

TOWN HALL EMERGENCY UNAUTHORIZED ENCAMPMENT BAN

**CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE
AUGUST 24, 2022**



GOALS FOR TODAY



LEARN

Listen to a short presentation from City Staff providing an update on the Emergency Unauthorized Encampment Ban including:

- What the ban is and why it exists
- The need for shelter in Loveland to enforce the ban
- Details about the proposed S. Railroad site shelter
- Addressing concerns and questions



SHARE

Attendees will be invited to ask questions, and share public input to City Council and Staff:

- Two microphones available in aisleways. Please form lines and we will alternate lines to address the public.
 - Limited public forum comment criteria will exist including: 1) attendees must state their name and city of residence, 2) responses/questions will be limited to three minutes.

Town Hall Ground Rules



We respect each other's opinions

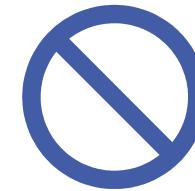
Conversation is expected to be respectful, courteous, and appropriate.



Listen to each other respectfully – Don't interrupt

Please - no outbursts during the presentation.

Write comments/questions down on your cards to keep track of what you want to ask/say instead. Then use the Q&A time to be addressed.



We refrain from personal attacks

AGENDA

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ADDRESSING QUESTIONS

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WHY ARE WE HERE

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WHAT IS THE BAN AND
PROCESS

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HOMELESSNESS IN LOVELAND

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SHELTER SELECTION PROCESS

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S. RAILROAD SITE OPTION

>

PUBLIC SAFETY/LPD

>

Q & A

>

ADJOURN





ADDRESSING THE COMMUNITY'S TOP QUESTIONS

1	Why is this happening?	6	What about our public safety concerns?
2	Why this location? What else did you consider?	7	What about those who don't want shelter?
3	Data: Who is here? Why? What do we know?	8	What does the process look like?
4	If we build shelter, won't it attract more?	9	Why is this happening so fast?
5	What are the shelter details – rules, security, etc.?	10	Why don't we get a vote?



WHY ARE WE HERE? WHY IS THIS HAPPENING?

The City has been addressing homelessness in several ways since 2019.

- Overnight Winter Shelter
- Strategic Plan Approved in 2021
- Monitoring/Cleaning Encampments

On May 17, 2022, City Council voted 8-1 to approve:

- An emergency ordinance to create an unauthorized encampment ban
 - Ordinance = local law
- A supplemental appropriation for \$500,000 to begin this effort

Why? To minimize risk to public safety and damage to public/private property, and mitigate fire risk





WHY ARE WE HERE? WHY IS THIS HAPPENING?

What does an emergency ordinance mean according to City Code?

- Requires emergency need
- Changes to approval process
- Requires 2/3 Council vote
- No public vote required by charter/state law
- Expedited timeline
- Council vote indicates immediate action

Council's direction to the City was to:

- Focus on King's Crossing vicinity to support businesses being impacted by encampments
- Move quickly, but adhere to guidance from Martin vs. Boise
- Include resource navigation to assist in connection to local support services



WHAT DOES THE UNAUTHORIZED ENCAMPMENT BAN MEAN?

