any forbearance as to enforcement of any of the terms hereof shall not be deemed a waiver of the right to seek and obtain enforcement at any time thereafter as to the same violation or as to any other violations.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF Declarant has executed and sealed this document the day and year first above written.

**STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**



Witness

By: 

David A. Cole, Commissioner

STATE OF MAINE
COUNTY OF KENNEBEC

Dated: 2/15, 2006

Then personally appeared the above named David A. Cole, Commissioner of the Maine Department of Transportation, and acknowledged the foregoing instrument to be his free act and deed in his said capacity and the free act and deed of the Maine Department of Transportation.

Before me,


Attorney/Notary Public

Print Name:

My Commission Expires

CHERYL C. MARTIN-HUNT

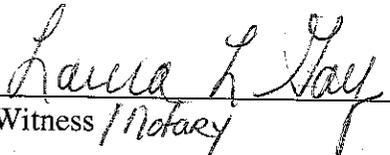
Notary Public State of Maine

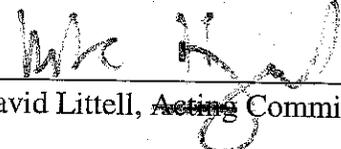
My commission expires ~~December~~ **September 5, 2010**

APPROVAL OF THE MAINE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

MaineDEP joins in this Declaration for the limited purpose of approving the terms and conditions set forth in the above Declaration.

STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION


Witness / Notary

By:  (for)
David Littell, Acting Commissioner

SEAL

Received
Recorded Register of Deeds
Mar 10 2006 09:37:28A
Cumberland County
John B O'Brien

Proposed Homeless Shelter at Barron Center Location

City of Portland Representatives:

Please reject the new homeless shelter proposed for the residential area on Brighton at Holm Avenue. Although the proposed location does not impact me directly as it is several miles from my home and office, putting a homeless shelter of this size in a residential neighborhood is not right. After driving down Holm Avenue I was horrified to see just how close to existing residences the proposed 200-bed homeless “mega shelter” will be. As a long-time Portland Realtor I know that it will have a dramatic impact on the value of the nearby homes. That is unfair to those who have invested their life savings in their homes. In the past week, several homes in that neighborhood have been listed for sale. The newly built multi-million dollar Rowe school is just blocks away and is now complete, but as these families start moving out of the neighborhood who will attend this brand new taxpayer-funded school?

The city’s elected representatives cannot honestly think that moving that mess on Preble Street to the Holm Street neighborhood is a good idea. I would ask any council member if he would like to have this new facility in his or her back yard. The businesses in that area will also be negatively affected. There are already 5 or 6 small half-way houses within a few miles of the proposed facility. The city manager states that this will be a new formula and that the problems that exist on Preble Street now will not follow the homeless shelter to the proposed site. I find this hard to believe. The city has been unable to control a facility half the size of the proposed facility, even with a police presence a few feet away. And it won’t be able to control the loitering, swearing, public displays of indecency and drug dealing that will accompany the proposed facility, just a block from a home for the elderly and a short distance from the new Rowe Elementary School.

The rush to change the zone to accommodate a homeless shelter at the Barron Center and the rush to move the shelter and approve this location is suspect. The fact that a local developer has already purchased several buildings in the Preble Street area also sounds the alarm of someone inside having a motive to rush this through. This homeless “mega shelter” would be a first for all of New England, including the Boston area. It does not belong in a residential zone.

I am in favor of finding a solution to our homeless problem but we need to hit the pause button on this proposal. Kicking this explosive can down the road to Holm Avenue is not the answer to the far-reaching and complex problem that has culminated in Bayside. This problem is far bigger than the City of Portland; yet Portland has been left to deal with it for the much wider State community. Only about 25% of the people using the current facility are from Portland. The remainder come from other communities in Maine and from other states. Why is Portland alone in trying to solve this problem?

The problem is not going away. We need to find a new way to address this issue, with input and funding from the State and other communities. The homeless need services, but also need rehabilitation, counseling and jobs to get their lives back. Simply moving them to the other side of Portland won’t solve any of the current problems but will undoubtedly cause a whole host of new problems for our residents and businesses near the Holm Avenue neighborhood.

Please vote NO on this bad idea.

Jean Russo, Portland

This page contains a detailed description of the Parcel ID you selected.

[New Search!](#)
Current Owner Information:

CBL	076 A019001
Land Use Type	GOVERNMENTAL
Verify legal use with Inspections Division	
Property Location	0 OGDENSBURG ST STATE OF MAINE
Owner Information	16 STATE HOUSE STATION AUGUSTA ME 04333
Book and Page	18587/254
Legal Description	76-A-19 76-A-A-1 OGDENSBURG ST COUNTY WAY 1-21 267726 SF

Current Rental Registration

Acres	6.1461
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Current Assessed Valuation:

TAX ACCT NO.	13917	OWNER OF RECORD AS OF APRIL 2018
LAND VALUE	\$604,100.00	STATE OF MAINE
BUILDING VALUE	\$0.00	
STATE OF MAINE	(\$604,100.00)	16 STATE HOUSE STATION AUGUSTA ME 04333
NET TAXABLE - REAL ESTATE	\$0.00	
TAX AMOUNT	\$0.00	

Any information concerning tax payments should be directed to the
Treasury office at 874-8490 or [e-mailed](#).

Building Information:**Building 1**

Year Built	
Style/Structure Type	

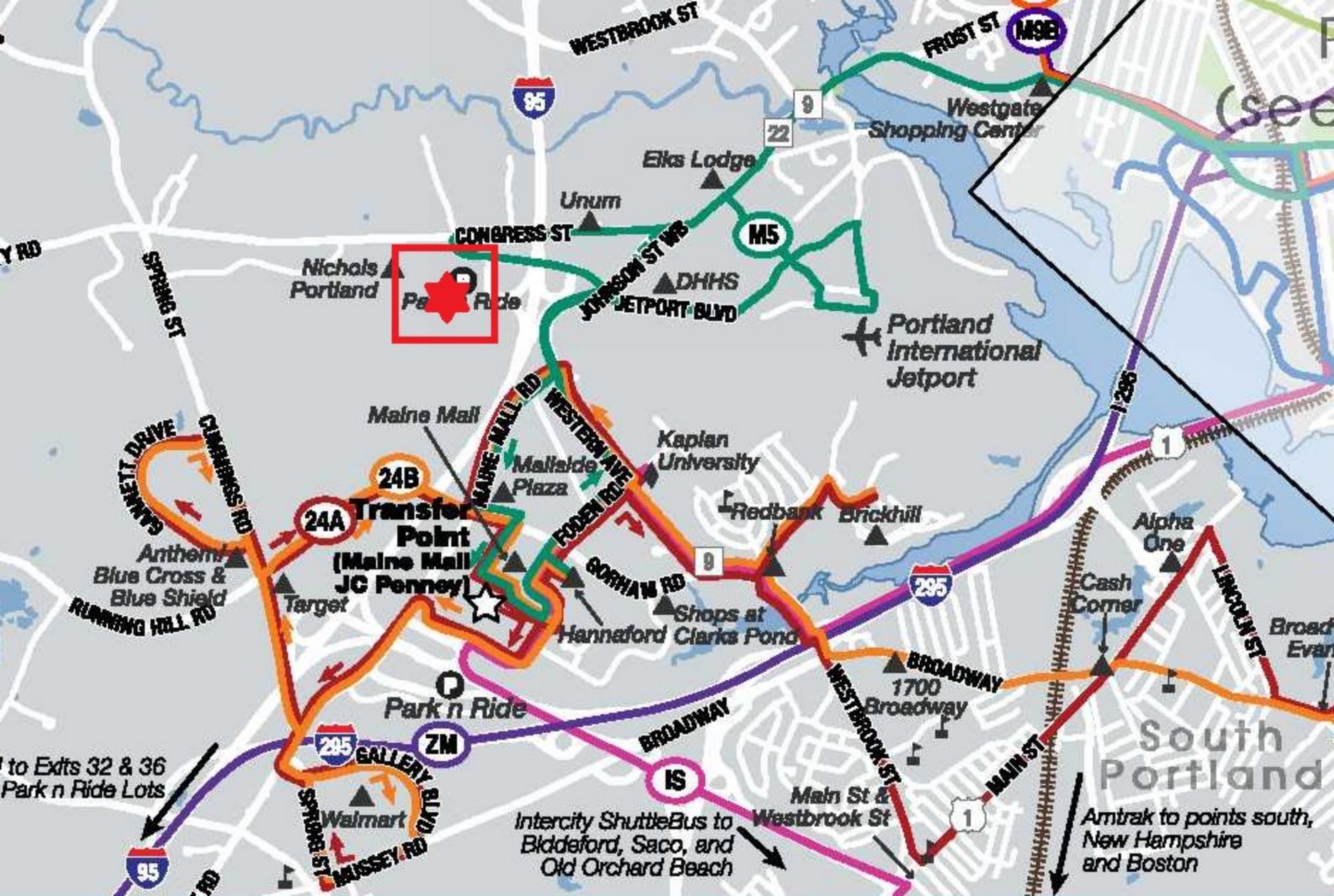
Sales Information:

Sale Date	Type	Price	Book/Page
12/20/2002	LAND + BUILDING	\$0.00	18587/254
10/4/1995	LAND + BUILDING	\$0.00	12148/146

[New Search!](#)
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services a-z](#)[browse facts and
links a-z](#)

Best viewed at
800x600, with
Internet Explorer

Site	Site Name	Address	Program	Status Date	Status
PORTLAND					
REM02024	ELDREDGE LUMBER AND HARDWARE	165 PRESUMPCOT STREE	VRAP	2/25/2015	REMEDY IN PLACE: CLOSED - UNDERTAKING POST-CLOSURE OBLIGATIONS
REM02318	EMERY WATERHOUSE	7 RAND ROAD	VRAP	6/27/2014	REMEDY IN PLACE: CLOSED - UNDERTAKING POST-CLOSURE OBLIGATIONS
REM02034	ENVIROLOGIX	500 RIVERSIDE INDUSTRIA	VRAP	10/13/2011	REMEDY IN PLACE: CLOSED - UNDERTAKING POST-CLOSURE OBLIGATIONS
REM01112	FAMILY WORKSHOP, INC.	207-217 CONGRESS ST.	VRAP	12/2/1995	REMEDY IN PLACE: CLOSED - NO (OR DE-MINIMIS) CONTAMINATION LEFT ON SITE
REM01521	FILL IT UP, PLEASE	1185 FOREST AVENUE	VRAP	2/18/2005	REMEDY IN PLACE: CLOSED - UNDERTAKING POST-CLOSURE OBLIGATIONS
REM01978	FJM LOT 2	201 FORE STREET	VRAP	6/9/2011	REMEDY IN PLACE: CLOSED - UNDERTAKING POST-CLOSURE OBLIGATIONS
REM00784	FORE RIVER TRANSPORTATION	OGDENSUBURG STREET	UNCONTROLLED SITES	1/1/1950	REMEDICATION STAGE - ONGOING
REM00784	FORE RIVER TRANSPORTATION	OGDENSUBURG STREET	VRAP	1/1/1950	REMEDICATION STAGE - ONGOING
REM01556	FOREST AVENUE MOBIL	518 FOREST AVENUE	VRAP	7/20/2005	REMEDY IN PLACE: CLOSED - UNDERTAKING POST-CLOSURE OBLIGATIONS
REM02458	FORMER CARQUEST	126 NORTH BOYD STREET	RCRA	11/22/2017	INVESTIGATION STAGE - NEED (AWAITING RESOURCES)
REM02458	FORMER CARQUEST	126 NORTH BOYD STREET	VRAP	11/22/2017	INVESTIGATION STAGE - NEED (AWAITING RESOURCES)
REM01361	FORMER FLEET CLUB		FEDERAL FACILITIES	1/1/1950	COMPLAINT INVESTIGATED - REVEIING PRELIMINARY SITE INFORMATION
REM01113	FORMER HOLDEN COMPANY	75 BISHOP STREET	VRAP	8/12/1994	REMEDY IN PLACE: CLOSED - UNDERTAKING POST-CLOSURE OBLIGATIONS
REM01643	FORMER STEECO BUILDING	46 BEDFORD ST/83 WINSLO	VRAP	9/17/2000	REMEDY IN PLACE: CLOSED - UNDERTAKING



Cathy Mackowski

- She's talking about needles, so many needles that the Zip Trip [*gas station/convenience store ¼ mi from the Pov*] now has a needle collection in their bathroom. The bicycle cop told her he finds many needles. The neighbors have seen people shooting up on the California Street Bridge [*pedestrian bridge off a walking trail, ¼ mi from the Pov*]. They've seen transients pass up and down her street. She used to tell people who don't live in Missoula, that Missoula is a magic town. It was beautiful and a wonderful community to live in and it was safe. She is quite concerned now that she is not sure she can say that last line any longer. She hears from parents who are afraid for her children. They will not send their children to the park by themselves. She hears of children who will not ride their bicycles across the California Street Bridge, even during the day.
- ...the problems are not limited to West Broadway, but are seeping back into the residential neighborhood....
- She said she wanted their stories to be heard so that the Council and Mayor could start to understand the desperate and heartbreaking nature of the situation that the neighborhood is in. They have to play catch-up now and they have to do it fast and are begging for the City's assistance to do that.

