



# REQUEST FOR COUNCIL ACTION

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**Title:** Information Only: Update regarding FAC Facility

**Preferred Agenda:** February 22, 2022

**Submitted By:** Blair Larsen, City Manager Pro Tem

**Reviewed By:** Blair Larsen, City Manager Pro Tem

**Type of Action:** Resolution \_\_\_\_ Motion \_\_\_\_ Roll Call \_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_

**Relevant Code/Policy:** N/A

**Towards Council Goal:** Aspiration I, desirable community; Aspiration IV, viable and sustainable essential services; Aspiration V, economically strong environment; Goal 3: essential services.

**Attachments:** Memo to County Commissioners Re: Land Donation to FAC and attachment

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## **Purpose of this RCA:**

The purpose of this Request for Council Action is to update the Council on actions regarding the proposed agreement with Family Assistance and Resource Center Group (FAC), and the development of a facility for the unsheltered in Sweet Home.

## **Background/Context:**

At the February 8, 2022 meeting, the City Council voted to request that Linn County donate property directly to FAC, and that City Staff continue to work with FAC on an agreement for services. Since that time, Staff have been working with Linn County to work out details for the donation of the property. Staff have also been working with FAC to update the previous agreement to fit the current situation.

## **The Challenge/Problem:**

How does the City address the impacts of homelessness in a way that meets the needs of the housed, unhoused, and business community, while still following case law and State statutes?

## **Stakeholders:**

- Sweet Home Residents – Residents deserve a neat, clean, and orderly city. Unsheltered residents need a place to sleep and keep warm.
- Sweet Home Businesses – Local businesses deserve a city in which they can operate their businesses and serve customers in the community without the negative impacts that typically accompany homelessness.
- Sweet Home City Council – Council members are the voice of the citizens they serve and represent and are responsible for determining the uses and services offered on City property.

- City of Sweet Home Staff – City Staff need to be able to enforce Sweet Home ordinances but are prevented from doing so by court decisions and State law.
- Family Assistance and Resource Center Group – FAC desires to serve the unsheltered and others in the community, but needs a site from which to do so, and would like to cooperate with the City to do this.

**Issues and Financial Impacts:**

FAC has obtained grant funding of over \$400,000 to create and operate the proposed facility. This funding will cover all development costs except for Public Works Staff time, the value of which is expected to amount to \$15,000. The City budgeted \$50,000 in the current fiscal year to address homelessness, of which \$42,700 remains. This funding would be tapped to pay for Public Works Staff time. In addition, the City would commit to providing nighttime security at the site, which is expected to cost approximately \$88,000 annually.

**Elements of a Stable Solution:**

An ideal outcome would be to partner with a non-profit organization for the creation and operation of a facility that provides services for the unsheltered, which would allow the City to follow court decisions and State statutes, but still enforce ordinances that promote a safe, clean, and orderly community.

**Options:**

City Staff are not currently seeking any Council action, however, as always, the Council is welcome to provide any additional direction it so chooses.

**Recommendation:**

None at this time.