



CITY OF REDMOND
Redmond City Council

411 SW 9th St
Redmond OR 97756

October 26, 2023

Via email

Deschutes County Board of Commissioners
1300 NW Wall Street
Bend, OR 97701

RE: Redmond Eastside Homeless Campus

Dear Commissioners,

On behalf of my fellow City Councilors, thank you for coming to Redmond for our joint meeting on October 17. We enjoyed having a face-to-face dialogue between the Board of Commissioners and the City Council. We are equally excited about the upcoming land exchange between the County and the Department of State Lands.

If we can help in that endeavor, you can certainly count on us to do so.

One of the components to a successful exchange, is providing a safe alternative for the homeless persons who are now residing on the Deschutes County land as well as on our streets in Northeast Redmond. To date, the County has identified the 45-acre parcel adjacent to CORE3 and north of Oasis Village and the anticipated RV facility to be constructed by Mountain View Community Development, as a site for the managed camp.

However, to give it the best opportunity to succeed, the 45-acre parcel requires the County and City determine how to assure this location will work from a managed camp perspective. After seeing the disruptive behavior occurring on Juniper Ridge and along China Hat Road, we believe that an appropriate investment in proper management, including the provisions of necessities (trash, port-a-potties, water etc.) is key to having this future site safe not only for those who live there but also for those on adjoining properties.

It is our understanding, that a sub-group of the Coordinated Houseless Response Office is identifying in greater detail, the component investments that should be a part of a managed camp. We look forward to reviewing those recommendations and to working with the County and State to make sure managed camps have all the necessary resources and services to make them safe for both dwellers, service providers, and first responders.

Enclosed is an excerpt of a model for a safely managed program. This is the model program that the Board sent to Governor Kotek's office earlier this year.

We would like to move this forward on a pace that will have the detail of the camp established along with the appropriate funding by June 30, 2024. As we noted at our joint meeting, we are hoping to have SE 21st St. constructed next year to make access to CORE3, Oasis Village, the anticipated RV facility as well as a managed camp feasible to go along with the exchange.

We look forward to working with you.

Once again thank you for your support and leadership.

With warm regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ed Fitch', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Ed Fitch
Mayor
Redmond, Oregon

cc: Tammy Baney