Matthew LaRubbio – co-owner of Western Cider [*1/4 mi from the Pov*]

- Mr. LaRubbio represents his partners, Michael Billingsley and John Clarenbach, as well as the growing number of neighbors in their area, including Imagination Brewing [*across the street from the Pov*], Youth Homes [*1/4 mi from the Pov*], Blue Mountain Clinic [*1/4 mi from the Pov*], Tia's Big Sky [*across the street from the Pov*] and the interest of many residents with the same concerns. There's a number of issues that are beyond their control on Missoula's west side and they are here to highlight these challenges and ask the City to work with them in creating solutions. Most of their concerns are related to criminal activity with the increasing transient population, the status of City plans and the condition of the area in general.
- Lions Park [*1/4 mi from the Pov*] continues to be a place of constant drug use and sales, prostitution, fighting and a congregation of people with no regard for law or decency. These daily incidents in the park are not solely perpetrated by the transient community. It is a hub for people with and without homes in Missoula but is known as a place where open containers, drug use and fighting are rarely prosecuted. Youth Homes, unfortunately, receive the brunt of these problems, being direct neighbors to that park and it is sad to see kids that need a safe space being exposed to these things daily. Broadway Island is a refuge when police are patrolling Lions Park and serves as a hidden campground for the transient population. During river cleanups they find dozens of needles as well as a massive accumulation of trash and bedding on the island and in the stream. A side note is they appreciate the City's effort in cleaning that up. They know, as a city, we spend a lot of money cleaning up the island all along the river trail and understand there are solutions in place to try to mitigate that. California Street Bridge is a pedestrian resource that has become a spot for graffiti throughout the years. The graffiti on the Free Wall, which he personally used to paint on, has long migrated from the fence to the lamp post to the sidewalk and now every part of the bridge. The tags are vulgar, obnoxious and are rarely, if ever, removed. The bridge represents a lack of pride our community has in Missoula's Westside in some ways.

Dan Corradina, Program Director for the Shirley Miller Attention Home and part of Youth Homes [*1/4 mi from the Pov*]

- He's been there going on 11 years and has spent a lot of time as a direct care worker so has played a lot of football and Frisbee in that park and can no longer do that. There are a lot of people sleeping in the park, maybe trying to recover from the night or day's activities, lots of drug use, feces by their bedroom windows, needles in the bushes, vomit and repeated acts of violence. They call the police and the police are very responsive and they appreciate that, but it is hard to watch and it's hard for kids at risk and coming from difficult homes to watch that on a routine basis as well and so they end up being inside or going somewhere else to try to recreate versus being outside to have a conversation. He said he's selfish for being here tonight because the Lions Park has been awesome and the neighborhood has always had things happen that they've witnessed but it has exponentially increased in the last two years but this summer specifically.

Patrick Montgomery

- He lives at 1333 Toole Avenue [*condo unit 1/10th mi from the Pov*] and he is president of their condominium homeowner's association. There is a lot of fear among the ground floor residents in their condominiums where mostly elderly and/or disabled live. Because of their proximity with the Poverello Center and the casino, they have a lot of loitering that goes on around and on their property and the ones most affected by this are the first-floor residents who are elderly and disabled. They now have transients going door-to-door asking for money. They just had an episode where a gentleman was trying to sell, he's sure, stolen goods on the property and made a huge scene when Shelly asked him to leave. The personalities are extremely unpredictable. Patrick has felt threatened twice this year just because he's politely asked people to leave the property. One young gentleman, who's mentally disabled, was walking home and someone asked him for a cigarette and apparently because he didn't give it to the man, he got punched from behind and went right to ER. It's a problem if a fairly competent, capable person is nervous, think about these other people. There are people in the units who don't want to go to their cars at night. They've had three automobiles broken into just this summer. This is stuff you hear all the time. He's concerned about his neighborhood and he agreed with Cathy, for them to get a handle on this problem before it gets to the point of where it's out of control. Also, they have a young family in the condominium units who just had their first child and the first thing they did was put their unit up for sale.

Shelly Wilson

- ... she's at the point of feeling bad calling 9-1-1 because she's called it so many times that she's hoping dispatchers aren't thinking she's a crazy lady with nothing better to do, but even the dispatchers have encouraged them to call because they need to know what's going on. Today, before noon, she had to make three people get off of her property. Two of the young people felt comfortable enough to be wrapped up in their blanket on the lower level next to somebody's front door with their phone plugged in. She woke them up and said they are trespassing and need to leave. The problem is people aren't getting up and leaving. They're trying to argue. She doesn't go anywhere outside of her condo without her dog and it's a good thing because she's had a few incidences where she's felt that if she didn't have her dog with her it might have turned out pretty bad. When she went out the second time to take her dog out to go to the bathroom today, there was a gentleman sitting on the wall, which is basically somebody's front door on the lower level condo, at their patio, and the man was two feet from the "No Trespassing" sign and she asked, "Sir, can you read that?" He looked at it and wanted to talk to her about her dog. She said to him that he needed to leave, he was trespassing and they are instructed to call 9-1-1 because this is ongoing and she asked him to please leave. He continued to argue with her and hid his beer can behind him. She said she's calling 9-1-1 because he's drinking on private property and he got up and left. That happened just today before noon. There are so many incidences she doesn't have enough time to talk about it all. She's only lived in Missoula for 11 months. She bought the

condo thinking it's awesome that she's within walking distance of downtown to go have coffee, within walking distance to the park and river and she doesn't feel comfortable at all and this started as soon as she got here. She gave several other incidences that she has experienced. One of their vehicles has been broken into on their private property, in their parking lot, two times within two months. Things are going on in the middle of the night. Her son and fiancé live in one of the condos and have to go out at 4:30 a.m. to go to work and they are afraid to go out there at night. This is dangerous. The neighbors are not just whining and sniveling about somebody walking on the grass.

Unknown (off microphone)

- she's stood before the Council before trying to prevent Poverello coming right into the middle of their neighborhood and she's wondering what happened to the assurances that they had that this would not happen. She also has plenty of incidences that have happened. She lives on Cooper Street [1/6th mi from the Pov]. This summer they had a white, locked bike stolen that was in a truck. They've had strangers come onto their gated property. This is not complicated. She would like to see police cars going through their neighborhood five or six times a day. If police presence was seen all the time where these horrible problems happen, these problems would end. She doesn't feel like people care about their low economic neighborhood and it makes her very angry.

Tony Crescenzo, co-owner of On Center Performing Arts [1/4 mi from the Pov]

- He thinks the important things to be put on the record this evening are several times in the last two years they've had people who are not part of the studio, who don't have children and who are transient in nature, walk into the studio and either try to use the restroom or try to sit down and watch the dance classes as they're happening. He's talking about dance classes that involve children, young women and girls from the ages of 2 to 16. There has been several times when late at night, families leaving the business have been approached and asked for money, followed to their cars and thankfully nothing worse than that. They are directly across the alley from Zip Trip so many of the same problems and people who frequent the Zip Trip are part of the same problems that many neighbors experience such as issues with vandalism, needles, trash, loitering, food, unwelcome and other conversations and people looking through the windows. They have had to add covers for the windows and kept all outer doors closed except the front door while classes are going on.

Brian Dirnberger, Montana Glass [across the street from the Pov]

- Instead of the car-camping situation being addressed just with RV's, needs to be specifically addressed with cars. The second is the overpopulation of the Poverello itself. When it was first opened, the population was to be maxed out to 120 and now it's at 175, capping at 150 on a regular basis. The third is possibly moving the soup kitchen outside of the Poverello and having that separate. A lot of the transient population moving through the neighborhood is people coming to and from Poverello to get their meals. They are not monitored as closely for substance abuse and that's probably the people who are bothering the businesses and the people in the neighborhood.

Jay Kirby, 1533 Phillips St. [1/3 mi from the Pov]

- he and his wife walk almost every night to the California Street Bridge and across to the Silver Park and they've seen things like a guy shooting up, looks at him and smiles and pokes the needle in. He's seen kids in the youth homes that were playing on the backside of their fence and a couple of rough looking transients walk over and try to talk to the girls. The California Street Bridge is a treasure in this community. It's the most beautiful bridge that he's ever seen

and to see the graffiti that's starting to grow on the floor of that bridge is absolutely something that we shouldn't stand for. We should paint that bridge every day if we have to, to keep that stuff from happening. Silver Park and California Street Bridge and the whole west side are really great places to be in and to live but in the last year or two things have changed. His car has been broken into and tools stolen out of it. They worry about leaving their door open.

Bruce Allen, 1538 Cooper St. [*1/3 mi from the Pov*]

- He's been physically confronted at the California Street Bridge by a guy who wanted to fight him. He's also been physically assaulted in his driveway.

Connie Boatwright, North Davis and River Road [*1.3 mi from the Pov*]

- She just bought the place less than a year ago. They walked their dog down to the river and a guy asked what are they doing there? They replied that they're taking their dog for a walk and then asked him what he's doing there. The man responded that he lives here at the North Davis/Reserve Street Bridge. Then he said he'll kill their dog. They said, "Oh, really." Her sons didn't like that and they went back down there and said, "We'll kill you." Ms. Boatwright said, "Not cool." Another trip down there on a different route. Again, they were asked what they're doing down there and they replied that they're taking a walk with their dogs. Then the man threatened to kill her husband and he followed them home and threatened to burn down her house. She called the cops, they came out and said there's nothing they could do and keep a shotgun by her door.

Skyler Hollingsworth

- People take pride in that community, but unfortunately, over the past couple of years there are been a lot of really negative incidents. His father lives at the corner of Cooper and Cowper [*1/3 mi from the Pov*]. Walking home from the Zip Trip he has been followed and threatened. His father is visually impaired and worries about him. He tries to check in on him as often as he can. While going around his yard Skyler found different makeshift camp sites, stolen goods, such as bicycles or large propane tanks, dirty needles scattered up and down that block. Skyler's friend had the great misfortune of working as a graveyard shift gas station attendant at the Zip Trip and one evening he goes into the store and his friend showed him that in the women's bathroom someone had taken a piece of bubble gum and a dirty needle and set it as a booby-trap rig so if you were to sit down it would get you in the thigh. That's the kind of thing we used to not hear about in this neighborhood, in Missoula as a community as a whole. There's been a lot of wonderful investment as far as building up the Old Saw Mill District and that California Bridge does serve as the corridor in the connection but he fears no one will be safe to cross it whether it be in broad daylight or at night.

Rebecca Hamilton, Magic Diamond Casino and Liquor Store [*1/10 mi from the Pov*]

- She knows very well they are a magnet for this population that we're talking about and she wanted to assure everyone that she and her staff go above and beyond to deny service. They do everything they can to eliminate loitering and try to have them go off the property but then where do they go? They go down to the parks and to people's backyards and to the alleys and so it's been a battle. She or her staff get threatened on a daily basis with their lives. She's been called some really colorful names lately. Because they find so many needles, they currently have to keep Sharps containers in their maintenance closet and take them down to the hospital when they're full. In the past two years they've filled three quart-sized and now they're on their three-gallon one. They lock their bathrooms and because of that people go pee out in the parking lot and on other buildings. They lock their doors, maximum for company hours, and from midnight to 8:00 a.m. people have to be buzzed in mostly because of employees being threatened

inside. They are always double-staffed. There is never anybody there by themselves. She's been at this location for almost six years and in this industry managing locations for 15 years and this is a special little neighborhood that has some problems that definitely need to be addressed and she doesn't know the answer. It's not just the transients and the people at the Poverello Center. It's a drug problem across the board. The number of needles that she has seen in the past couple of years is astonishing. Their sales, as a company, over the past three years have dropped. They've lost a lot of good customers that are basically afraid to come there and they know that they are trying, but they can't monitor who walks through their parking lot. They've tried coming up with ideas, other than put a fence up, but they are a business and people walk through their parking lot, walk through their grass and there's nothing they can do about it. The only time they have control is when people come into their building and they can kick them out but then where do they go? The police officers really do a great job for them and they call them about once a day if not more.