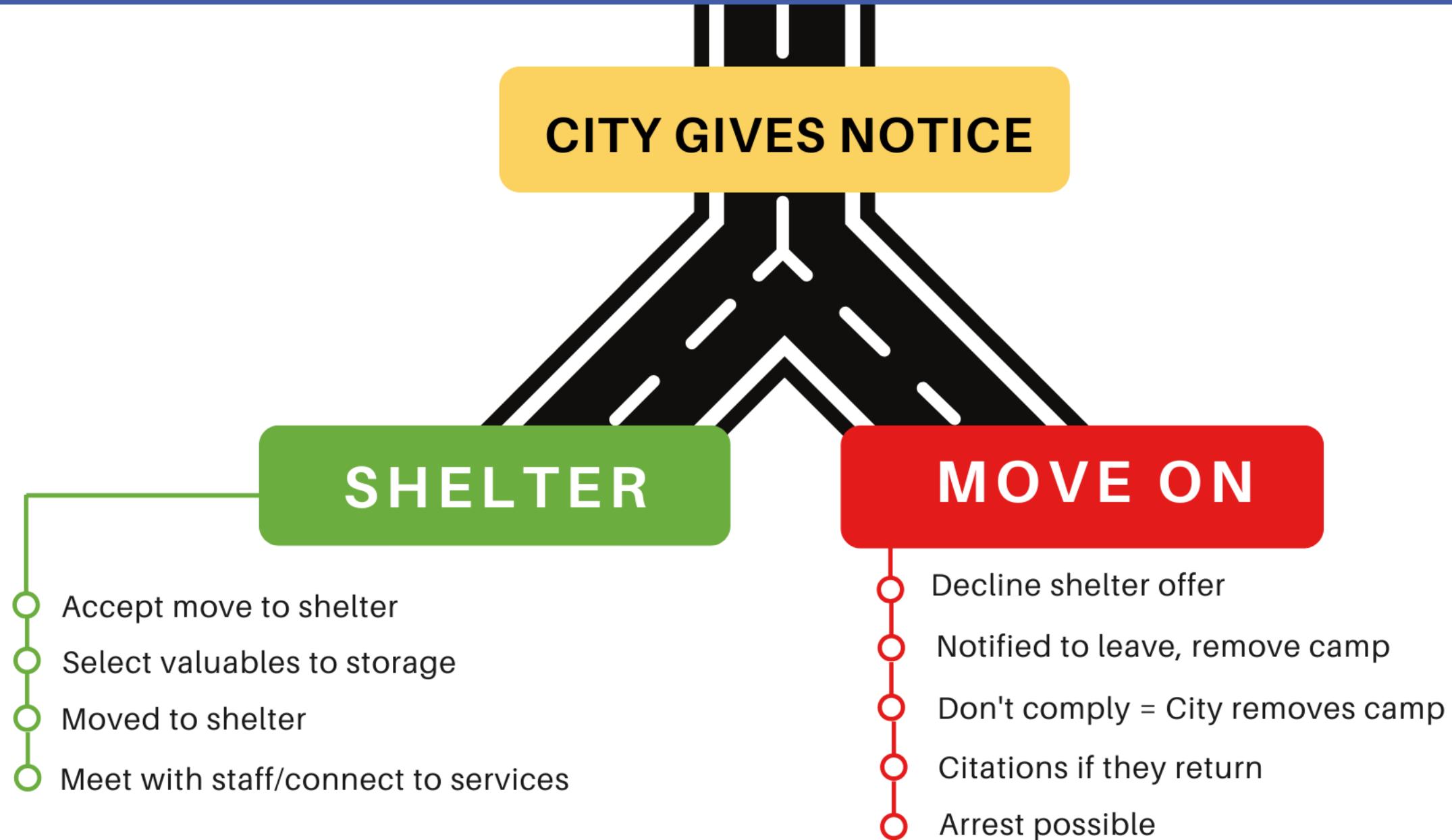
The City can now move anyone who is camping illegally on public property, IF:

- We offer them somewhere else to go (shelter)
- We provide reasonable storage for 60 days

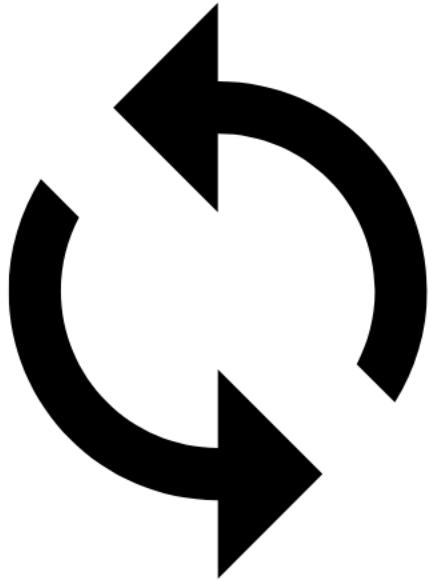


WHAT IS THE PROCESS?

THERE ARE TWO OPTIONS FOR CAMPERS ONCE THEY RECEIVE NOTICE.



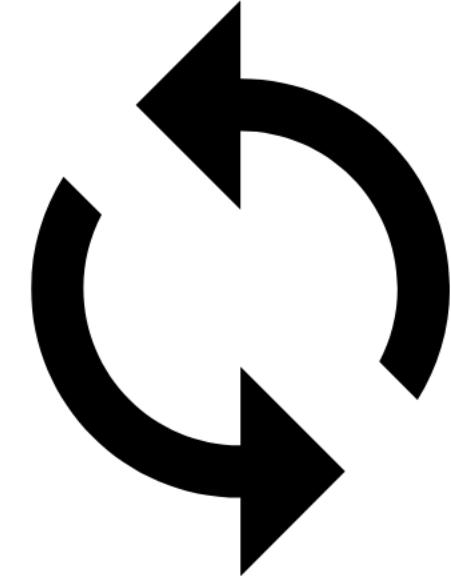
What is the process?



