

**Homelessness Advisory Committee**

**Phase 2, Meeting 3**

**Friday January 22, 2021**

**11:00am - 12:30pm**

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87195939231>

Meeting Facilitators: Chris Hutchinson and Katie Huey, Trebuchet Group

**Committee Members Attending**

Seth Forwood  
Matthew Robenalt  
Brian Ferrans  
Desiree Anthony  
Dean Hoag  
Cheryl Zimlich  
Gloria Kat  
David Rout  
Joe Domko  
Julie Brewen

**Committee Members Absent**

Laura Walker

**City Staff Attending**

Honore Depew  
Beth Sowder  
Jacqueline Kozak-Thiel  
Clay Frickey  
Adam Stephens  
Jeff Swoboda  
John Feyen

**Observers:**

Sylvia Yost  
Kevin Jones

## **[10:45 - 11:00] [Pre-meeting Technology Check]**

- Join early to test video/audio and enter your username

## **11:00 - 11:10 Welcome / Meeting Start**

- Agenda review
  - Outline generated by providers - looking for clarifying questions and understanding
  - Multiple levels of satisfying of needs
- Introductions
  - Welcome to Julie Brewen - Housing Catalyst - Looking forward to listening

## **11:10 - 12:00 Shelter Amenities - Content Discussion (Key Question #1)**

- Review shared outline generated by providers

### Gaps Identified as Needing Attention First

- Men's overnight shelter
- Day Shelter
- Access to medical care - Having mental health providers on-site was a valuable lesson - hugely beneficial
- Settled on conclusion that solving for big issues first, makes it easier to solve for smaller populations knowing many populations don't fit in the men's category

### Capacity

- Want to be sure not undersized and overrun as soon as it opens - how much does the 200 plus additional 50 - 100 for men? Overshooting our capacity right now. Just this week reached 124 guests at Blue Spruce - just men - pushing at 150 pretty closely - Overshoot that to get 200 - to have flexible space that can be easily converted is wise

### Space -

- Bring in pop-up clinic, case-management, other support services
- Incorporate specialized space

### Health Care

- Is mental health implied?
- Discuss questions and comments added to outline by HAC members

### What's the preferred combination of day shelter with transition to overnight shelter capacity?

- First Tier - David - an overnight shelter for men and on same property have larger day

shelter space - not the same, but attached (maybe flexible?)

Shift some Murphy Center staff over to run day shelter and operate Murphy Center as resource center and potentially have medical services there. Not necessarily 24/7, but could be a continuum of care and only a couple of locations

- Day shelter space would need to be bigger than what we're talking about - serve as many as 250 people now - combo of shelter / people who aren't staying in shelters

What about gender - neutral? And families? And Specialized Groups?

- Want to solve for the men first, and then solve for smaller populations - providers work to honor how people self-identify as much as possible
- Catholic Charities has adequate shelter space for women and some families - a workable option ready to enact if we need to
- Families are also at Family Housing Network
- Family is defined by shelters - parent (s) / legal guardian (s) with children - at least one adult needs to be a legal guardian. We don't require both adults to be legal guardians

When intaking new guests at the Blue Spruce temp shelter, are we tracking whether they are from Larimer County, Weld CO, Boulder CO, etc.? This would seem to inform local need vs. regional need and drive the conversation about other potential partners contributing to the FC facility.

- Blue Spruce doesn't track right now
- Homeward Alliance does track this data - David says they also ask for this at Murphy Center at Intake for all guests - know where they are coming from, where they are accessing services, other agencies for Colorado HMIS, we know how long they've been in Colorado as well
- Trends are more local than in previous years - people aren't traveling, moving as much in general - disproportionately Larimer County & Fort Collins specifically
- More people usually come seeking job assistance - many jobs just disappeared
- Would expect that it would go back to  $\frac{3}{4}$  of guests identifying as from Fort Collins or Loveland and the other 25% mostly from elsewhere in CO, and some out of state.
- Out of staters - transient - people traveling through - don't see as much at The Murphy Center

24/7 Operations into Co-Location?

- Reason for phasing - the gap exists now when we aren't at Blue Spruce anymore - if we only have a certain amount of \$, location, we absolutely need to start with 24/7 as soon as possible
  - Cheryl agrees - "don't give on this yet"
- If Overnight shelter and day shelter are in the same place - could we have distinct places where you don't have to convert?
- Based on resources of overnight shelter and David saying we should keep The Murphy Center as space and build it out - now saying best approach is co-location of day and

night shelter

- Important for dignity, hygiene, cleanliness - global pandemic and beyond
- Distinct properties for overnight and day
- Is the property big enough to accommodate multiple locations?
- 24/7 operations for women at Catholic Charities?
- 24/7 operations for men at Murphy Center
  - Doesn't allow for couples to spend time together

Should space also include option for some kind of transitional/bridge housing at the same location but separate building?

- Could have living space with wraparound programs to help exit into sustainable housing
- Could address substance use

Substance Use

- Would we shelter a user?
- Assuming low-barrier shelter (need to define this in the report)

Where do we want to invest as a community?

- Many advocates - if you're putting the emphasis on housing first model - does it make sense to pour resources into transitional housing in a shelter or actual housing?
- In more fully integrated systems we've been witness to - ideal shelter solution is safe, dignified space for handling entire homeless population and those stays are short, non-recurring and get people out of there quickly
- In the system - what's the priority for shelter and goal is to keep in shelter for least amount of time
- In absence of housing supply, defacto solution has been programs in the shelter - not ideal
- Do our community assets reflect the mental model the community is using?

What about mental health?