Heather Morris, 1433 Sherwood Street [*1/4 mi from the Pov*]

- She gets a lot of foot traffic from Zip Trip as well. When she was doing yard work last year and realized someone had pried the crisscross fencing that's at the side of her garage because she lives up on the hill so there's a big gap under her garage so the siding covers that. Someone had ripped it down and set up camp under there. She doesn't know how long they were there. She found six cell phones and multiple blankets. The police came and they were great. They said there's not much they can do. She boarded it all back up. She commutes on her bike year-round to work and back and sometimes when she's approaching her home she's afraid to actually pull into her driveway on her bicycle so she'll ride around the block a couple of times until whoever looks a little sketchy has moved on so they don't see where she lives. A couple of weeks ago her cameras caught someone at 2:30 in the morning just waltzing into her backyard, opening the gate, walking right in. He wasn't there in the morning when she woke up and found the footage but she found evidence of him camping, picnicking, she's not sure what, but in the last two years there's been an increase of that type of thing occurring significantly. She's on high alert because several years ago she caught someone referred to as the "Westside Winker" at her back door where he had sliced her screen door and tried to get in. She lives alone and it's a little nerve-racking.

Bernadine Gantor, 708 Toole Avenue [*1/2 mi from the Pov*]

- With Little McCormick Park [*1/2 mi from the Pov*] they've always had transient issues, hobo issues in the old days, where they'd come off the trains and camp out in the park for a day and then get back on the train and leave. Over the course of years, it's changed. The hypodermic needles are an issue. Her neighbor found four when the snow melted this spring. Her other neighbor in the alley-way found a collection of them on top of a garbage can back there. Ms. Gantor called 9-1-1 earlier this week because there was a gentleman who was passed out in the alleyway. They asked her if he was sleeping and she said she didn't stop to check so they apparently came and did a well check on him. What the gentleman that spoke before her said rings true because we gentrify Missoula. We have to recognize that there's consequences and she doesn't think we have an infrastructure to actually deal particularly with the drug issues that are intense. For 40 years she has thought the police department needs stronger community policing so that they are a presence in our community and that's what she would urge the Council and Mayor to consider.

Austin Chaffin

- A lot of the things that have been said have been true at some of the properties that he has including people just camping in the backyard and when asked to leave, very combative, wouldn't leave, 24 hours goes by and they're still there, he calls the police to get them

removed. Hypodermic needles are a big issue on some of the places he's working at. He'll come back in the morning and find bags of them thrown around, human feces on doorsteps at places that he's working as well as dog feces and things like that. There are a lot of great things going on in the Westside, as everybody said, but he wanted to call to light some of the issues that he's seen.

Sanderson Clement

- He remembers when the old Poverello was here and there's definitely been an increase in the amount of transient traffic since then and he thinks the city is growing exponentially and the things that are being talked about is going to continue to be a problem. Maybe we'll be able to mitigate that a little bit by maybe for students having a class that explains what's going on, why the money is not helping, why it draws people here nationwide. He's heard this is a hot spot for transients. This is a great place to be homeless. It's an awesome place to be but when you have people who don't have a whole lot of happiness in their lives, you often have a lot more drug use so you're going to have these problems that everybody's mentioning. It's not really going to stop because the population size is going to grow but if you have some educational classes, expand awareness a little bit as to what is bringing these people here, which is probably mostly how eager people are to just dole out dollars to people begging on the streets, that will help turn down the problems a little bit. Obviously we need to help people who are in need but having it be so appealing for people who aren't native to this place to come here, be here and stay here isn't helping anyone.

Parker McCullick, 1200 block of Howell [1/3 mi from the Pov]

- In April of this year in went out to his garage and found the door had been pried open and two bicycles and a handful of other tools had been stolen. He dutifully made a police report and they were great but told him not a lot could be done or it's hard to solve these kinds of crimes, which he totally understands. Since then, he's been very acutely aware of the issue on the Westside of seeing individuals in alleys, almost patrolling the alleys, looking maybe unlocked garages or unlocked bikes and he does know that's an issue that happens everywhere, but hearing some of the other people speak tonight, he wanted to talk to hopefully expedite a solution because his biggest fear is that six months from now they will all be here again at a City Council meeting after something worse has happened. Maybe one of those idle threats on the California Street Bridge comes to fruition or one of the idle threats of asking someone to get off of their property comes to fruition or his garage is broken into and they got away with it and maybe next time they enter a backyard to get a bike and maybe on someone's back doorstep to get a bike and maybe they try someone's backdoor handle and it's open, they enter the house and a worse case scenario could happen.

September 4, 2018

Dear Mr. Jennings and Portland City Councilors;

RE; Homeless Shelter Proposed Move

I am revising my initial letter to all on July 18th, **which was never answered by anyone from the City of Portland, council, mayor or city manager.** We are long-time Portland residents and live in Deering Center, own a home, my son attends Lincoln MS.

The homeless population in Portland has grown, the city manager is proposing a 200-bed shelter, most likely to address the average incidents of shelter overflow experienced while operating the shelter on Oxford St, in an area that is primarily residential, has a new elementary school, property values are beginning to rise in Deering Center, a new hotel and Market Basket will be coming to our area.

I reviewed the reports from the city website and I think this data is significant and strengthens my opposition to your proposal. Now my other concern is that this process is no longer transparent and appears to be hidden from all to see. **I believe you Mr. Jennings and the city council are complicit in damaging a part of the Portland community and neighborhood.**

Single Intake data; 1,526 individuals served; of that 542 were Portland residents; 491 were from other parts of Maine; 323 from out of state and 170 out of country. **I read in the PPH that you are billing the towns that the homeless come from, one bill was sent to Alfred for \$10.00.**

- What is the City Council's position on having almost as many people being served that are not from Portland, what is this costing the city, what is it costing the residents who pay taxes?
- Are other towns billed for their residents using the shelter? Are they sent back to the town or state they came from?
- ESAC minutes in April noted the increase in referrals from hospitals around the country, will the city council allow this to continue? **There are no new ESAC minutes since the opposition to this proposal became more heated. That to me seems at best, to be keeping the facts away from the residents that pay taxes and live and work in our city and surrounding towns.**
- Sober houses are opening around the city with no oversight from city codes or licensing. They are also a referral source when clients leave the house for not following rules. What is the cities plan to address the Sober Houses?

Homeless and Substance Abuse; in FY 2016 report by city staff, 84% presented as Substance use; doing the simple math; 1281 clients have substance abuse problems. The same report goes on to state;

- Historically, alcohol was the primary substance used by shelter residents. In the past 5 years that use has shifted to opioids and synthetic drugs.
- Overdoses and blood-borne illnesses are concerns facing our clients.

- With the increase in overdoses inside the shelter, staff has been trained in the use of Narcan. **NOTE; are the city staff certified in Narcan administration, that is different that trained and would create a huge liability for the city if staff is not certified.**
- Noticeable increase in Medcu calls in the neighborhood with layouts, overdoses and seizures on sidewalks.
- Individuals choosing to live on the streets and not seeking shelter in order to continue substance abuse.
- Increased calls for service for PPD for assaults, **the rumor on the street is that PPD is not collecting all the data on calls for service, I honestly believe that sadly, given Jennings penchant for deception or hiding the truth.**
- Lack of healthcare and resources for treatment when individuals are seeking help.
- There is no PPD station close to this area. What steps will the city council provide when there is an increase in crime?

These statistics if provided would be the same regarding the behavior of the population that utilizes the services. What has the city done to deal with the overwhelming problem of drug and alcohol addiction at this site.

Best Practices; I reviewed your 2-page statement and found it to be an assessment of amenities and not a summary of like shelters in other parts of the country, a summary should include an assessment of the entire proposal not just a few aspects. **Is city staff responsibly stating that this model in MT is the best fit for Portland Maine? Portland residents would have to deal with the same situations that are experienced by the residents of that city.**

- An Impact study needs to be done by someone other than a city department to avoid the appearance of bias.
- What is the budget for your proposal? What are the financial resources to fund the operations? This will be additional costs to the tax payers in Portland. **What is the budget for this, that would be the first step in this process, why is this not shared with city residents.**

Concentration of Poverty; most government funding from HUD or Maine Housing discourages placing a high concentration of poverty in one area. Next to the shelter is a public housing development, our communities in Nason's Corner and Deering Center are blue collar neighborhoods mostly built in the 1970s; a shelter would reduce property values even further. HUD wants us to work on deconcentrating poverty, HUD would then seem to be an unlikely resource for funding. **I have contacted HUD and will ferret my way through that agency to make sure all there will know or this proposal.**

Loring House; the city just completed a RAD conversion for 55+ housing, the proposed shelter would impact this new development and those residents will be very vulnerable. You will find it hard to rent those units and I am sure over time HUD will be asking why?

Amanda Rowe New School; I have spoken to Bayside residents who tell me they are scared to walk their dogs as they might step on a discarded needle. Residents walk down the street and get yelled at, swore

at and some instances knives have been pulled when residents speak to homeless people about their behavior.

- **The council will go on record voting for this proposal knowing that the students will be exposed to drugs, assaults and substance abuse as stated in your information. This point is extremely relevant and none of you would want your children exposed to this danger.**
- **The shelter is .5 miles from the school if you drive, the school is closer if you follow the Portland Trails or walk through Sagamore.**
- **If this happens I pray that no child will be harmed physically or emotionally if they see a person overdose or assaulted on the way to school. This will be your legacy.**

Twenty years since the first shelter was opened, we find ourselves providing services and housing to many more of the homeless population. The need for services and the issues presented are not adequately funded by the state or enough social service funding to adequately address all the needs of this or any population. Your summary agrees that health care and resources for treatment are lacking.

Bill Keefer
405 Ludlow St.

Portland

PP4 12/4/24

As the debate over Portland's

homeless population heats up, it's of value to look at the city's policies. In comparison to other communities, Portland has a very liberal policy in that most cities require adult, homeless people to accept help from government workers when it's advisable; Portland does not.

For example, in most communities, homeless people without jobs would be expected to work with employment counselors to find work, or people with alcohol/drug problems would be expected to cooperate with treatment in return for services.

Portland has no such requirement, and a person could remain in city shelters indefinitely while refusing to accept any assistance or responsibility leading to rehabilitation.

In fact, this does occur and can be seen in Portland's 2004 Point-in-Time survey of homelessness, when 20 percent of the survey's respondents had been in shelters longer than a year.

Portland's liberal policies have drawn some attention. In the city's 2004 survey, an amazing 92 percent of respondents did not identify themselves as having last lived in Portland, and 43 percent were not even from the state of Maine.

When city workers asked about mental health, substance abuse or job-location services, the most common response was "not applicable."

Undoubtedly, Portland's rules for homeless adults were crafted with an eye toward assisting people, but is it really helping to actively allow them to languish indefinitely in city shelters?

Jeff Brown
Portland

RELEASE DEED

PORTLAND TERMINAL COMPANY, a corporation duly organized and existing under the laws of the State of Maine, with offices at Iron Horse Park, North Billerica, Middlesex County, Massachusetts (the "Grantor"), for one dollar (\$1.00) and other consideration paid to it by the **STATE OF MAINE**, acting by and through its **Department of Transportation**, whose mailing address is 16 State House Station, Augusta, Maine 04333 (the "Grantee") hereby grants to the Grantee, without any warranties or covenants of title whatsoever, those certain parcels of land, together with all buildings, bridges, structures, walls, culverts, and crossings thereon, if any, situated in the City of Portland, in the State of Maine (collectively, the "Premises") described as follows:

SEE "**EXHIBIT A - LEGAL DESCRIPTION**" ATTACHED HERETO
AND MADE A PART HEREOF BY THIS REFERENCE

THE GRANTOR HEREBY RESERVES an exclusive temporary easement one hundred feet (100') in width through the Premises to pass and repass on foot and with vehicles to Grantor's other land or location lying southeasterly of and adjacent to the Premises. This grant of easement shall terminate automatically upon the earlier of (a) December 31, 2003; or (b) the completion of the State of Maine's Waterfront Connector Project, Pin 7589.20

MEANING AND INTENDING TO CONVEY a portion of the premises described in a deed from Franklin J. Rollins to the Boston and Maine Railroad and Maine Central Railroad Company, dated December 26, 1885, and recorded in the Cumberland County Registry of Deeds, Book 523, Page 1.