Enforcement



- STEP 1**
Notice
- STEP 2**
Remove/Move
- STEP 3**
Encampment Clean-Up
- STEP 4**
Site Restoration
- STEP 5**
Ready for Public Use



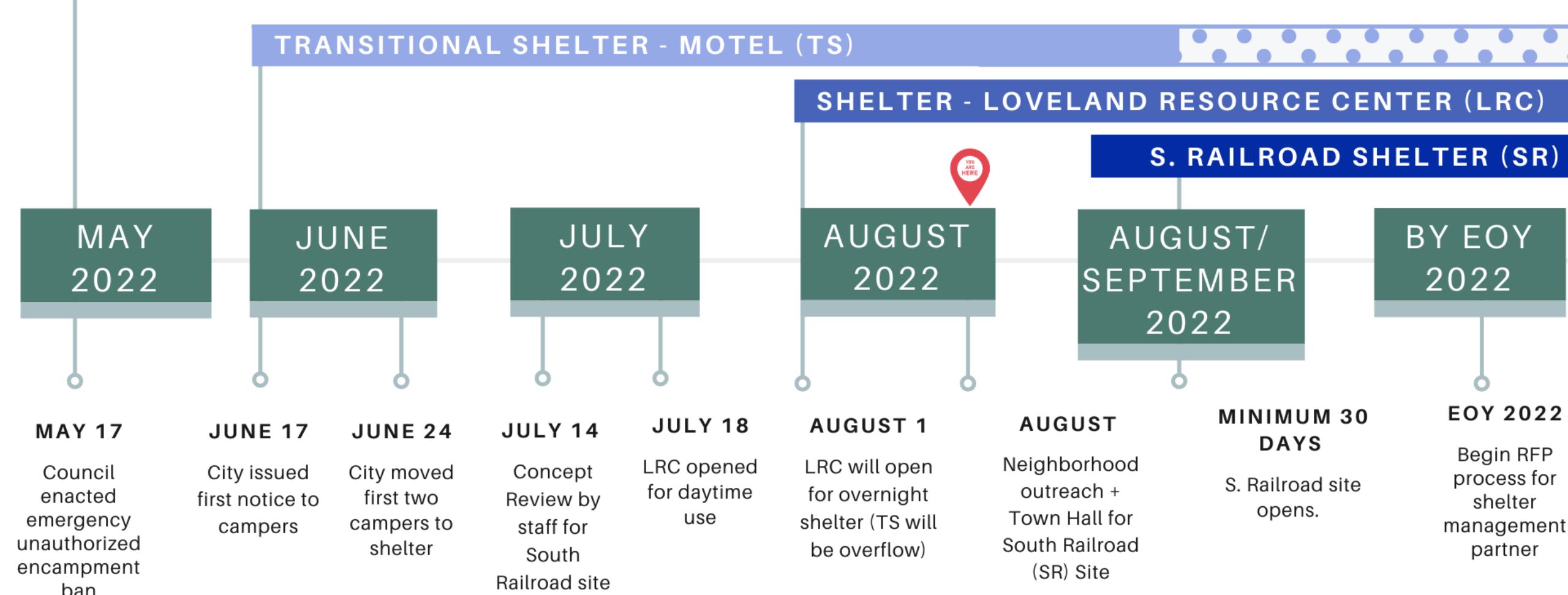
Shelter & Resource Management

MILESTONE TIMELINE

What we have done and where we are going.



