



Public Hearing for Bridge Housing for Persons Experiencing Homelessness with Mental Health Needs

Public Hearing Pursuant to A.R.S. 36-136(C)

October 12, 2021

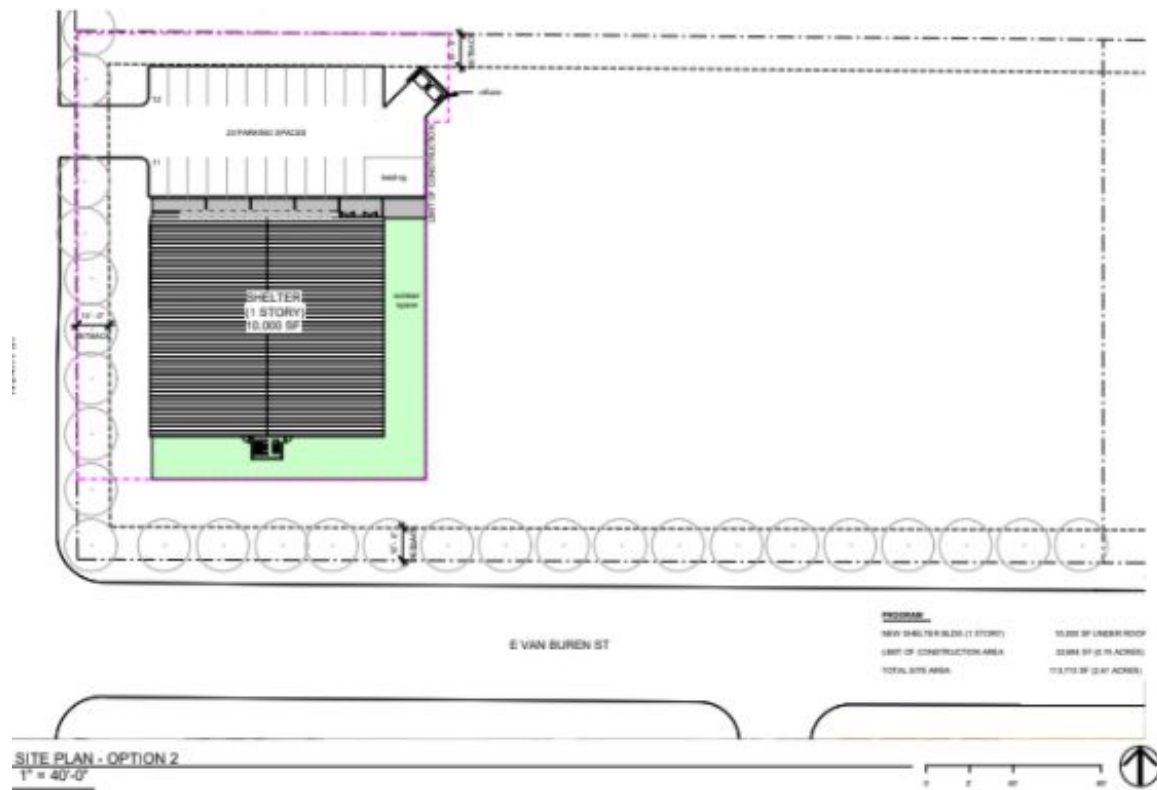
A.R.S. Section 36-136(C)

- State law outlines steps to enhance the use of the state hospital property including contracting with third parties to provide services, and entering into agreements to develop the land and buildings.
- A.R.S. Section 36-136(C) requires that, at least 30 days before issuing a request for proposals, a public hearing be held to receive community and provider input regarding the highest and best use of the state hospital property related to the RFP.

Arizona State Hospital

- Today's hearing pertains only to the proposed planned use of a one-acre portion of Bower Park located on the Arizona State Hospital (ASH) campus.
- While sited on the ASH Campus, the proposed facility will **not** operate under any oversight by the ASH nor will there be any connection to any of the programs offered through the ASH.

Location



Located on Bower Park on the ASH Campus, at the Southwest Corner of the Campus at 24th Street and Van Buren

Proposed Site Use

Program:

- A campus providing two functions
 - Bridge housing facility,
 - Separate (physically attached) outpatient behavioral health service setting.

Housing Facility:

- Separate entrance from parking lot,
- Capacity for approximately 70 beds (w/privacy),
- Residents not required to be in treatment to access housing services,
- 24/7 shelter staff for supervision and security, and
- Access by referral only, no loitering or walk-up services.

Proposed Site Use, continued

Housing Facility (continued):

- Common areas for reception, food service (no food preparation on site), laundry, conference/group activity rooms, patio; personal storage; private space for delivery of wrap-around supportive services and home-based services.

Outpatient Provider - Behavioral Health Services:

- Separate entrance from parking lot, reception, offices, treatment rooms
- RFP Offerors may propose specific clinical use/services to support housing residents (at their option) as well as general community.

Anticipated Timeline (Subject to Change)

- **On or about November 12, 2021** - Release RFP for housing operator
- **Mid-March, 2022** - Award RFP
- **April 1, 2022** - Begin construction
- **October 1, 2023** - Begin operations

Project Goals

Prior to 2020, Arizona's homeless population increased > 11% over last three recorded years including 45% rise in unsheltered individuals and 12% increase in chronic populations due to lack of capacity in shelters and affordable housing

This proposal addresses three community and service priorities:

- Need for capacity to address increasing street and unsheltered homelessness for persons with mental health needs,
- Need for longer term option with specialized intensive peer and home and community based supportive services to address complex needs of target population, and
- Interest in decreasing the number of homeless persons with mental health needs and increasing the number of persons served in permanent supportive housing with wraparound services.

Public Comments

Please use one or more of the following options to submit comments:

- Voice your input during today's public hearing:
 - Raise your hand in the Zoom meeting,
 - Once unmuted, state your name and organization, and
 - Limit comments to 5 minutes.
- Insert your comment in the chat feature (include name and organization),
- Submit written comments through **November 1, 2021** by emailing AHCCCS at publicinput@azahcccs.gov.
 - Remember to include your name and organization.

Questions?

Thank You.