THIS CONVEYANCE IS SUBJECT to the following reservations, conditions, covenants and agreements:

1. Except as otherwise provided in this Deed, this conveyance is made without granting any right of way or other rights, either by necessity or otherwise, over any remaining land or location of the Grantor.
2. By acceptance of this deed and as part of the consideration therefore, the Grantee hereby assumes any and all agreements, covenants, obligations and liabilities of the Grantor with respect to any underground facilities, drainage culverts, walls, crossings and/or other structures of any nature and description located in whole or in part within the Premises.
3. The several exceptions, reservations, conditions, covenants and agreements contained in this Deed shall be deemed to run with the land and be binding upon the Grantor and the Grantee forever. In addition to the acceptance and recording of this deed, the Grantee hereby signifies assent to the said several exceptions, reservations, conditions, covenants and agreements, by joining in its execution.
4. Except where otherwise specifically provided in this Deed, whenever used in this Deed or in any easement or right reserved under this Deed: the term "Grantor" shall not only refer to the **PORTLAND TERMINAL COMPANY**, but also to its operating companies (including but not limited to the **SPRINGFIELD TERMINAL RAILWAY COMPANY**), successors,

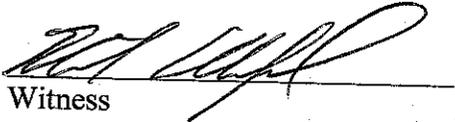
assigns and grantees; and the term "Grantee" shall not only refer to the STATE OF MAINE acting by and through its Department of Transportation, but also to the State's successors, assigns and grantees.

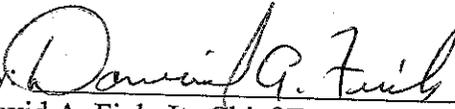
TO HAVE AND TO HOLD the foregoing Premises, with all the privileges and appurtenances thereunto belonging, unto the State of Maine, its successors and assigns, forever.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the said Portland Terminal Company has caused this Deed to be executed in its name and its corporate seal to be hereto affixed by David A. Fink, its Chief Executive Officer, thereunto duly authorized this 19th day of December, 2002.

SIGNED AND SEALED
IN THE PRESENCE OF

PORTLAND TERMINAL COMPANY


Witness

By: 
David A. Fink, Its Chief Executive Officer

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
COUNTY OF Middlesex

December 19, 2002

Personally appeared the above-named David A. Fink, Chief Executive Officer of the Portland Terminal Company and acknowledged the execution of the foregoing instrument to be his free act and deed in his said capacity and the free act and deed of the Portland Terminal Company.

Before me,



Notary Public

Printed Name: _____

Roland L. Theriault

Notary Public

My Commission Expires August 7, 2009

Seal:

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the said State of Maine, acting by and through its Department of Transportation, has caused this instrument to be executed by Carl A. Croce, Acting Commissioner, thereunto duly authorized, this 19th day of December, 2002.

SIGNED AND SEALED
IN THE PRESENCE OF

STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF
TRANSPORTATION

Amy E. Hughes
Witness

By: Carl A. Croce
Carl A. Croce
Its Acting Commissioner

STATE OF MAINE
COUNTY OF KENNEBEC

12/19, 2002

Personally appeared before me the above-named Carl A. Croce, Acting Commissioner, State of Maine, Department of Transportation, and acknowledged the execution of the foregoing instrument to be his free act and deed in his said capacity and the free act and deed of the State of Maine.

Before me, Amy E. Hughes
Notary Public
Printed Name: AMY E. HUGHES
My Commission Expires: 11/4/2004
Seal:



**EXHIBIT A
LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

A CERTAIN LOT OR PARCEL OF LAND situated on the southerly side of Congress Street, so called, in the City of Portland, County of Cumberland, State of Maine, said lot or parcel of land being more particularly bounded and described as follows:

BEGINNING at a point on the southerly side of Congress Street, so called, at the intersection point with the westerly side of County Way, so called, as accepted by the City of Portland and described in a deed from the Inhabitants of Cumberland County to the City of Portland dated September 26, 1995 and recorded at the Cumberland County Registry of Deeds in Book 12148, Page 146, said point being South 84°-49'-12" East, 137.36 feet by and along Congress Street from an angle point in the sideline marked by a 3.00 foot offset granite monument, and thence along said County Way by the following courses and distances:

South 23°-51'-15" East, a distance of 14.86 feet to an angle point;

South 05°-11'-10" West, a distance of 62.38 feet to a point of curvature;

Southwesterly and turning more westerly along a curve to the right with a radius of 145.00 feet and a central angle of 33°-28'-15", an arc distance of 84.71 feet to a point that is non-tangent to the following line;

South 29°-52'-45" West, a distance of 32.77 feet to an angle point;

South 38°-39'-25" West, a distance of 46.00 feet to the end of County Way;

Thence South 38°-39'-25" West, by and along a 50 foot right of way now or formerly owned by the Inhabitants of Cumberland County and subject to rights reserved by the Portland Terminal Company as described in Parcel 2 of a deed recorded in Book 9382, Page 61, a distance of 213.32 feet to a point of curvature;

Thence southwesterly and turning more westerly along a curve to the right with a radius of 275.00 feet and a central angle of 28°-19'-10", by and along said right of way, an arc distance of 135.92 feet to a point of tangency;

Thence South 23°-01'-25" East, by and along the terminus of said right of way and passing through a 3.00 foot offset granite monument, a distance of 50.00 feet to a point on the northwesterly side of land now or formerly owned by the Inhabitants of Cumberland County as described in Parcel 1 of said deed recorded in Book 9382, Page 61;

Thence South 66°-58'-35" West, by and along said land of Cumberland County, a distance of 334.95 feet to a point of curvature;

Thence southwesterly and turning southerly along a curve to the left with a radius of 375.00 feet and a central angle of $62^{\circ}-33'-40''$, by and along said land of Cumberland County, an arc distance of 409.46 feet to a point of tangency;

Thence South $04^{\circ}-24'-55''$ West, by and along said land of Cumberland County, a distance of 83.59 feet to a point on the northerly side of land being retained by the Portland Terminal Company 33 feet offset northerly from the centerline of the existing railroad tracks;

Thence North $85^{\circ}-15'-18''$ West, by and along said retained land of Portland Terminal Company, a distance of 93.28 feet to a point of curvature 33.00 feet offset northerly from the centerline of existing railroad tracks;

Thence northwesterly and turning more northerly along a curve to the left with a radius of 921.93 feet and a central angle of $30^{\circ}-45'-00''$, by and along the northerly side of Portland Terminal Company, an arc distance of 494.79 feet to a point of tangency 33.00 feet offset northeasterly from the centerline of existing railroad tracks;

Thence North $54^{\circ}-30'-18''$ West, by and along said land retained by Portland Terminal Company, a distance of 35.83 feet to a point where the southeasterly side of the I-295 ramp intersects the northerly side of Portland Terminal Company property;

Thence northeasterly and turning more northerly along a curve to the left with a radius of 375.00 feet and a central angle of $49^{\circ}-30'-29''$ by and along said I-295 ramp, an arc distance of 324.03 feet to an MDOT monument;

Thence North $60^{\circ}-48'-04''$ West, by and along the I-295 ramp, a distance of 50.00 feet to another MDOT monument and a point on a curve;

Thence northeasterly and turning more northerly along a curve to the left with a radius of 325.00 feet and a central angle of $23^{\circ}-08'-02''$, by and along the I-295 ramp, an arc distance of 131.22 feet to a point near an iron rebar with cap #509, said point being the southwesterly corner of land now or formerly owned by Ralph Romano III by deed recorded in Book 9066, Page 346;

Thence South $41^{\circ}-15'-39''$ East, by and along said land of Romano, a distance of 77.74 feet to his most southerly corner;

Thence North $48^{\circ}-44'-21''$ East, by and along said land of Romano, a distance of 350.00 feet to a 5/8 inch iron rebar set at the westerly corner of land now or formerly owned by Erving H. and Marilyn P. Bickford by deed recorded in Book 5051, Page 157;

Thence South $41^{\circ}-15'-39''$ East, by and along said land of Bickford a distance of 150.00 feet to another 5/8 inch iron rebar set at their southerly corner;

Thence North $48^{\circ}-44'-21''$ East, by and along said land of Bickford, a distance of 339.00 feet to a 5/8 inch iron rebar set at an angle point;

Thence North 10°-05'-21" East, by and along said land of Bickford a distance of 102.00 feet to a 5/8 inch iron rebar set on the southerly terminus of Westfield Street;

Thence South 43°-52'-09" East, by and along Westfield Street and land now or formerly owned by Mary E. Fitzgerald and John J. Mulkerin by deed recorded in Book 3498, Page 38, a distance of 294.97 feet to a point at their southerly corner;

Thence North 40°-15'-48" East, by and along said land of Fitzgerald and Mulkerin and the southeasterly terminus of Cumberland Place, a distance of 185.47 feet to an angle point;

Thence North 38°-37'-48" East, by and along land now or formerly owned by B T D, LLC by deed recorded in Book 14487, Page 85, and land now or formerly owned by J K Properties, Inc. by deed recorded in Book 14998, Page 8, a distance of 255.36 feet to the southerly side of Congress Street;

Thence South 84°-49'-12" East, by and along Congress Street, a distance of 0.42 feet to the point of beginning.

Bearings herein are based on True North.

MEANING AND INTENDING to convey a portion of the premises described in a deed from Franklin J. Rollins to the Boston and Maine Railroad and Maine Central Railroad Company, dated December 26, 1885, recorded in the Cumberland County Registry of Deeds, Book 523, Page 1. Further reference is made to a deed from the Boston and Maine Railroad to Portland Terminal Company dated July 1, 1911, recorded in said Registry of Deeds, Book 881, Page 299, and a deed from Maine Central Railroad Company to Portland Terminal Company dated July 1, 1911 and recorded in said Registry of Deeds, Book 881, Page 318.

Also conveying a right-of-way for access to and egress from the above-conveyed premises over land conveyed by the Portland Terminal Company to the Inhabitants of Cumberland County by deed dated November 9, 1990, recorded in the Cumberland County Registry of Deeds, Book 9382, Page 61.

Subject to the easement rights granted to Maine Central Transportation Company by deed dated September 24, 1948, recorded in the Cumberland County Registry of Deeds, Book 1932, Page 23.

Subject to the right of Central Maine Power Company, its successors and assigns, to install and maintain one 115 KV underground transmission line under and across the above-described premises as described in a deed from Portland Terminal Company to Central Maine Power Company dated April 15, 1975, recorded in the Cumberland County Registry of Deeds, Book 3669, Page 135.

Subject to a right-of-way in common with others for vehicular access and egress and surface and storm water drainage, and a non-exclusive easement for surface and storm water drainage and detention as described in said deed from Portland Terminal Company to the Inhabitants of Cumberland County, dated November 9, 1990, recorded in the Cumberland County Registry of Deeds, Book 9382, Page 61.

Subject to the rights acquired by the Inhabitants of Cumberland County in portion of Old Ogdensburg Street as described in a Return of Commissioners dated May 3, 1993, recorded in the said Registry of Deeds, Book 10769, Page 179 and Notice of Condemnation dated June 14, 1993, recorded in the Cumberland County Registry of Deeds, Book 10769, Page 188.

Subject to the non-exclusive right, in common with others, for access and egress and the right to install utilities over, in and under that certain right of way in common with the Inhabitants of Cumberland County as described in a deed from Portland Terminal Company to Mercy Hospital dated June 26, 2002, recorded in the Cumberland County Registry of Deeds, Book 17783, Page 289 and the Drainage Easement described in a Deed of Easement dated June 26, 2002, recorded in said Registry of Deeds, Book 17783, Page 298.

Received
Recorded Register of Deeds
Dec 20 2002 02:04:15P
Cumberland County
John B. O'Brien

Response to Dawn Stiles’ “Corrections to the ‘Homeless Services Center Canvasser Script’”

Responses in blue



Corrections to the “Homeless Services Center Canvasser Script”

The City of Portland values public dialogue and in this spirit we open the Barron Center to the community and the Nason’s Corner Neighborhood Association for their meetings regarding the City’s recommendation to locate the Homeless Services Center on the Barron Center Campus.

With that said, it is critical that members of the public have access to accurate information. The information included in the “Canvasser Script” contains several inaccuracies to which we have responded below: (see [Appendix A](#) for “Canvasser Script”)

Dawn Stiles (Director of HHS Dept.):

- The Oxford Street Shelter has a total bed capacity of 229. There are 154 beds at Oxford St. and an additional 75 beds located in the Preble Street Resource Center that we staff each night when there are more than 154 individuals who need shelter.

Canvass Group:

We mostly agree. There is no inaccuracy in the script. In our script we are describing the bed capacity at the physical location of Oxford Street Shelter (OSS). In the script we state “The City has proposed to replace the 154 bed Oxford Street Shelter.” You have stated above “There are 154 beds at Oxford St.” It appears we agree that the bed capacity at the Oxford Street Shelter location is indeed 154 beds. Overflow beds at the Preble Street Resource Center (PSRC) are lumped under the category of “Oxford Street Shelter,” as you state in your first sentence. The script does not make any statements about the overflow capacity of OSS or the overflow capacity of the proposed Barron Center megashelter. To our knowledge, the City has not shared information about the overflow capacity of the proposed megashelter.