PLANNING/PREPARATION FOR FULL ENFORCEMENT





— THE LARGER HOMELESS CONVERSATION

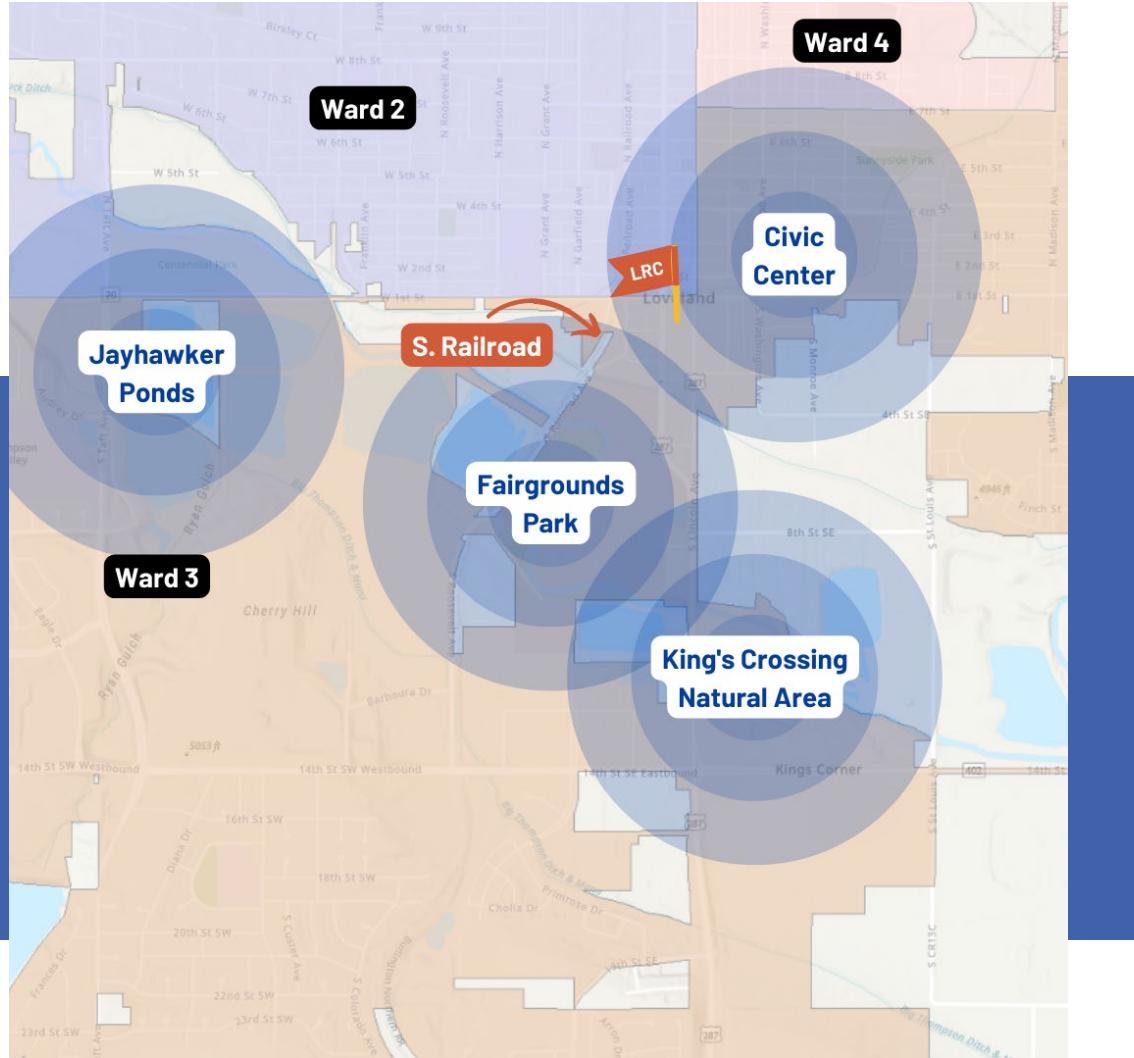
DATA: WHO IS HERE? WHY? WHAT DO WE KNOW?



- **January 2022 Point in Time Count**
 - Loveland = 169 individuals
 - 53 (37.5%) sheltered
 - 116 (62.5%) unsheltered (encampments)
 - Larimer County (554) = 34% chronically homeless
 - Larimer County (554): Substance Use Disorders or Serious Mental Illness
 - No = 55.4%
 - Yes = 44.6%
- **HMIS Tracking Opportunities** available through LRC, shelter option once available
- **What We Can't & Don't Track/Ask (without HMIS)**
 - Personal details without evidence of a crime
 - Personal details during encampment removal noticing

THE LARGER HOMELESS CONVERSATION

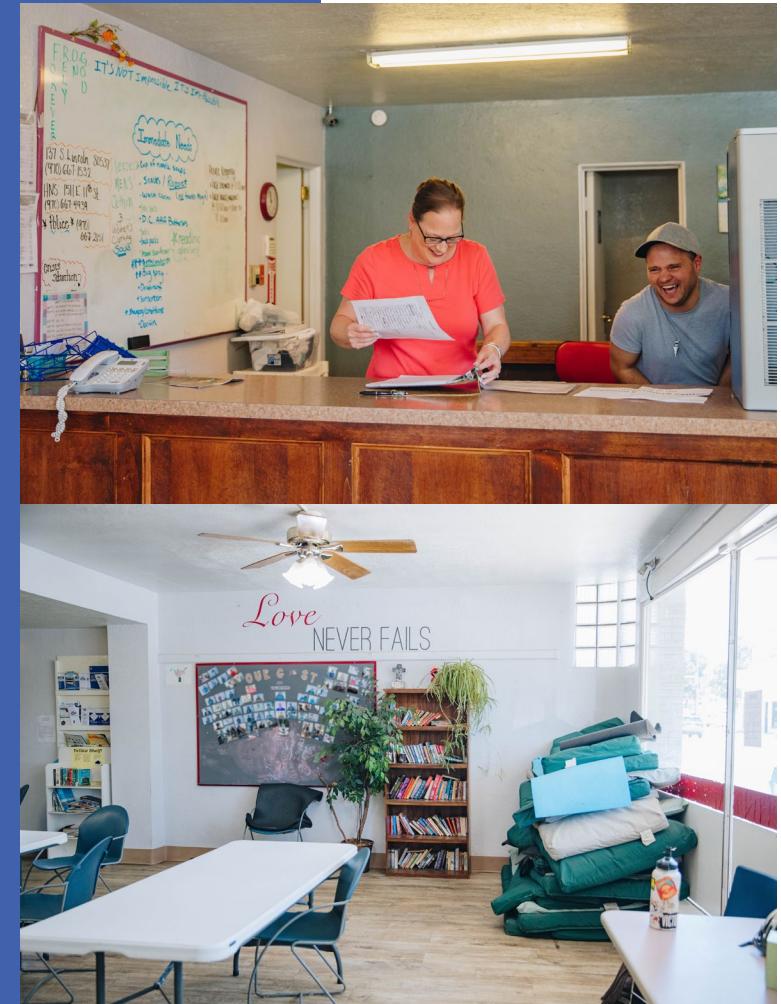
DATA: WHO IS HERE? WHY? WHERE ARE THEY?



