

EMERGENCY TEMPORARY SHELTERS INTERIM REGULATIONS

Planning & Development Services

Overview

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- Historical and Regulatory Context – Homeless Shelters
- Sheltering Response to Emergency Declaration
- Outline of Proposed Regulations
 1. City Emergency Authority
 - Six-month extension
 2. Other Organizations (Religious and Non-profit)
 - Modify existing code to add flexibility
- Outreach Strategy

Historical and Regulatory Context

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- RCW 35A.21.360 (2010):
 - Religious organizations have authority to host temporary encampments
 - Local government regulations must focus on public health and safety
 - Permit fees limited to the actual review costs

Historical and Regulatory Context

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- Ordinance No. 28216 (2014):
 - ▣ Allows faith-based organizations (FBOs) to host temporary encampments based on state law
 - ▣ Fairly restrictive based on extent and nature of requirements, cost of permitting
 - ▣ To date, only used once (and it was for an indoor facility)

Response to Emergency Declaration

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What We've Heard

- ❑ Many FBOs, non-profits, and other organizations want to be part of the solution
- ❑ The existing code is a barrier
- ❑ Extend City authority for Stabilization Site
- ❑ Size and style of camps will vary

Outline of Regulations

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1. City Authority

- Six-month extension of the interim regulations adopted under Ordinance No. 28432, which provides the City the authority to operate temporary homeless shelters during declared emergencies

Outline of Regulations

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2. Other Organizations

- Modify the interim regulations to include amendments to the existing Zoning Code (TMC 13.06.635.B.4) to provide more flexibility for religious and non-profit organizations to host temporary shelters

Outline of Regulations

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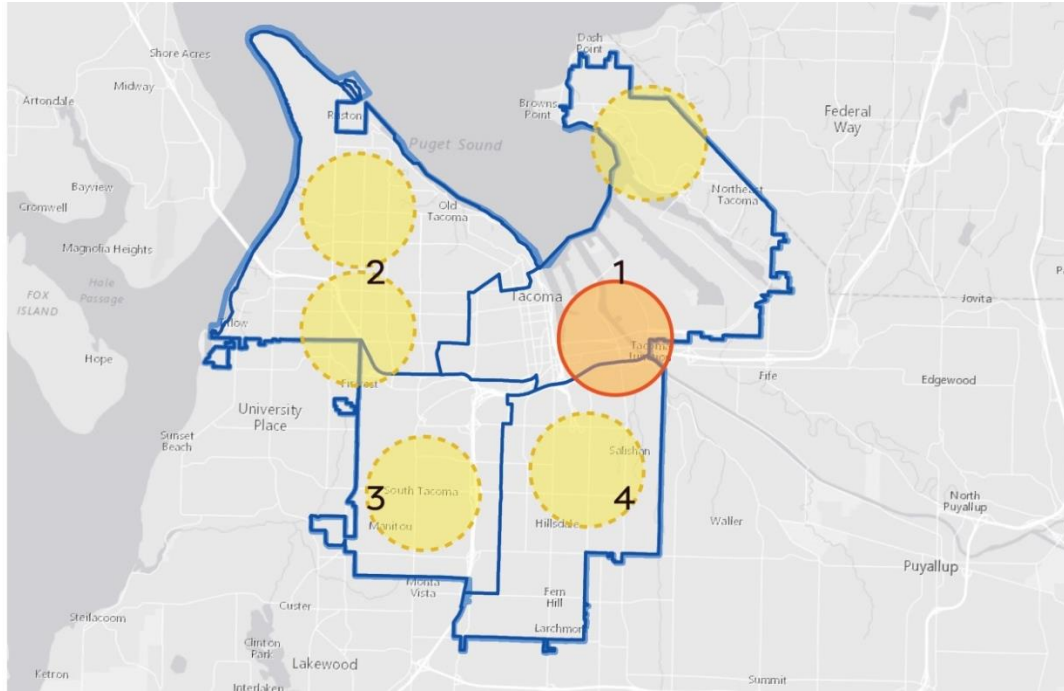
2. Other Organizations

□ Key Code Changes:

- Allows for non-profit organizations
- Increases maximum number of camps from 2 to 6; adds limitation of no more than 2 in any given Police Sector at a time, and required dispersion of at least 1-mile
- Increase maximum duration for each camp from 93 to 185 days
- Allows extension for inclement weather beyond 40 days
- Changes recurrence period from 2-years to 6-months
- Increases minimum distance to transit stop from 1/4-mile to 1/2-mile
- Allows children if accompanied by a parent/guardian
- Clearly allow for indoor sheltering

Number of Shelter Locations

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Maximum of 6, no more than 2 per police sector, 1 mile apart

Outline of Regulations

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2. Other Organizations

- ❑ Existing and Unchanged Code Elements:
 - ❑ Allowed in all zoning districts/areas, except for Shoreline Districts, critical areas and their buffers
 - ❑ Temporary Use Permit Required (includes 14-day public notice to 400-foot radius and PDS Director permit decision)
 - ❑ Maximum occupancy per camp: 100 residents
 - ❑ Warrant and background checks are required for prospective residents
 - ❑ Operation must provide a security plan and appropriate emergency facilities and access
 - ❑ Operation must provide facilities for potable water, sanitation, hand washing, showers, food preparation, garbage collection, parking, etc.
 - ❑ Operation must include services to assist residents in finding more permanent housing solutions

Outreach Strategy

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□ Faith-Based Organization Outreach

- ▣ NCS and PDS staff attended Sept 21st quarterly Associated Ministries meeting
- ▣ Survey sent out to Faith-Based Organizations
- ▣ Continue outreach to additional and diverse church communities

□ Features of Implementation

- ▣ Educate on fee waivers for permit fees
- ▣ Conduct workshops to educate FBOs on permit process, expectations, and resources
- ▣ Coordinate with Associated Ministries on their RFP to ensure it supports and enhances current sheltering efforts
- ▣ Study and integrate lessons learned from stabilization site into permanent regulations

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