

## **The Oregonian**

### **Salvation Army women's shelter closes from incomplete, vague application for funding**

*By Molly Harbarger*

*June 17, 2019*

The loss of public funding for one of Portland's long-standing homeless shelters will leave about 80 women needing a new place to stay by the end of July.

The Salvation Army's incomplete or vague answers on a new application for taxpayer money means its shelter for single homeless women must close this summer.

The Salvation Army Female Emergency Shelter, known as SAFES, has been a presence downtown since 1999 when it started to house single homeless women.

It began to get money in 2008 from the Portland Housing Bureau. But that changed when the Joint Office of Homeless Services, created as the city and Multnomah County consolidated homeless services, devised a more robust application process.

The Salvation Army's shelter didn't make it to the second round. Reviewers said shelter officials didn't provide adequate answers to questions about trauma that homeless women face, equity issues and how the shelter works with other organizations to help women move from the streets to permanent housing.

"Does not describe knowledge of the various types of trauma experienced by SAFES participants and staff, and how that knowledge translates into programming and policies, or the delivery of services," one reviewer wrote.

The application scored a 63 percent -- seven percentage points shy of what was needed to advance.

On Monday, a Joint Office staff member began interviewing the women to find either a shelter or other type of temporary or permanent housing for them.

The closure will not reduce the total number of homeless shelter beds in the Portland area as new shelters open this summer and temporary shelters are extended.

Nancy Dihle, the CEO for Salvation Army's Oregon and Southern Idaho operations, was upbeat about the decision. She said the Salvation Army officials who filled out the application were unprepared for the rigor of this year's process and that she hopes to be more competitive in the next contract process, which the Joint Office head said will likely happen next fiscal year.

"We've been here since the 1960s and we've been serving men and woman on the streets of Portland since then and we want to continue to do that," Dihle said.

"We're just looking to the future," she said. "This may have given us a reason to stop and reassess and be really healthy as we move forward."

The Portland women's shelter has run into criticism before for its treatment of women who stay there and handling of a transgender woman's case in 2017. After her Twitter thread went viral, listing complaints about verbal abuse from staff and poor facilities, Salvation Army officials said they would do better.

However, the application reviewers found answers that specifically asked for detail about how the shelter staff deal with diverse racial, ethnic, sexual and gender identities lacking.

“Made statements to be committed to equity and inclusion, but nothing to back that up,” wrote a reviewer.

In the application, officials wrote that the shelter has \$103,548 in deferred maintenance funds and Salvation Army’s Portland area operations has a total capital reserve in the amount of \$473,254.

The women’s shelter isn’t able to operate solely on private funding, Dihle said.

A domestic violence shelter and 35 single-room occupancy units run by the Salvation Army will continue to stay open and funded by the Joint Office.

Dihle said officials are considering converting one floor of the SAFES space to dormitory-style housing to expand those parts of the Salvation Army’s programming.

While the overnight shelter didn’t require women to be clean and sober, the single-room occupancy units do.

## **The Portland Tribune**

### **Council to vote on controversial tenant reforms Wednesday**

*By Jim Redden*

*June 16, 2019*

#### **Despite changes from the original versions, landlord organization still opposes proposals by Commissioner Chloe Eudaly**

The City Council is scheduled to vote on the most recent versions of Commissioner Chloe Eudaly's newest tenant reform proposals on Wednesday, June 19.

Even though they were amended during a June 12 council hearing, both measures are still controversial. They are supported by many renters and housing rights advocates but opposed by many landlords, their organizations and some developers. The city attorney's office also has identified potential legal problems with some of the provisions.

The measures are intended to increase housing availability people who have been historically marginalized by regulation the application process, preventing landlords from refusing to rent to people with criminal convictions in some cases, limiting how much income landlords can require tenants to earn, imposing rules on security deposits, and more.

Tenant advocates say they reforms are necessary to prevent discrimination. Landlord advocates says state and federal laws already prohibit such discrimination, and the new requirements will increase rents and reduce the amount of rental housing.