Additionally, to the extent that Portland citizens may be confused about the capacity of OSS, the City can look inwards. As you are aware, the Health & Human Services Department publishes the monthly Emergency Shelter Assessment Committee (ESAC) statistics. The ESAC report does not distinguish between bed-nights at Oxford St. and overflow at PRSC. It is all lumped together under the banner of "OSS." You can examine your own ESAC reports to verify.

Although it is irrelevant to our script (since we are describing bed capacity at the physical location of OSS), we disagree with your assertion that the total bed capacity of OSS is 229. On January 29th, 2018 OSS sheltered 248 individuals. In fact, OSS sheltered more than 229 people on 9 days during January 2018; 12 days during February 2018; and 4 days during March 2018. Again, you can verify in your own ESAC reports.

- **Follow-Up Question:** What will be the overflow capacity of the proposed megashelter?

Dawn Stiles (Director of HHS):

- "A." The Homeless Service Center proposal does indeed follow best practices for ending homelessness, including operating 24 hours, 7 days per week with all meals and individual services on site. We have on-site housing counselors who develop a housing plan with each guest and meet with them regularly to assist them in finding long-term housing. We follow-up, in person, with every individual on a monthly basis to assure they are stable and their housing is not at risk. We also provide the landlords with contact information to contact us before an individual gets to the point of losing housing. We work closely with all Housing First developments, sitting on the screening committees to assure that our neediest guests get housed. The new building will be designed to provide a floor plan for the maximum safety of guests. Transportation will be easily accessible, and the atmosphere will be respectful and the grounds and facility safe. We will develop plans with the neighborhood and provide 24-hour phone response to the neighborhood.

Canvass Group:

You can't drive your car towards a cliff and say you're following 'best driving practices' just because your hands are at 10 and 2. Building a megashelter at the Barron Center is driving towards a cliff. You can include meals, on-site counselors and a 24-hour hotline for neighbors, but...***you're still driving towards a cliff.*** The Poverello Center in Missoula, MT teaches us that lesson. The fact that no one can find a successful model for this proposal should teach us that lesson. It's common sense that you don't drive towards cliffs, and it's common sense that you don't build a megashelter in a massive, heavily-wooded residential area 177 ft. from the nearest home; 200 ft. from an

Alzheimer's/dementia unit; 200 ft. from a senior/disabled independent living community; 500 ft. from the I-95 drug corridor; 500 ft. from two cheap motels; 700 ft. from a low-rent public housing community with many refugees and asylum seekers; 0.3 miles from the former 'Tent City' campground; 0.5 miles from 10 miles of trails within 400 acres of forest; and 1.6 miles from the nearest MEDCU station. And you *especially* don't do this in the midst of a substance abuse epidemic.

The 'best practices' that you list above are emergency shelter best practices according to your own January 4, 2017 memo (which lacks citations).¹ The first point on your best practices memo is "Single floor, open concept design style with clear lines of sight." And yet, the City ultimately chose a site where it cannot fit a single floor building and is now planning to build a two-story building. So it appears that not all of the best practices in the memo matter.

More importantly, we are unsure if you are being careless with language or intentional by stating above that this "proposal does indeed follow best practices for **ending homelessness**" (emphasis added). The woman who wrote the book on this topic, Dr. Deborah Padgett, would disagree with you:

*"We have had 40 years of shelters. They don't work," said Deborah Padgett, a New York University professor of social work and psychiatry who in the early 1990s collaborated with the father of Housing First, Sam Tsemberis, and recently wrote a book on the subject, "Housing First: Ending Homelessness, Transforming Systems, and Changing Lives."*²

As you are aware, the City's own Shelter Planning Task Force conducted a review of best practices for emergency shelters in 2015 and came to the same conclusion as Dr. Padgett. The task force reviewed over 50 articles and websites and found the following: *"Programs and studies consistently emphasized the same approach: moving away from emergency shelter and toward coordinated triage and assessment, emphasizing housing first/permanent supportive housing for the chronically homeless, and rapid re-housing for the more short-term homeless."*³

- **Follow-up Questions:** Why is the City focusing financial efforts on a new emergency shelter instead of coordinated triage/assessment, expansion of Housing First approach and supportive services, and rapid re-housing, as outlined in the Shelter Planning Task Force 'Best Practices Review' document? By putting "single floor, open concept design" as the first point on your 2017 memo, did you intend for that to be the most important point on the list? Why is it acceptable to ignore that best practice? How many best practices can be ignored before a proposal no longer follows the spirit of best practices?

¹ Emergency Shelter Best Practices (January 4, 2017). Retrieved from: <http://www.portlandmaine.gov/DocumentCenter/View/17471/Best-Practices-for-New-Shelter>

² Le Coz, E. (November 29, 2015). No easy solution on homelessness. Herald-Tribune. Retrieved from: <http://extra.heraldtribune.com/2015/11/29/no-easy-solution-on-homelessness/>

³Shelter Planning Task Force (June 10, 2015). Best Practices Review. Retrieved from: <http://www.portlandmaine.gov/AgendaCenter/ViewFile/Item/2272?fileID=8845>

Dawn Stiles (Director of HHS):

The shelter model proposed should not be characterized as “warehousing” individuals as this is an emergency shelter and the focus is on making sure stays are transitional. To the contrary, guests will receive more individual services because the providers will be on-site so appointments won’t be missed. Substance use, mental illness and physical illnesses will all be treated on-site through a health clinic operated by Greater Portland Health which will also offer dental care.

Canvass Group:

We have spoken with local individuals who were previously homeless who characterized your proposed shelter as “warehousing” due to its large size. The connotation of a warehouse does not depend on the length of stay or on-site services. It is related to the fact that 200+ humans will be sleeping 18” away from each other in a large open air room.

- **Follow-up Questions:** Has the City conducted surveys and/or interviews with people experiencing homelessness to understand their perceptions of a shelter of the proposed size? If so, may we review your research methods, questions, and transcripts of unprocessed responses?

We understand the City plans to have an on-site health clinic at the proposed shelter and this clinic will be operated by Greater Portland Health (GPH). However, this information is not included in the script because it is unclear if the City has secured a partnership with GPH, and if the on-site clinic will be able to effectively meet the healthcare needs of 200 shelter clients, many of whom struggle with substance abuse. Based on conversations we have had behind the scenes, we are skeptical of GPH’s capacity to provide the level of resources that you are promising at your shelter. GPH has invested heavily in its 63 Preble St. location, and it also participates in the MMC-Preble Street Learning Collaborative at 20 Portland St.

- **Follow-up Documentation:** Please provide a detailed contract with GPH demonstrating their commitment to the on-site health center at your proposed emergency shelter.
- **Follow-up Question:** As stated in Portland’s Plan 2030¹, 83% of individuals cited substance abuse as their major reason for being homeless. Will the proposed on-site clinic be able to provide effective drug treatment² for 83% of

the clients at the proposed shelter at any given time (200*.83 = 166 individuals (+overflow))?

¹ City of Portland. (2017). Portland's Plan 2030: Appendices - Housing. pg. 209. Retrieved from: <http://www.portlandmaine.gov/DocumentCenter/View/18269/Portlands-Plan-2030-with-Appendices>

²National Institute on Drug Abuse. (2018). Principles of Drug Addiction Treatment: A Research-Based Guide (Third Edition). Retrieved from: <https://d14rmgtrwzf5a.cloudfront.net/sites/default/files/675-principles-of-drug-addiction-treatment-a-research-based-guide-third-edition.pdf>

- This evidence-based document by the National Institute on Drug Abuse outlines 13 key principles of drug addiction treatment. Among these 13 principles, the document states that effective drug treatment includes addressing “the individual’s drug abuse and any associated medical, psychological, social, vocational, and legal problems,” “most addicted individuals need at least 3 months in treatment to significantly reduce or stop their drug use,” and that drug abuse often co-occurs with mental illness “and when these problems co-occur, treatment should address both (or all), including the use of medications as appropriate.”

Dawn Stiles (Director of HHS):

- “B.” The statement that “heavily wooded areas invite increased drug activity and other violent crimes” is a concern rather than a fact that is substantiated by any data.

Canvass Group:

There is evidence for this statement from peer-reviewed articles, national organizations, and our own local newspapers that examine the rise of drug activity and crime in parks (i.e. heavily wooded areas). Please review the example references below:

- *Peer-reviewed articles:* A study conducted in Philadelphia, PA examined the relationship between parks and crime.¹ The study is grounded in environmental criminology theories such as the ‘eyes on the street’ concept and includes data collection at 249 neighborhood parks. The study found that “neighborhood parks are associated with increased levels of crime in the surrounding area.” In addition, the study found that “parks with adjacent streets, which were *exclusively residential* or which were *primarily residential with some commercial*, had higher violent and significantly higher disorder crime levels than those of parks in *nonresidential settings*.”¹ As the City is already aware, the Fore River Sanctuary, Evergreen Cemetery, Sagamore Village playground, Rowe Elementary playground, the former Tent City, and the heavily wooded streets of Nason’s Corner neighborhood are all within 0.5 miles of the proposed megashelter site.

- *National organizations:* The National Recreation and Park Association published an article in 2017 that describes how the opioid epidemic is affecting public parks with an increase in drug use, drug sales, and litter of drug paraphernalia including used syringes.²
- *Local newspapers:*
 - An August 2015 Press Herald article discussed the rise in drug activity in Portland parks such as Peppermint Park (which was referred to by one resident as “Needle Park”) and Deering Oaks Park.³ Current Assistant City Manager Michael Sauschuck was quoted in the article as stating Deering Oaks Park had become a “hotspot” for injection drug use.³
 - An August 2016 Press Herald article discussed a stabbing at Tent City — 0.3 miles from your proposed megashelter site — and stated: “Police revealed recently that they have responded to an increasing number of incidents in Tent City this year, including domestic violence, arson, and people with outstanding arrest warrants.”⁴
 - A July 2018 Bangor Daily News article discussed the dismantling of a homeless encampment in Bangor: “The work, which begins Wednesday morning, is aimed at dismantling a longstanding camp of about 40 people that in recent weeks has erupted in a series of violent assaults, arsons and most recently a stabbing Friday night, according to city officials and police. ‘It just gets to a point where it gets too dangerous, and you just have to do something,’ Dana Wardwell, Bangor’s director of public works, said. The camp is located along a trail between lower Dutton Street and the Interstate 395 bridge. In the past, after repeated acts of violence, the city cleared out the people living in the encampment, but before long, they moved back in.”⁵
- **Follow-up Question:** Do you have any data that would contradict the findings cited above?

¹ Groff, E. & McCord, E.S. (2011). The role of neighborhood parks as crime generators. *Security Journal*, 1 (24).

² Ibrahim, M.S. & Jones, C. (June 1, 2017). Confronting the Opioid Outbreaks in Our Parks. *National Recreation and Park Association*. Retrieved from: <https://www.nrpa.org/parks-recreation-magazine/2017/june/confronting-the-opioid-outbreak-in-our-parks/>

³ Miller, K. (Aug 4, 2015). Opiate danger spikes in Portland with 14 overdoses in 24 hours. Portland Press Herald. Retrieved from: <https://www.pressherald.com/2015/08/04/portland-sees-14-overdoses-in-24-hour-period-as-heroin-takes-toll/>

⁴ Staff Report (Aug 23, 2016). Portland police say woman stabbed man in 'Tent City'. Portland Press Herald. Retrieved from: <https://www.pressherald.com/2016/08/22/portland-police-on-scene-of-incident-on-outer-brighton-avenue/>

⁵ Ferguson, C. (Jul 24, 2018). Bangor makes move to cut back homeless encampment. Bangor Daily News. Retrieved from: <https://bangordailynews.com/2018/07/24/news/bangor/bangor-makes-move-to-cut-back-homeless-encampment/>

Dawn Stiles (Director of HHS):

- “C.” A scattered shelter model would be more expensive and increase property owners taxes. Additionally, it will be more logistically challenging for shelter staff and guests, and it would decrease the number of services the shelter guests could receive on-site because our local service provider partners do not have the resources to staff 5 or 6 different locations.

