

Transitional Encampments

A city or county permitted, nonprofit operated community of soft-shelled or rigid structures on public or private land; with food preparation and meeting spaces, an in-camp governance structure and a community outreach program

Hallmarks

- People transition to better circumstances at a higher rate
- Most cost-efficient sheltering model
- No increase in crime wherever they're located
- Creates community within as it strengthens the larger community
- Interpersonal healing



Seattle Police Department has been collecting data and information about the levels of crime that occur around the permitted encampment(s). This data shows that there is no significant increase in crime.

Permitted Encampment Evaluation
June 28, 2017

Transitional Encampments

Resident Agreements

- 10 hours/week service within the program
- In-camp meeting attendance
- No alcohol/drug use*
- No weapons
- No violence **
- No theft**
- No aggressive behavior
- Observance of overnight quiet hours
- No overnight visitors
- No children, except those accompanied by guardian
- No regular disruptions
- Must participate in Case Management Program

(Three written violations lead to eviction with exception of *)

* Must participate in alcohol/drug program

** No tolerance, immediate eviction

Residents hold each other accountable for individual actions.

A grievance procedure is used to resolve conflicts.

Seattle Permitted Encampment Evaluation

Suggested Resident Criteria

- 3 tier admittance based on time within community and expressed need or vulnerability
- 1month-trial period (1m+6m+3m)
- Guests only allowed in camp during open camp hours, no overnight stays
- If requested, residents must comply with a background check or urine analysis

Infrastructure

- Portable toilets and hand wash with truck access
- Garbage/recycling with truck access
- Limited storage program
- Fire code (access, setbacks etc.)
- Fenced with controlled access
- Frontage screening
- Tents on platforms with rain shedding shelter
- Food preparation (with fire, electric, sanitation code)
- Dish washing and sanitation area
- Meeting area (common space)
- Front desk (kiosk/tent) at front gate
- Bike racks
- Outside seating (picnic tables)
- Smoking area
- Shower facility (optional)
- Space must be maintained as tidy and safe



Transitional Encampments

Operator and in-camp governance

Management guidance

- Affirms agreement enforcement
- Conducts admissions process, intake interviews
- Manages wait list
- Provides on-site manager (including camp residents)
- Monthly check-ins (distinct from case management)
- In-camp community meetings
- Maintains visitor hours
- Roster of individuals authorized to be on site

Case work program

Establishes target goals:

- Housing, sobriety, education, employment, mental & physical health

Operator responsibilities

- Interacts with governmental agencies
- Community Outreach Meetings
- Community Advisory Committee
- Operating budget
- Management plan
- Maintains infrastructure contracts
- Maintains and enforces resident agreements
- Attends monthly in-camp meetings
- Data collection (entrance, exit, case management, etc.)
- Maintain requisite insurance
- HMIS/Smart Path direction

“The governance/management model creates a shared power and decision making structure where residents participate in the adoption and enforcement of policy, assist with security and property maintenance and share experience and expertise with their peers.”

Diane Sugimura
City of Seattle Dpt. Planning &
Development



Transitional Encampments

Exit Data: Seattle and Eugene - 2016

	Seattle Intake	Seattle Depart	Eugene Depart
Street homelessness	55%	13%	15%
Shelter	24%	5%	8%
Transitional housing	3%	13%	6%
Institution	2%	2%	1%
Friends/family (temporary)	10%	2%	4%
Permanent housing	2%	26%	41%
Data not collected	4%	39%	25%

Source reports:

Eugene, Oregon City Manager's Office
Rest Stops and Opportunity Village 2016 Report
September 13, 2017

Seattle, Washington
Permitted Encampment Evaluation
June 28, 2017

Cost per Person Yearly: Seattle - 2016

3 Seattle Transitional Encampments 2016	Total	City of Seattle
Cost per person exited from the program	\$2,310	\$1,711
Cost per person exiting to perm. Housing	\$8,888	\$6,584



Transitional Encampments

Community Acceptance

Resident/neighborhood outreach meetings
Community Advisory Committee (neighborhood stakeholders)

Pilot camp project

Seattle/Eugene timelines of acceptance
Thoughtful and Innovative. Cautious yet measured.
Starts small with community input

Hallmarks

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Interpersonal healing



“Permitted encampments are not a permanent solution to the crisis of homelessness we are experiencing in Seattle.” Said Murray. “These encampments will provide a safer community environment than sleeping under a highway overpass or on a park bench. Residents will have improved access to services and we hope to open the door to permanent housing as quickly as we can.”

Mayor Murray, June 29, 2015