- **What brings people here?**
 - Loveland (no year-round shelter) has seen homelessness increase from 2019-2020 by ~19% while homelessness slightly decreased in Fort Collins (multiple year-round shelters)
 - **Data and qualitative information show that camping has likely been the driver**
- **Where are they staying? Unauthorized encampments today**
 - Encampments currently spread throughout the City,
 - Most centered downtown near services, LRC and proposed site
- **Encampment Point in Time Count**
 - August 15, 2022 = 47 encampments
 - (King's Crossing, River's Edge Natural Area, Fairgrounds Park, Cottonwood Run, Civic Center)
 - Current Focus = King's Crossing
 - Cleaned to-date = 25
 - Remaining = 14
 - Individuals relocated = 31

INTRODUCING THE LOVELAND RESOURCE CENTER (LRC)

- **Why This Location?**
 - Replaces 137 Connect operated by House of Neighborly Services + City's Nightly Winter Shelter in same location for 12 years
 - Loveland-based homeless residents choosing resources/support know to come here
- **Serves Primarily a Day Center (opened July 18)**
 - Open 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Monday – Friday to anyone experiencing homelessness
 - **Overnight beds available 7 nights per week**
 - 22-25 beds in the building if needed
 - Humanitarian tents behind building (similar to S. Railroad site)
 - **Showers/laundry/restrooms/hygiene products**
 - **Computers/help accessing resources**
 - **Services provided by** Summit Stone, Northern Colorado Health Alliance, Homeward Alliance, etc.