Canvass Group:

We do not make any statements about the cost or logistics of a scattered shelter model in the canvassing script. We state that “A scattered shelter model would better support the individual needs of people experiencing homelessness.” Indeed, the City’s own Emergency Shelter Sub Group from 2012, created under the Homelessness Prevention Task Force, reported in meeting notes the following vision for Portland’s emergency shelter system: “*Our community has safe, quality places for people needing emergency shelter. The shelter system is less concentrated and dispersed so that people can access services in multiple locations throughout Greater Portland in neighborhoods that are supportive and thriving.*”¹

Almost every single person we have talked to within the service provider community and homeless advocacy community agrees that the scattered site model is more effective and more humane. As recently as October 2016, Belinda Ray was in support of the scattered site model.²

- **Follow-up Questions:** Has a detailed permutational cost analysis been carried out of the scattered site vs. single site models? Has an analysis been carried out of the potential property tax impact of the additional marginal cost incurred by the scattered site model? Has a term-differentiated cost analysis been carried out that examines the possibility of the diminishing costs of a scattered site model, which can deliver services more effectively? Has the City considered alternative funding sources for the additional marginal cost, such as a small ‘gentrification tax’ on all high-end development projects in Bayside over the next 5-10 years, or increased fees on short-term rentals? To what extent is the City making this proposal based on principles of fiscal

responsibility? Is the City ignoring evidence-based public health and urban planning guidelines in order to save money?

- **Follow-up Documentation:** Please provide the cost analysis that supports the statement above that “a scattered shelter model would be more expensive.” Please highlight the building/rental cost, annual operational cost, and projected long-term impact costs in the cost analysis. Please provide a property tax impact analysis. We expect the long-term impact cost indicators to be similar to those reported in a 2007 cost analysis of permanent supportive housing in Portland that was funded in part by the Department of Health and Human Services (such as cost of publicly funded emergency services, cost of incarceration, cost of healthcare services, etc.)³

¹ Emergency Shelter Sub Group. (May 8, 2012). *Updates*. Homelessness Prevention Task Force. Retrieved from: <https://www.portlandmaine.gov/DocumentCenter/View/2282/Emergency-Shelter-Sub-Group-050812-Update>

² Staff Report (Oct 24, 2016). Portland is considering allowing homeless shelters to open across the city. Bangor Daily News. Retrieved from: <https://bangordailynews.com/2016/10/24/news/portland/portland-is-considering-allowing-homeless-shelters-to-open-across-the-city/>

³ Mondello, M., Gass, A.B., McLaughlin, T., & Shore, N. (2007). *Cost of Homelessness: Cost Analysis of Permanent Supportive Housing*. State of Maine – Greater Portland.

- “E.” “Crime and other incidents.” It’s important to note that shelter guests are often the victims rather than the perpetrators. In the current shelter model, guests are forced to leave the facility many times throughout the day to seek services and meals. The new shelter model will allow them to access a variety of services, meals, and outdoor space on-site rather than exposing them to predators.

Canvass Group:

First, you are not building a jail. People will leave the proposed shelter whenever they like, and they will go where they choose.

Second, per your own statistics, 83% of shelter guests suffer from substance abuse addictions.¹ You may co-locate a small clinic, but the drug traffickers will co-locate as well. We would of course never imply that all shelter guests are criminals. But you cannot get out from under the fact that the heavy concentration of poverty, homelessness, and drug addiction in a single location will attract criminality. There is absolutely no way to spin out of it. The predators and prey may oscillate on a daily basis, but criminality will follow the shelter. We recommend you read a groundbreaking ethnography called “Righteous Dopefiend”² if you would like to have a more nuanced understanding of the ecosystem surrounding homelessness and drug addiction:

“Representing the Edgewater homeless solely as worthy victims for the sake of a positive politics of representation misrepresents the painful effects of marginalization, poverty, oppression, addiction, and violence...The suffering of homeless heroin injectors is chronic and cumulative and is best understood as a politically structured phenomenon that encompasses multiple abusive relationships, both structural and personal. Our exploration of drug consumption, domestic violence, sexual predation, interpersonal betrayals, and interpersonal hierarchies examines these abusive phenomena in their relationship to political-economic, cultural-ideological, and institutional forces, such as the restructuring of the labor market, the ‘War on Drugs,’ the gentrification of San Francisco’s housing market, the gutting of social services, the administration of bureaucracies, racism, sexuality, gender power relations, and stigma.

Third, locating the proposed megashelter at the Barron Center campus will make everyone in the area more vulnerable, *especially* shelter guests, because of the nearby turnpike I-95 exit, several cheap motels, and the unpoliceable landscape. These characteristics of the proposed megashelter location put shelter clients at risk greater risk for drug/sex/human trafficking. There are two 2-star motels within 500 ft. of the Barron Center campus — Motel 6 directly to the west and the Inn at Portland directly across the street. Additionally, a Hampton Inn is currently under construction within 500 ft. of the Barron Center campus. Within 0.5 miles of the Barron Center campus is one additional 2-star motel — Super 8 — as well as two 3-star hotels: the Ramada Inn and the Fireside Inn. According to the Department of Homeland Security - *“Traffickers often take advantage of the privacy and anonymity accessible through the hospitality industry. Hotels and motels can be especially attractive locations for all forms of trafficking.”*³ According to the US Drug Enforcement Agency, certain transnational criminal organizations *“pose a significant threat to the domestic drug trafficking landscape in mainly the East Coast of the United States, with their strongest influence concentrated in areas of the Northeast located along the I-95 interstate corridor.”*⁴

- **Follow-up Questions:** Has the City considered the risk of placing this megashelter within 500 ft of an I-95 exit and two budget motels? Does the City expect shelter guests to never leave the grounds of the proposed new shelter? Has the City considered what will happen when shelter guests start hanging out in the Barron Center lobby and its adjacent rooms? Has the City considered the re-emergence of Tent City? Does the City plan on having a safe injection facility at the Barron Center site? If not, how will it manage to

deal with a 200+ population of which 160+ are suffering from substance abuse issues? Where will they use, if not at the Barron Center?

We state in the canvassing script that “Crime and other incidents have escalated at the present shelter.” This is undeniable. The June 2013 ESAC meeting minutes clearly shows that the Oxford Street Shelter started facing an increase in crime and other incidents alongside the rise of injection drug use and increase in shelter capacity:⁵

–Josh [O’Brien, OSS Director 2004-2014] stated that they’ve been struggling with the increase in very serious incidents at the shelter since January; critical incidents peaked this winter and into the spring time. Josh provided examples of some critical incidents that have recently occurred at Oxford Street, including serious physical altercations, fights, threats, and incidents where weapons have been involved such as bricks, needles and tasers.

-Josh stated that the increase in critical incidents have increased as the numbers [of guests] have.

-Rob [Parritt, current OSS Director] stated that they’re seeing more hand IV drug usage than ever before.

-Rob added that they’ve always been proud that they haven’t needed these additional security measures in the past, but with the sheer number of incidents, which have more than doubled, it has become an unfortunate necessity.

Moreover, according to your own Social Services Division slide deck, the City has observed: “Individuals choosing to sleep on the streets and not seeking shelter in order to continue substance use, [and] increased calls for service for PPD from assaults.”⁶

- **Follow-up Question:** Does the City acknowledge that crime and other incidents have escalated at Oxford Street Shelter (OSS) since 2013 when the opioid epidemic took root?⁵ If not, why didn’t the City issue a condemnation of the Press Herald’s “Bayside hits rock bottom” in May 2018?

¹ City of Portland. (2017). Portland’s Plan 2030: Appendices - Housing. pg. 209. Retrieved from: <http://www.portlandmaine.gov/DocumentCenter/View/18269/Portlands-Plan-2030-with-Appendices>

² Bourgois, P. and Schonberg, J. (2009). *Righteous Dopefiend*. California: University of California Press.

³ Department of Homeland Security. *Human Trafficking and the Hospitality Industry*. Retrieved from: <https://www.dhs.gov/blue-campaign/hospitalityindustry>

⁴ Drug Enforcement Agency. 2017 National Drug Threat Assessment. Retrieved from: https://www.dea.gov/sites/default/files/docs/DIR-040-17_2017-NDTA.pdf

⁵ Emergency Shelter Assessment Committee. (June 20, 2013). *Meeting Minutes*. Retrieved from: <http://www.portlandmaine.gov/AgendaCenter/ViewFile/Minutes/06202013-62>

⁶ City of Portland Social Services Division. (?). Emergency Shelter. Retrieved from: <https://www.portlandmaine.gov/DocumentCenter/View/17472/Emergency-Shelter-April-11-GPCOG-with-Maine-Towns>

Dawn Stiles (Director of HHS):

- The safety plan developed in partnership with the Portland Police Department is sound and brings more public safety staff into the area than has been in the past, thus providing a faster response time and more proactive interventions.

Canvass Group:

- **Follow-up Documentation:** Please provide documentation of this safety plan.
- **Follow-up Questions:** How many conversations has the City had with the City of Missoula Police Department (since the City cites the Poverello Center as a model for this proposed shelter)? If so, who has the City spoken to? What did the City of Missoula PD say?

We appreciate the fears and concerns, and are committed to working together to address the need for information and on-going communication. City staff will be rolling out additional information at an upcoming community forum on September 8 from 11 AM - 1PM at Hannaford Hall at the University of Southern Maine.

Sincerely,

Dawn Stiles, Director
Health & Human Services Department
City of Portland

dcs@portlandmaine.gov
207-874-8775

Canvass Group:

Thus far, there is no indication that the City genuinely appreciates our concerns. If that were true, the City would pull the proposal off the table rather than double-down.

Please understand that the Canvass Group is not synonymous with the Nason's Corner Neighborhood Association. The opposition to this proposal extends well beyond NCNA and well beyond Nason's Corner. This is not about one neighborhood not 'wanting' the shelter. This is about citizens calling out the negligence of this ill-conceived proposal as a matter of public health and urban planning.

Appendix A: Canvasser Script

Homeless Services Center - Canvasser Script

For the safety of all residents please work in pairs when canvassing your area.

Hi, my name is _____ and I am supporting the Nason's Corner Neighborhood Association.

Question 1: Have you heard about the City's proposal to build a 200-bed Emergency Homeless megashelter on the Barron Center Campus for people struggling with homelessness? We are collecting signatures to show the City Council the extent of opposition to this proposal.

- **No** - explain the Homeless Services Center proposal.
 - The City has proposed to replace the 154 bed Oxford Street Shelter that currently exist in the Bayside neighborhood with a 200 bed megashelter on the corner of Brighton and Holm Avenues.
 - Go to **Reasons Against** below.
- **Yes** - Continue to Question 2.

Question 2: Do you oppose or support this proposal?

1. **If Opposes** - That's great! We'll need all the support we can get with this issue.
 - a. Ask to sign the resolution sheet. *Important - remind them they may be asked to sign a formal petition at a later time to block this proposal.*
 - b. Ask if there is another registered voter in the household who can also sign.
2. **If Supports** - Unfortunately we do not support this proposal. Here is some additional information and we encourage you to learn more at our website PortlandShelters.org.

Reasons Against:

- a. The proposal does not follow best practices for ending homelessness. A new 200 bed shelter would warehouse individuals and not support individual needs, which is no different than the current failing Oxford St Shelter model. It does not address substance abuse, mental illness, and physical limitations that can cause homelessness.
- b. 80% of the shelter residents have substance abuse issues. Placing the proposed shelter between 2 turnpike exits in a heavily wooded area invites increased drug activity and other violent crimes.
- c. A scattered shelter model would better support the individual needs of people experiencing homelessness. This model also complies with the City's "One Portland" initiative, having the whole city share in providing the services and amenities for the homeless, instead of just one neighborhood.
- d. More than one-third of Nason's Corner households have children under 18 - the highest percentage in Portland. The neighborhood is also home to the new Rowe Elementary School which is less than a mile from the proposed site.
- e. Crime and other incidents have escalated at the present shelter. Safety issues have not been addressed or properly budgeted by this proposal.

Continue to Question 2.

Response to Dawn Stiles’ “Corrections to the ‘Homeless Services Center Canvasser Script’”

Responses in blue



Corrections to the “Homeless Services Center Canvasser Script”

The City of Portland values public dialogue and in this spirit we open the Barron Center to the community and the Nason’s Corner Neighborhood Association for their meetings regarding the City’s recommendation to locate the Homeless Services Center on the Barron Center Campus.

With that said, it is critical that members of the public have access to accurate information. The information included in the “Canvasser Script” contains several inaccuracies to which we have responded below: (see [Appendix A](#) for “Canvasser Script”)

Dawn Stiles (Director of HHS Dept.):

- The Oxford Street Shelter has a total bed capacity of 229. There are 154 beds at Oxford St. and an additional 75 beds located in the Preble Street Resource Center that we staff each night when there are more than 154 individuals who need shelter.