- Assuming mental health is a partner in the space
- Access with SummitStone and Murphy Center

Transportation Routes at a minimum?

- Frequency of transit?
- Funding for contracts with z-trip or Uber?
- What does reliable mean?
- Not relying on public transit - could there be a shuttle system or private transportation incorporated?
- Safe sidewalk, bike paths for frequent foot and bike travel
- Well lit

- Tended to in the winter time
- What about walkability and multi-modal transportation?
  - Does need to be in a place where people can bike to - non-negotiable - #1 mode of transportation for guests

#### Distinction between cafeteria / commercial kitchen

- In each tier - commercial kitchen and eating area
- Could convert day shelter into eating areas
- Turning day shelter into cafeteria is not a fun process - risk of hygiene and extra work
- Evening programming - a cafeteria space could be used for this
- How is this operationalized? What is needed in terms of square footage?

#### What other components of community well being might be considered in this model?

- Not a segregated space
- Room for conference center? Community meetings? Professionals coming to the space to interact and try to reduce the stigma and use the space not just as a space where people experiencing homelessness go
- Specifically outfitted in order to host larger community events/ training/resources
- Outdoor entertainment/ movie space? Not built for tiny home project but for the whole community
- What came out of the URA survey that could be co-located?
- Recreation/Entertainment/ Community hub? Like Community First in Austin - <https://mlf.org/community-first>
- Room in the Inn - <https://www.roomintheinn.org>
- Compatibility with workforce development, child care - don't want to lose site of other community amenities that could be complementary
  - Could these items be master planned and phased?
  - Increase livability for other citizens in the area, too?
  - Hopefully what The Murphy Center would be more focused on, if we had other resources?

#### Funding

- Funding needed and community support to make all this happen
  - Operational - not just one time

#### Other

- To support the population we are serving
- Prioritize space for people serving homeless people first - then if we have capacity to have wider community gatherings / meetings / as long as we're taking care of those experiencing homelessness could expand the use

#### Perspectives on how do we facilitate / help as law-enforcement

- What's it like and how can we make it more of a positive experience?

To be defined later:


- # of showers ideal - Seth to look into
- What are commercial kitchens? Eating area?
- Core Services (showers, laundry, etc.) - if we move these, allows the Murphy Center to focus on it's original mission - a resource center - When we run day shelter, that's about all we can focus on
- How did you all think of safety/security in terms of the Shelter Amenities matrix?

### 12:10 - 12:30 Wrap Up and Next Steps

What are you taking away from this?

- Julie - You all have done a lot of work so far!
- Beth - Great discussion! Getting down into the nitty-gritty!
- David Rout - Grateful that we are getting into specifics. Nice to have such detailed conversations
- Brian - very productive meeting today, good discussion
- Seth - Feeling the momentum building
- Cheryl - Continue to dialogue
- Matt Robenalt - Before discussing site suitability, consider engaging an architect to produce a series of high level space planning scenarios that define the physical magnitude of the facility
- Dave - Thanks everyone, have a great day

### Continue - Start - Stop

Continue :	Start :	Stop :
Continuing the dialogue and getting more specific each meeting to flesh out more detail <span style="float: right; background-color: #4db6ac; border-radius: 50%; padding: 2px 5px;">5</span>	Tackle the funding conversation <span style="float: right; background-color: #4db6ac; border-radius: 50%; padding: 2px 5px;">5</span>	What we need to stop doing  
reacting to something is easier than creating it - starting with some ideas, doesn't have to be all inclusive <span style="float: right; background-color: #4db6ac; border-radius: 50%; padding: 2px 5px;">4</span>	Talk about trade offs and what is most important from our discussion today so we can hone in on a location <span style="float: right; background-color: #4db6ac; border-radius: 50%; padding: 2px 5px;">5</span>	
The outline and spreadsheet to help guide the discussion <span style="float: right; background-color: #4db6ac; border-radius: 50%; padding: 2px 5px;">4</span>	Trying to bring some of the discomfort into the conversation. I'm sure some are having it as we discuss services/amenities and it would be good to start dialoging around that now before we get into large scale planning down the road <span style="float: right; background-color: #4db6ac; border-radius: 50%; padding: 2px 5px;">5</span>	
Work on previously developed content and refine it utilizing everyone's perspectives <span style="float: right; background-color: #4db6ac; border-radius: 50%; padding: 2px 5px;">3</span>	Identify realistic funding sources that may be on the table <span style="float: right; background-color: #4db6ac; border-radius: 50%; padding: 2px 5px;">3</span>	
Discussing nitty gritty details <span style="float: right; background-color: #4db6ac; border-radius: 50%; padding: 2px 5px;">3</span>	Talking more specifically about location. <span style="float: right; background-color: #4db6ac; border-radius: 50%; padding: 2px 5px;">3</span>	
I like the format used today and how priorities are being established <span style="float: right; background-color: #4db6ac; border-radius: 50%; padding: 2px 5px;">2</span>	get active alignment on the items as we go <span style="float: right; background-color: #4db6ac; border-radius: 50%; padding: 2px 5px;">3</span>	
Free flow of ideas and thoughts <span style="float: right; background-color: #4db6ac; border-radius: 50%; padding: 2px 5px;">2</span>	Add definition of terms at some point soon so we are all talking about the same things. <span style="float: right; background-color: #4db6ac; border-radius: 50%; padding: 2px 5px;">2</span>	
Great work you all have been doing so far. Impressive next steps from the 1.0 version of this committee <span style="float: right; background-color: #4db6ac; border-radius: 50%; padding: 2px 5px;">0</span>		