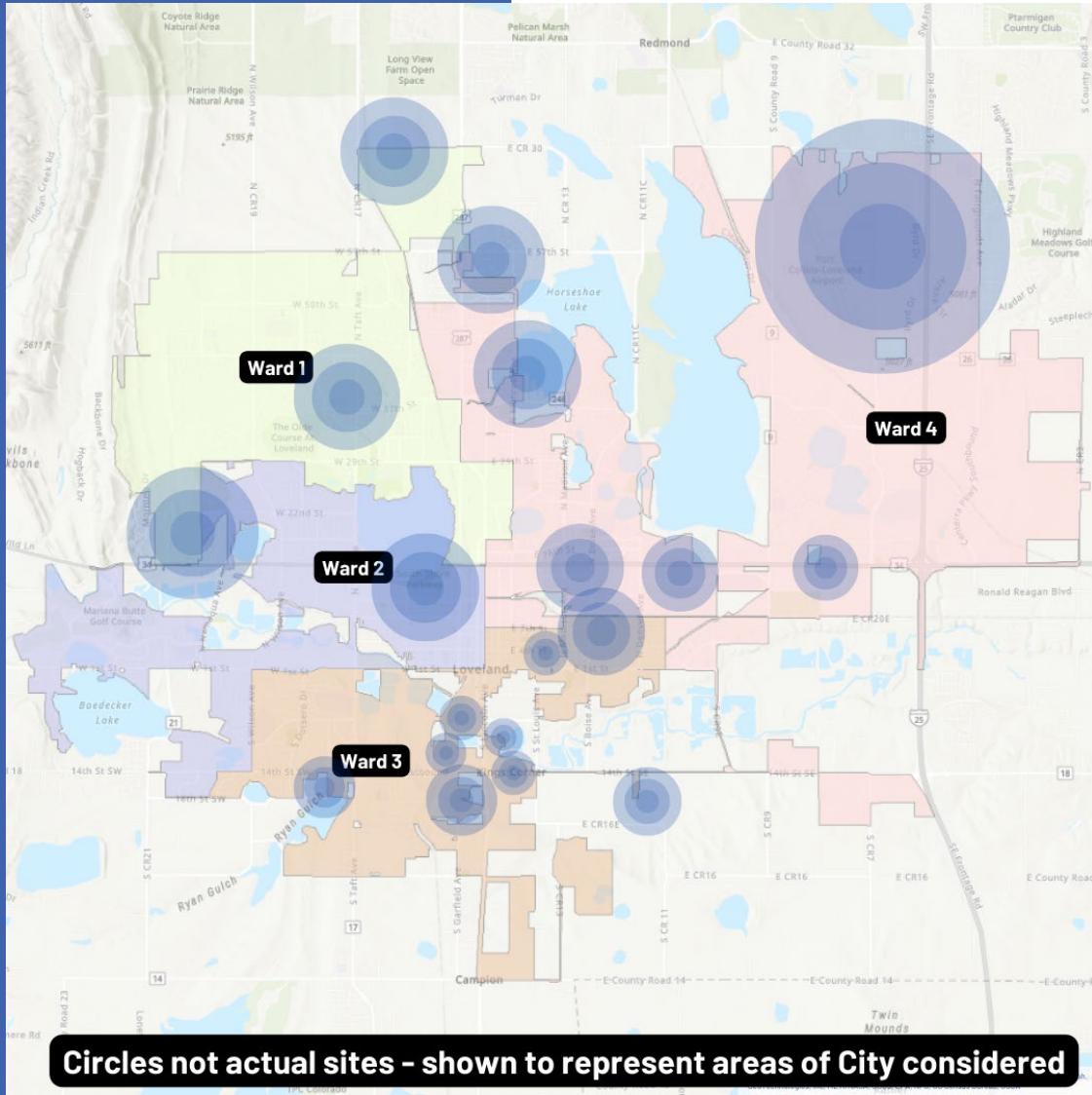
SHELTER SELECTION PROCESS

CRITERIA

- Zoning
- Site prep requirements/scalability
- Proximity to schools/neighborhoods
- Access to services + public transit
- Availability/ownership

SEARCH

- All Wards
- All City-owned property (over 50 parcels, eliminated floodplain sites)
- All private property available for lease/sale (no site met all criteria listed above)
- Property outside city limits not considered due to County zoning codes





SHELTER SELECTION PROCESS

S. RAILROAD AVE. SITE

Ultimately, there is no perfect site. S. Railroad site was the one final property available within the short timeline requested by City Council that met all the criteria:

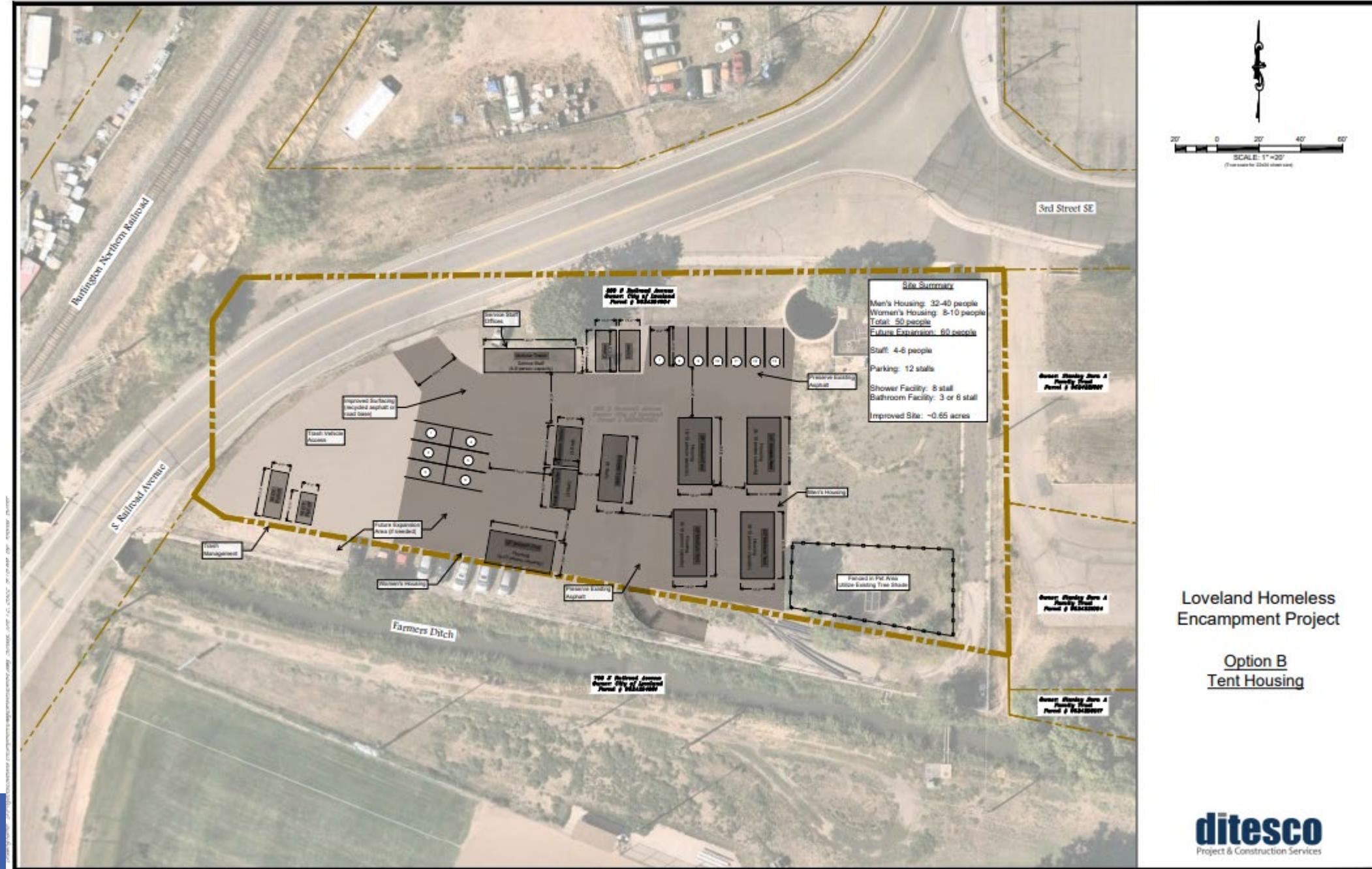
- Appropriate Zoning
- Site prep/availability/scalability (we can size up as needed)
- Relative distance from schools/neighborhoods
- Proximity to public transit + services

- **The S. Railroad Site shelter space has been approved for temporary zoning permit, which can be renewed every six months to extend use.**
- **The site will be required to abide by all development criteria needed for a temporary permit through the City's building code.**





WHAT WILL THE SHELTER LOOK LIKE?



City of Loveland

S. RAILROAD SITE

WHAT SHELTER STRUCTURES WILL BE ONSITE?



3-Stall Bathroom



8-Stall
Shower

Trailer/Modular Units

Used for admin, showers, restrooms, resource support



S. RAILROAD SITE

WHAT SHELTER STRUCTURES WILL BE ONSITE?



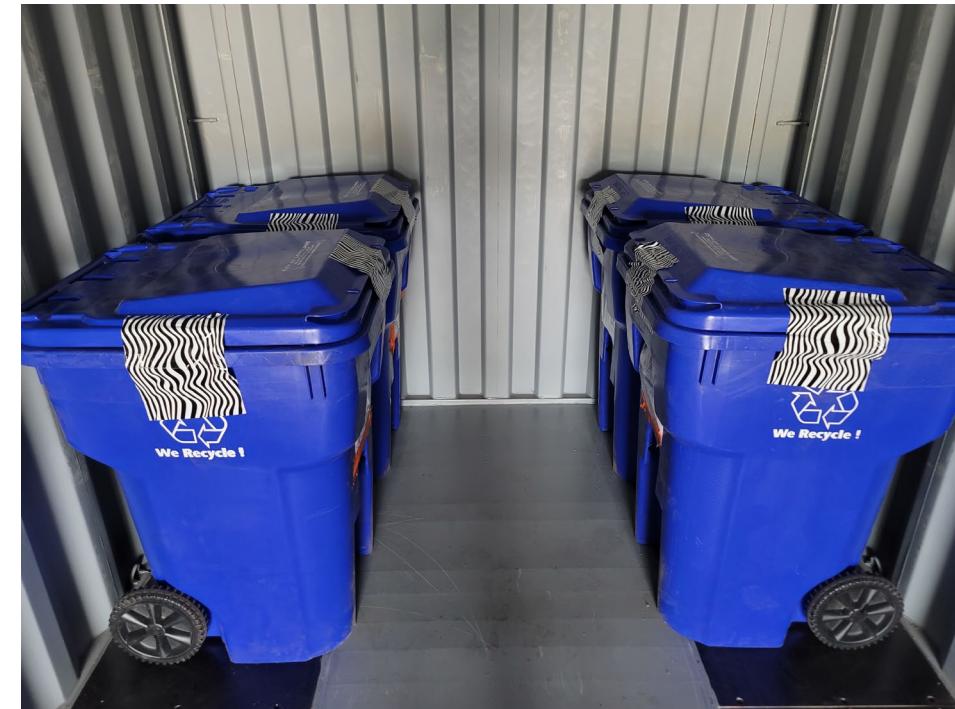
FEMA Humanitarian Tents
Used as overnight shelter space. Furniture and layout options to be finalized.