Canvass Group:

We mostly agree. There is no inaccuracy in the script. In our script we are describing the bed capacity at the physical location of Oxford Street Shelter (OSS). In the script we state “The City has proposed to replace the 154 bed Oxford Street Shelter.” You have stated above “There are 154 beds at Oxford St.” It appears we agree that the bed capacity at the Oxford Street Shelter location is indeed 154 beds. Overflow beds at the Preble Street Resource Center (PSRC) are lumped under the category of “Oxford Street Shelter,” as you state in your first sentence. The script does not make any statements about the overflow capacity of OSS or the overflow capacity of the proposed Barron Center megashelter. To our knowledge, the City has not shared information about the overflow capacity of the proposed megashelter.

Additionally, to the extent that Portland citizens may be confused about the capacity of OSS, the City can look inwards. As you are aware, the Health & Human Services Department publishes the monthly Emergency Shelter Assessment Committee (ESAC) statistics. The ESAC report does not distinguish between bed-nights at Oxford St. and overflow at PRSC. It is all lumped together under the banner of “OSS.” You can examine your own ESAC reports to verify.

Although it is irrelevant to our script (since we are describing bed capacity at the physical location of OSS), we disagree with your assertion that the total bed capacity of OSS is 229. On January 29th, 2018 OSS sheltered 248 individuals. In fact, OSS sheltered more than 229 people on 9 days during January 2018; 12 days during February 2018; and 4 days during March 2018. Again, you can verify in your own ESAC reports.

- **Follow-Up Question:** What will be the overflow capacity of the proposed megashelter?

Dawn Stiles (Director of HHS):

- “A.” The Homeless Service Center proposal does indeed follow best practices for ending homelessness, including operating 24 hours, 7 days per week with all meals and individual services on site. We have on-site housing counselors who develop a housing plan with each guest and meet with them regularly to assist them in finding long-term housing. We follow-up, in person, with every individual on a monthly basis to assure they are stable and their housing is not at risk. We also provide the landlords with contact information to contact us before an individual gets to the point of losing housing. We work closely with all Housing First developments, sitting on the screening committees to assure that our neediest guests get housed. The new building will be designed to provide a floor plan for the maximum safety of guests. Transportation will be easily accessible, and the atmosphere will be respectful and the grounds and facility safe. We will develop plans with the neighborhood and provide 24-hour phone response to the neighborhood.

Canvass Group:

You can't drive your car towards a cliff and say you're following 'best driving practices' just because your hands are at 10 and 2. Building a megashelter at the Barron Center is driving towards a cliff. You can include meals, on-site counselors and a 24-hour hotline for neighbors, but...***you're still driving towards a cliff.*** The Poverello Center in Missoula, MT teaches us that lesson. The fact that no one can find a successful model for this proposal should teach us that lesson. It's common sense that you don't drive towards cliffs, and it's common sense that you don't build a megashelter in a massive, heavily-wooded residential area 177 ft. from the nearest home; 200 ft. from an

Alzheimer's/dementia unit; 200 ft. from a senior/disabled independent living community; 500 ft. from the I-95 drug corridor; 500 ft. from two cheap motels; 700 ft. from a low-rent public housing community with many refugees and asylum seekers; 0.3 miles from the former 'Tent City' campground; 0.5 miles from 10 miles of trails within 400 acres of forest; and 1.6 miles from the nearest MEDCU station. And you *especially* don't do this in the midst of a substance abuse epidemic.

The 'best practices' that you list above are emergency shelter best practices according to your own January 4, 2017 memo (which lacks citations).¹ The first point on your best practices memo is "Single floor, open concept design style with clear lines of sight." And yet, the City ultimately chose a site where it cannot fit a single floor building and is now planning to build a two-story building. So it appears that not all of the best practices in the memo matter.

More importantly, we are unsure if you are being careless with language or intentional by stating above that this "proposal does indeed follow best practices for **ending homelessness**" (emphasis added). The woman who wrote the book on this topic, Dr. Deborah Padgett, would disagree with you:

*"We have had 40 years of shelters. They don't work," said Deborah Padgett, a New York University professor of social work and psychiatry who in the early 1990s collaborated with the father of Housing First, Sam Tsemberis, and recently wrote a book on the subject, "Housing First: Ending Homelessness, Transforming Systems, and Changing Lives."*²

As you are aware, the City's own Shelter Planning Task Force conducted a review of best practices for emergency shelters in 2015 and came to the same conclusion as Dr. Padgett. The task force reviewed over 50 articles and websites and found the following: *"Programs and studies consistently emphasized the same approach: moving away from emergency shelter and toward coordinated triage and assessment, emphasizing housing first/permanent supportive housing for the chronically homeless, and rapid re-housing for the more short-term homeless."*³

- **Follow-up Questions:** Why is the City focusing financial efforts on a new emergency shelter instead of coordinated triage/assessment, expansion of Housing First approach and supportive services, and rapid re-housing, as outlined in the Shelter Planning Task Force 'Best Practices Review' document? By putting "single floor, open concept design" as the first point on your 2017 memo, did you intend for that to be the most important point on the list? Why is it acceptable to ignore that best practice? How many best practices can be ignored before a proposal no longer follows the spirit of best practices?

¹ Emergency Shelter Best Practices (January 4, 2017). Retrieved from: <http://www.portlandmaine.gov/DocumentCenter/View/17471/Best-Practices-for-New-Shelter>

² Le Coz, E. (November 29, 2015). No easy solution on homelessness. Herald-Tribune. Retrieved from: <http://extra.heraldtribune.com/2015/11/29/no-easy-solution-on-homelessness/>

³Shelter Planning Task Force (June 10, 2015). Best Practices Review. Retrieved from: <http://www.portlandmaine.gov/AgendaCenter/ViewFile/Item/2272?fileID=8845>

Dawn Stiles (Director of HHS):

The shelter model proposed should not be characterized as “warehousing” individuals as this is an emergency shelter and the focus is on making sure stays are transitional. To the contrary, guests will receive more individual services because the providers will be on-site so appointments won’t be missed. Substance use, mental illness and physical illnesses will all be treated on-site through a health clinic operated by Greater Portland Health which will also offer dental care.

Canvass Group:

We have spoken with local individuals who were previously homeless who characterized your proposed shelter as “warehousing” due to its large size. The connotation of a warehouse does not depend on the length of stay or on-site services. It is related to the fact that 200+ humans will be sleeping 18” away from each other in a large open air room.

- **Follow-up Questions:** Has the City conducted surveys and/or interviews with people experiencing homelessness to understand their perceptions of a shelter of the proposed size? If so, may we review your research methods, questions, and transcripts of unprocessed responses?

We understand the City plans to have an on-site health clinic at the proposed shelter and this clinic will be operated by Greater Portland Health (GPH). However, this information is not included in the script because it is unclear if the City has secured a partnership with GPH, and if the on-site clinic will be able to effectively meet the healthcare needs of 200 shelter clients, many of whom struggle with substance abuse. Based on conversations we have had behind the scenes, we are skeptical of GPH’s capacity to provide the level of resources that you are promising at your shelter. GPH has invested heavily in its 63 Preble St. location, and it also participates in the MMC-Preble Street Learning Collaborative at 20 Portland St.

- **Follow-up Documentation:** Please provide a detailed contract with GPH demonstrating their commitment to the on-site health center at your proposed emergency shelter.
- **Follow-up Question:** As stated in Portland’s Plan 2030¹, 83% of individuals cited substance abuse as their major reason for being homeless. Will the proposed on-site clinic be able to provide effective drug treatment² for 83% of

the clients at the proposed shelter at any given time (200*.83 = 166 individuals (+overflow))?

¹ City of Portland. (2017). Portland's Plan 2030: Appendices - Housing. pg. 209. Retrieved from: <http://www.portlandmaine.gov/DocumentCenter/View/18269/Portlands-Plan-2030-with-Appendices>

²National Institute on Drug Abuse. (2018). Principles of Drug Addiction Treatment: A Research-Based Guide (Third Edition). Retrieved from: <https://d14rmgtrwzf5a.cloudfront.net/sites/default/files/675-principles-of-drug-addiction-treatment-a-research-based-guide-third-edition.pdf>

- This evidence-based document by the National Institute on Drug Abuse outlines 13 key principles of drug addiction treatment. Among these 13 principles, the document states that effective drug treatment includes addressing “the individual’s drug abuse and any associated medical, psychological, social, vocational, and legal problems,” “most addicted individuals need at least 3 months in treatment to significantly reduce or stop their drug use,” and that drug abuse often co-occurs with mental illness “and when these problems co-occur, treatment should address both (or all), including the use of medications as appropriate.”

Dawn Stiles (Director of HHS):

- “B.” The statement that “heavily wooded areas invite increased drug activity and other violent crimes” is a concern rather than a fact that is substantiated by any data.

Canvass Group:

There is evidence for this statement from peer-reviewed articles, national organizations, and our own local newspapers that examine the rise of drug activity and crime in parks (i.e. heavily wooded areas). Please review the example references below:

- *Peer-reviewed articles:* A study conducted in Philadelphia, PA examined the relationship between parks and crime.¹ The study is grounded in environmental criminology theories such as the ‘eyes on the street’ concept and includes data collection at 249 neighborhood parks. The study found that “neighborhood parks are associated with increased levels of crime in the surrounding area.” In addition, the study found that “parks with adjacent streets, which were *exclusively residential* or which were *primarily residential with some commercial*, had higher violent and significantly higher disorder crime levels than those of parks in *nonresidential settings*.”¹ As the City is already aware, the Fore River Sanctuary, Evergreen Cemetery, Sagamore Village playground, Rowe Elementary playground, the former Tent City, and the heavily wooded streets of Nason’s Corner neighborhood are all within 0.5 miles of the proposed megashelter site.

- *National organizations:* The National Recreation and Park Association published an article in 2017 that describes how the opioid epidemic is affecting public parks with an increase in drug use, drug sales, and litter of drug paraphernalia including used syringes.²
- *Local newspapers:*
 - An August 2015 Press Herald article discussed the rise in drug activity in Portland parks such as Peppermint Park (which was referred to by one resident as “Needle Park”) and Deering Oaks Park.³ Current Assistant City Manager Michael Sauschuck was quoted in the article as stating Deering Oaks Park had become a “hotspot” for injection drug use.³
 - An August 2016 Press Herald article discussed a stabbing at Tent City — 0.3 miles from your proposed megashelter site — and stated: “Police revealed recently that they have responded to an increasing number of incidents in Tent City this year, including domestic violence, arson, and people with outstanding arrest warrants.”⁴
 - A July 2018 Bangor Daily News article discussed the dismantling of a homeless encampment in Bangor: “The work, which begins Wednesday morning, is aimed at dismantling a longstanding camp of about 40 people that in recent weeks has erupted in a series of violent assaults, arsons and most recently a stabbing Friday night, according to city officials and police. ‘It just gets to a point where it gets too dangerous, and you just have to do something,’ Dana Wardwell, Bangor’s director of public works, said. The camp is located along a trail between lower Dutton Street and the Interstate 395 bridge. In the past, after repeated acts of violence, the city cleared out the people living in the encampment, but before long, they moved back in.”⁵
- **Follow-up Question:** Do you have any data that would contradict the findings cited above?

¹ Groff, E. & McCord, E.S. (2011). The role of neighborhood parks as crime generators. *Security Journal*, 1 (24).

² Ibrahim, M.S. & Jones, C. (June 1, 2017). Confronting the Opioid Outbreaks in Our Parks. *National Recreation and Park Association*. Retrieved from: <https://www.nrpa.org/parks-recreation-magazine/2017/june/confronting-the-opioid-outbreak-in-our-parks/>

³ Miller, K. (Aug 4, 2015). Opiate danger spikes in Portland with 14 overdoses in 24 hours. Portland Press Herald. Retrieved from: <https://www.pressherald.com/2015/08/04/portland-sees-14-overdoses-in-24-hour-period-as-heroin-takes-toll/>

⁴ Staff Report (Aug 23, 2016). Portland police say woman stabbed man in 'Tent City'. Portland Press Herald. Retrieved from: <https://www.pressherald.com/2016/08/22/portland-police-on-scene-of-incident-on-outer-brighton-avenue/>

⁵ Ferguson, C. (Jul 24, 2018). Bangor makes move to cut back homeless encampment. Bangor Daily News. Retrieved from: <https://bangordailynews.com/2018/07/24/news/bangor/bangor-makes-move-to-cut-back-homeless-encampment/>

Dawn Stiles (Director of HHS):

- “C.” A scattered shelter model would be more expensive and increase property owners taxes. Additionally, it will be more logistically challenging for shelter staff and guests, and it would decrease the number of services the shelter guests could receive on-site because our local service provider partners do not have the resources to staff 5 or 6 different locations.

