



Preferred Location for Winter Shelter

JANUARY 11, 2021

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Direction Requested from City Council

Preferred Venue Location for Winter Shelter 2-15 to 3-31

1. Portion of unused C.V. Starr Community Center
2. City Hall East Gymnasium
3. Hospitality Center at 101 N. Franklin Street
4. Alternative Location as arranged for by MCHC

Typical Operations of Winter Shelter

- ▶ Until last year, only opened when weather predictions included low temperatures and/or rain.
- ▶ Hosted by Faith Community for two week periods.
- ▶ Rotating locations limited the impact to individual venues and neighborhoods.
- ▶ Check-in completed during the day at the Hospitality Center and staging at the Fort Bragg Food Bank.
- ▶ Return to the Hospitality Center by 8:00am.
- ▶ Operated from December to March.

Current Status of Winter Shelter 2020-21

- ▶ Opened on January 1, 2021
- ▶ Hosted at the Trinity Lutheran Church
- ▶ Average of 8 guests per night
- ▶ Capacity of 17 guests
- ▶ Check-in and Staging at Hospitality Center 101 N. Franklin Street
- ▶ Cleaning and COVID response plan
- ▶ Commitment from Trinity Lutheran Church until February 14, 2021

Mendocino Coast Hospitality Center

- ▶ Requested use of City Hall East Gymnasium from February 15- March 31, 2021.
- ▶ Contract with Mendocino County Continuum of Care to operate the Winter Shelter nightly from December 1, 2020 to March 31, 2021.
- ▶ End of November, concern the shelter would not open this season.
- ▶ City's Homelessness Ad Hoc Committee met on November 30, 2020 to consider options to assist the challenges MCHC faced this winter.
 - ▶ Council Approved \$15,000 in budget to subsidize the Winter Shelter wages.
 - ▶ Considered both the Gymnasium and the CV Starr as possible venues.

C.V. Starr Community Center

- ▶ Residential Neighborhood
- ▶ Surrounded by Large outdoor space
- ▶ Closed to the public but staff and limited School District functions are on site during the day
- ▶ Could interfere with ongoing maintenance & repairs
- ▶ Requires segregating Winter Shelter Operations
- ▶ Limited space in multiple rooms
- ▶ Impacts to CV Starr staff and neighborhood can be mitigated through Temporary Use Permit

City Hall East Gymnasium

- ▶ Large, open, and currently unused space
- ▶ Located in the Central Business District
- ▶ Ongoing impact to Business Community already suffering from pandemic and Stay-in-place orders
- ▶ Loitering in CBD and interference with businesses and perception of visitors
- ▶ Guest more likely to stay in CBD between Hospitality Center, Hospitality House and City Hall

Mendocino Coast Hospitality Center

- ▶ Service provider for shelter guests
- ▶ Current check-in and staging location
- ▶ No need to move shelter guests between locations
- ▶ Require a Temporary Zoning Waiver
- ▶ MCHC considers this a conflict with their current transitional residents' leases – see *letter from Paul Davis 01-10-2021*

Alternative Location as Arranged for by MCHC

- ▶ MCHC reached out to venues in the fall when there was still hope that stay at home orders and restrictions would be lifted sooner rather than later
- ▶ Venues, wanted to retain the option to be available if orders were eased
- ▶ Site identified for the month of December that was not used

Questions?