"Nothing significantly changed for us," Multifamily NW Executive Director Deborah Imse said about the amendments adopted on June 12th. Imse's organization represent both small and large landlords in Portland. She says the cost of administering the proposed requirements and potential liability for not complying with them will prompt many landlords to sell their properties.

The City Attorney's Office has issued an opinion that says some of the provisions are vulnerable to court challenges that could requirement the city to pay the plaintiff's attorney's fees.

The proposals are items 613 and 614 on the council's June 19 agenda [here](#).

## **Danger lingers on Foster despite completed PBOT project**

*By Zane Sparling  
June 17, 2019*

### **The celebration of the Foster Transportation and Streetscape Project was marred by a pedestrian death**

The Portland Bureau of Transportation reached the finish line for the Foster Transportation and Streetscape Project — but the Thursday, June 13 celebration was marred by the death of a pedestrian on the same stretch of road later that night.

Louanna Battams, 82, was fatally struck while walking in an unmarked crossing on Foster near 71st Avenue, just a few blocks from the site of the press conference heralding the \$9 million in improvements.

Battams lived in the neighborhood, and the involved motorist was not charged. Compounding the dark juxtaposition, a man and a woman also died Thursday night in a rollover crash on Interstate 405.

The so-called Foster "road diet" extends from Southeast 50th Avenue to the western edge of the Lents Town Center at 90th Avenue.

Work included 69 new curb ramps, street trees and ornamental lighting, a center turn lane and bike lanes between 52nd and 90th, median refuges with flashing beacons in six locations, traffic signals, repaving and expanding sidewalks from five to nine feet in width.

"The changes to the street and urban design transformed Foster Road from a high speed, auto-oriented corridor," PBOT said, "into a more balanced streetscape that is safer and more accessible for people walking, biking, taking transit and driving."

## **Your City Hall: Council mulls data privacy protections**

*By Jim Redden  
June 18, 2019*

### **Resolution to be considered Wednesday intends to put Portland at the forefront of public privacy protections**

WHAT IS HAPPENING? The City Council will consider adopting Data Privacy and Information Protection Principles on Wednesday, June 19.

If the resolution is approved, the city will convene an internal work group to develop a 12-month work plan to direct the implementation of the principles, and to involve the community in the development of specific short- and long-term privacy policies, as well as the identification of resources to continue the work.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT? All governments are collecting, storing and using more and more data on the people they represent. The amount of data and potential uses are increasing with advancing technologies, such as the coming 5G wireless communication network, which is anticipated to drive a number of Smart City PDX programs in Portland.

Leaks of such data by governments and businesses already have put many people at risk of identity theft and other serious problems. Portland wants to lead the way in becoming a more trusted steward of such data as it plans to take advantage of emerging technologies. This is especially necessary for protecting marginalized communities. The proposed principles were developed by Smart City PDX, Mayor Ted Wheeler's office and the Office of Equity and Human Rights.

**WHAT ARE THE PROPOSED PRINCIPLES?** The resolution to be considered by the council includes the following:

- **Transparency and accountability:** How the city uses, manages and collects information is described clearly, accurately and shared in an accessible way.
- **Full lifecycle stewardship:** Data, metadata and information will be secured and protected throughout its life cycle.
- **Equitable data management:** The city will prioritize the needs of marginalized communities when designing or implementing data-related programs, services and policies.
- **Ethical and nondiscriminatory use of data:** The city has an ethical responsibility to provide good and fair stewardship of data and information.
- **Data openness:** Data, metadata and information managed by the city and by third parties working on behalf of the city that are made accessible to the public must comply with all applicable legal requirements and not expose any confidential, restricted, private, personal information or aggregated data that may put communities, individuals or sensitive assets at risk.
- **Automated decision systems:** The city will create procedures for reviewing, sharing, assessing and evaluating automated decision system tools.
- **Data utility:** All information and data processes must bring value to the city and the communities the city serves.

**WHAT CAN I DO?** You can read the resolution and supporting materials at the agenda link of the city's website at <http://www.portlandoregon.gov>. You also can find contact information for all council members there.

## **Further Reading (Linked Below)**

### **Cities Start to Question an American Ideal: A House With a Yard on Every Lot**