Canvass Group:

We do not make any statements about the cost or logistics of a scattered shelter model in the canvassing script. We state that “A scattered shelter model would better support the individual needs of people experiencing homelessness.” Indeed, the City’s own Emergency Shelter Sub Group from 2012, created under the Homelessness Prevention Task Force, reported in meeting notes the following vision for Portland’s emergency shelter system: “*Our community has safe, quality places for people needing emergency shelter. The shelter system is less concentrated and dispersed so that people can access services in multiple locations throughout Greater Portland in neighborhoods that are supportive and thriving.*”¹

Almost every single person we have talked to within the service provider community and homeless advocacy community agrees that the scattered site model is more effective and more humane. As recently as October 2016, Belinda Ray was in support of the scattered site model.²

- **Follow-up Questions:** Has a detailed permutational cost analysis been carried out of the scattered site vs. single site models? Has an analysis been carried out of the potential property tax impact of the additional marginal cost incurred by the scattered site model? Has a term-differentiated cost analysis been carried out that examines the possibility of the diminishing costs of a scattered site model, which can deliver services more effectively? Has the City considered alternative funding sources for the additional marginal cost, such as a small ‘gentrification tax’ on all high-end development projects in Bayside over the next 5-10 years, or increased fees on short-term rentals? To what extent is the City making this proposal based on principles of fiscal

responsibility? Is the City ignoring evidence-based public health and urban planning guidelines in order to save money?

- **Follow-up Documentation:** Please provide the cost analysis that supports the statement above that “a scattered shelter model would be more expensive.” Please highlight the building/rental cost, annual operational cost, and projected long-term impact costs in the cost analysis. Please provide a property tax impact analysis. We expect the long-term impact cost indicators to be similar to those reported in a 2007 cost analysis of permanent supportive housing in Portland that was funded in part by the Department of Health and Human Services (such as cost of publicly funded emergency services, cost of incarceration, cost of healthcare services, etc.)³

¹ Emergency Shelter Sub Group. (May 8, 2012). *Updates*. Homelessness Prevention Task Force. Retrieved from: <https://www.portlandmaine.gov/DocumentCenter/View/2282/Emergency-Shelter-Sub-Group-050812-Update>

² Staff Report (Oct 24, 2016). Portland is considering allowing homeless shelters to open across the city. Bangor Daily News. Retrieved from: <https://bangordailynews.com/2016/10/24/news/portland/portland-is-considering-allowing-homeless-shelters-to-open-across-the-city/>

³ Mondello, M., Gass, A.B., McLaughlin, T., & Shore, N. (2007). *Cost of Homelessness: Cost Analysis of Permanent Supportive Housing*. State of Maine – Greater Portland.

- “E.” “Crime and other incidents.” It’s important to note that shelter guests are often the victims rather than the perpetrators. In the current shelter model, guests are forced to leave the facility many times throughout the day to seek services and meals. The new shelter model will allow them to access a variety of services, meals, and outdoor space on-site rather than exposing them to predators.

Canvass Group:

First, you are not building a jail. People will leave the proposed shelter whenever they like, and they will go where they choose.

Second, per your own statistics, 83% of shelter guests suffer from substance abuse addictions.¹ You may co-locate a small clinic, but the drug traffickers will co-locate as well. We would of course never imply that all shelter guests are criminals. But you cannot get out from under the fact that the heavy concentration of poverty, homelessness, and drug addiction in a single location will attract criminality. There is absolutely no way to spin out of it. The predators and prey may oscillate on a daily basis, but criminality will follow the shelter. We recommend you read a groundbreaking ethnography called “Righteous Dopefiend”² if you would like to have a more nuanced understanding of the ecosystem surrounding homelessness and drug addiction:

“Representing the Edgewater homeless solely as worthy victims for the sake of a positive politics of representation misrepresents the painful effects of marginalization, poverty, oppression, addiction, and violence...The suffering of homeless heroin injectors is chronic and cumulative and is best understood as a politically structured phenomenon that encompasses multiple abusive relationships, both structural and personal. Our exploration of drug consumption, domestic violence, sexual predation, interpersonal betrayals, and interpersonal hierarchies examines these abusive phenomena in their relationship to political-economic, cultural-ideological, and institutional forces, such as the restructuring of the labor market, the ‘War on Drugs,’ the gentrification of San Francisco’s housing market, the gutting of social services, the administration of bureaucracies, racism, sexuality, gender power relations, and stigma.

Third, locating the proposed megashelter at the Barron Center campus will make everyone in the area more vulnerable, *especially* shelter guests, because of the nearby turnpike I-95 exit, several cheap motels, and the unpoliceable landscape. These characteristics of the proposed megashelter location put shelter clients at risk greater risk for drug/sex/human trafficking. There are two 2-star motels within 500 ft. of the Barron Center campus — Motel 6 directly to the west and the Inn at Portland directly across the street. Additionally, a Hampton Inn is currently under construction within 500 ft. of the Barron Center campus. Within 0.5 miles of the Barron Center campus is one additional 2-star motel — Super 8 — as well as two 3-star hotels: the Ramada Inn and the Fireside Inn. According to the Department of Homeland Security - *“Traffickers often take advantage of the privacy and anonymity accessible through the hospitality industry. Hotels and motels can be especially attractive locations for all forms of trafficking.”*³ According to the US Drug Enforcement Agency, certain transnational criminal organizations *“pose a significant threat to the domestic drug trafficking landscape in mainly the East Coast of the United States, with their strongest influence concentrated in areas of the Northeast located along the I-95 interstate corridor.”*⁴

- **Follow-up Questions:** Has the City considered the risk of placing this megashelter within 500 ft of an I-95 exit and two budget motels? Does the City expect shelter guests to never leave the grounds of the proposed new shelter? Has the City considered what will happen when shelter guests start hanging out in the Barron Center lobby and its adjacent rooms? Has the City considered the re-emergence of Tent City? Does the City plan on having a safe injection facility at the Barron Center site? If not, how will it manage to

deal with a 200+ population of which 160+ are suffering from substance abuse issues? Where will they use, if not at the Barron Center?

We state in the canvassing script that “Crime and other incidents have escalated at the present shelter.” This is undeniable. The June 2013 ESAC meeting minutes clearly shows that the Oxford Street Shelter started facing an increase in crime and other incidents alongside the rise of injection drug use and increase in shelter capacity:⁵

–Josh [O’Brien, OSS Director 2004-2014] stated that they’ve been struggling with the increase in very serious incidents at the shelter since January; critical incidents peaked this winter and into the spring time. Josh provided examples of some critical incidents that have recently occurred at Oxford Street, including serious physical altercations, fights, threats, and incidents where weapons have been involved such as bricks, needles and tasers.

-Josh stated that the increase in critical incidents have increased as the numbers [of guests] have.

-Rob [Parritt, current OSS Director] stated that they’re seeing more hand IV drug usage than ever before.

-Rob added that they’ve always been proud that they haven’t needed these additional security measures in the past, but with the sheer number of incidents, which have more than doubled, it has become an unfortunate necessity.

Moreover, according to your own Social Services Division slide deck, the City has observed: “Individuals choosing to sleep on the streets and not seeking shelter in order to continue substance use, [and] increased calls for service for PPD from assaults.”⁶

- **Follow-up Question:** Does the City acknowledge that crime and other incidents have escalated at Oxford Street Shelter (OSS) since 2013 when the opioid epidemic took root?⁵ If not, why didn’t the City issue a condemnation of the Press Herald’s “Bayside hits rock bottom” in May 2018?

¹ City of Portland. (2017). Portland’s Plan 2030: Appendices - Housing. pg. 209. Retrieved from: <http://www.portlandmaine.gov/DocumentCenter/View/18269/Portlands-Plan-2030-with-Appendices>

² Bourgois, P. and Schonberg, J. (2009). *Righteous Dopefiend*. California: University of California Press.

³ Department of Homeland Security. *Human Trafficking and the Hospitality Industry*. Retrieved from: <https://www.dhs.gov/blue-campaign/hospitalityindustry>

⁴ Drug Enforcement Agency. 2017 National Drug Threat Assessment. Retrieved from: https://www.dea.gov/sites/default/files/docs/DIR-040-17_2017-NDTA.pdf

⁵ Emergency Shelter Assessment Committee. (June 20, 2013). *Meeting Minutes*. Retrieved from: <http://www.portlandmaine.gov/AgendaCenter/ViewFile/Minutes/06202013-62>

⁶ City of Portland Social Services Division. (?). Emergency Shelter. Retrieved from: <https://www.portlandmaine.gov/DocumentCenter/View/17472/Emergency-Shelter-April-11-GPCOG-with-Maine-Towns>

Dawn Stiles (Director of HHS):

- The safety plan developed in partnership with the Portland Police Department is sound and brings more public safety staff into the area than has been in the past, thus providing a faster response time and more proactive interventions.

Canvass Group:

- **Follow-up Documentation:** Please provide documentation of this safety plan.
- **Follow-up Questions:** How many conversations has the City had with the City of Missoula Police Department (since the City cites the Poverello Center as a model for this proposed shelter)? If so, who has the City spoken to? What did the City of Missoula PD say?

We appreciate the fears and concerns, and are committed to working together to address the need for information and on-going communication. City staff will be rolling out additional information at an upcoming community forum on September 8 from 11 AM - 1PM at Hannaford Hall at the University of Southern Maine.

Sincerely,

Dawn Stiles, Director
Health & Human Services Department
City of Portland

dcs@portlandmaine.gov
207-874-8775

Canvass Group:

Thus far, there is no indication that the City genuinely appreciates our concerns. If that were true, the City would pull the proposal off the table rather than double-down.

Please understand that the Canvass Group is not synonymous with the Nason's Corner Neighborhood Association. The opposition to this proposal extends well beyond NCNA and well beyond Nason's Corner. This is not about one neighborhood not 'wanting' the shelter. This is about citizens calling out the negligence of this ill-conceived proposal as a matter of public health and urban planning.

Appendix A: Canvasser Script

Homeless Services Center - Canvasser Script

For the safety of all residents please work in pairs when canvassing your area.

Hi, my name is _____ and I am supporting the Nason's Corner Neighborhood Association.

Question 1: Have you heard about the City's proposal to build a 200-bed Emergency Homeless megashelter on the Barron Center Campus for people struggling with homelessness? We are collecting signatures to show the City Council the extent of opposition to this proposal.

- **No** - explain the Homeless Services Center proposal.
 - The City has proposed to replace the 154 bed Oxford Street Shelter that currently exist in the Bayside neighborhood with a 200 bed megashelter on the corner of Brighton and Holm Avenues.
 - Go to **Reasons Against** below.
- **Yes** - Continue to Question 2.

Question 2: Do you oppose or support this proposal?

1. **If Opposes** - That's great! We'll need all the support we can get with this issue.
 - a. Ask to sign the resolution sheet. *Important - remind them they may be asked to sign a formal petition at a later time to block this proposal.*
 - b. Ask if there is another registered voter in the household who can also sign.
2. **If Supports** - Unfortunately we do not support this proposal. Here is some additional information and we encourage you to learn more at our website PortlandShelters.org.

Reasons Against:

- a. The proposal does not follow best practices for ending homelessness. A new 200 bed shelter would warehouse individuals and not support individual needs, which is no different than the current failing Oxford St Shelter model. It does not address substance abuse, mental illness, and physical limitations that can cause homelessness.
- b. 80% of the shelter residents have substance abuse issues. Placing the proposed shelter between 2 turnpike exits in a heavily wooded area invites increased drug activity and other violent crimes.
- c. A scattered shelter model would better support the individual needs of people experiencing homelessness. This model also complies with the City's "One Portland" initiative, having the whole city share in providing the services and amenities for the homeless, instead of just one neighborhood.
- d. More than one-third of Nason's Corner households have children under 18 - the highest percentage in Portland. The neighborhood is also home to the new Rowe Elementary School which is less than a mile from the proposed site.
- e. Crime and other incidents have escalated at the present shelter. Safety issues have not been addressed or properly budgeted by this proposal.

Continue to Question 2.

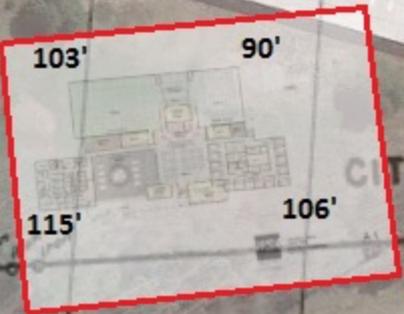
3025' TO END OF RUNWAY

50:1 APPROACH SURFACE

RUNWAY 11-29

PORTLAND WATER DISTRICT R.O.W.

CITY OF PORTLAND



ELEV. 135'

140'

145'

150'

155'

160'

165'

170'

Skyway Dr

180
ELEV. 185'

7:1 Transition Surface

CONGRESS ST

Congress St

22

State of