S. RAILROAD SITE

WHAT SHELTER STRUCTURES WILL BE ONSITE?

Storage

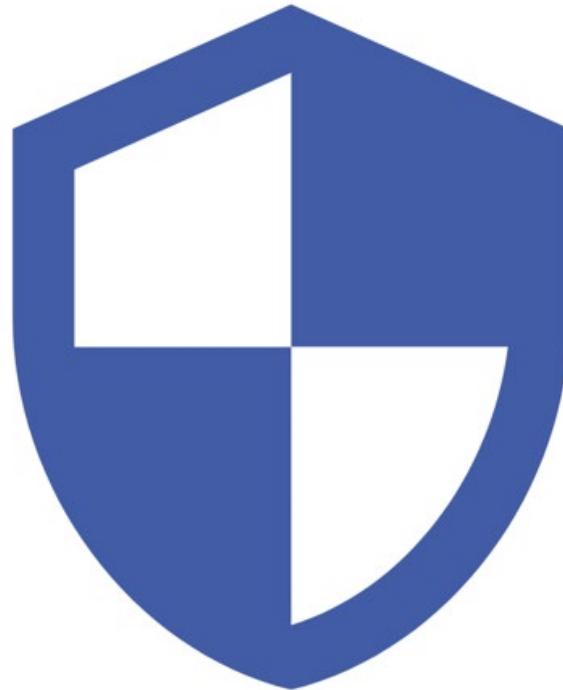
Connex storage containers holding individual storage containers will be onsite.





S. RAILROAD SITE

WHAT WILL SECURITY LOOK LIKE?



- 24/7 Security Personnel
- Security Cameras
- Screened fencing is planned to be installed around the outside of the shelter space



WHAT ARE SHELTER RULES AND POLICIES?

Shelter rules and guidelines based on best practices from experienced agencies already providing overnight shelter. Will cover:

- Admission policy – low-barrier shelter means no drug/alcohol testing required.
- Hours
- Length of stay
- Belongings
- Code of Conduct: All individuals at shelter required to sign code of conduct/rules document confirming they understand:
 - No tolerance violence
 - no threats/inappropriate behavior
 - no sexual activity
 - no non-prescription drugs or alcohol
 - no weapons
- Violations asked to leave immediately, and further consequences will be determined.



ADDRESSING PUBLIC SAFETY CONCERNS



Addressing LPD calls for service and responding to complaints:

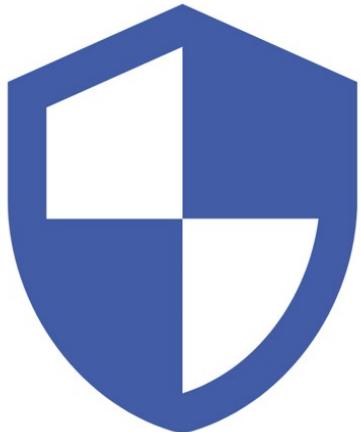
- The police department is inundated with calls and complaints regarding the homeless and other issues in the downtown area and citizens can get frustrated.
- LPD is understaffed but working to resolve that.
- All LPD calls have varying levels of what LPD can enforce
 - Decriminalization of drugs
 - LPD responds to all call calls for service
 - Due process requirements

LPD by the #'s Downtown

- 3,818 calls (1st to 7th Streets and Madison to Grant avenues) January – August 15, 2022
 - Top 11 reasons = Abandoned vehicles, extra patrol, welfare check, suspicious circumstance, assist citizen, transient, assist business, disturbance, mental health, alarm, disorderly conduct



ADDRESSING PUBLIC SAFETY CONCERNS



LPD's Community Engagement Unit

- Part-time unit, pending 2023 budget request to make it full time with multiple officers
- Serve as part of City's response team and assist in the interaction between downtown residents/businesses and homeless individuals

Interactions with Homeless Population

- LPD deals with a small % of those in Loveland
- Being homeless is not illegal, but behaviors can be
- Traditional law enforcement has proven not to work with this part of our population
 - Require additional follow-up, consistency and approach + case management

These calls require a different approach than regular LPD calls.

Help by reporting things when they see them.
970-667-2151 or 911 for emergencies.

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City of Loveland

THANK YOU & NEXT STEPS



City of Loveland