



CITY OF
TUMWATER

**CITY COUNCIL WORKSESSION
MEETING AGENDA**

**Online via Zoom and In Person at
Tumwater Fire Department
Headquarters, EOC, 311 Israel Rd. SW,
Tumwater, WA 98501**

**Tuesday, July 25, 2023
6:00 PM**

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
- [3.](#) TOGETHER! Host Homes Pilot Program / Stay Home Program Project Update (Lisa Parks and Tami Mason Lathrop, TOGETHER! Host Homes Director)
- [4.](#) Discussion of Park Naming Process (Chuck Denney)
5. Mayor/City Administrator's Report
6. Adjourn

Meeting Information

All Councilmembers will be attending remotely. The public are welcome to attend in person, by telephone or online via Zoom.

Watch Online

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84951973249?pwd=TCt5Y0NETmVrQINLS2xaallBem00dz09>

Listen by Telephone

Call (253) 215-8782, listen for the prompts and enter the Webinar ID 849 5197 3249 and Passcode 582653.

Public Comment

The public may submit comments by sending an email to council@ci.tumwater.wa.us, no later than 4:00 p.m. the day of the meeting. Comments are submitted directly to the Councilmembers and will not be read individually into the record of the meeting.

Post Meeting

Video recording of this meeting will be available within 24 hours of the meeting.

<https://tcmedia.org/stream.php>

Accommodations

The City of Tumwater takes pride in ensuring that people with disabilities are able to take part in, and benefit from, the range of public programs, services, and activities offered by the City. To request an accommodation or alternate format of communication, please contact the City Clerk by calling (360) 252-5488 or email CityClerk@ci.tumwater.wa.us. For vision or hearing impaired services, please

contact the Washington State Relay Services at 7-1-1 or 1-(800)-833-6384. To contact the City's ADA Coordinator directly, call (360) 754-4128 or email ADACoordinator@ci.tumwater.wa.us

TO: City Council
FROM: Lisa Parks, City Administrator
DATE: July 25, 2023
SUBJECT: TOGETHER! Host Homes Pilot Program / Stay Home Program Project Update

1) Recommended Action:

No action is required. This is an update only.

2) Background:

TOGETHER! Host Homes Director Tami Lathrop will provide a final update on the Host Homes Pilot Program / Stay Home Program Project.

The City entered into a multi-year contract in 2021 to help house unaccompanied youth. The contract will close out August 31, 2023, after providing financial support for the last two school years. As part of the contract requirements, TOGETHER! will provide a final update on the program. The goal of the program was to create and facilitate a safe, short-term, housing option for unaccompanied adolescents and young adults within the Tumwater School District and to match those students with Host Families in their community. This program is a shelter diversion program and meant to provide youth with an option for short-term housing in the continuum of youth services.

3) Policy Support:

VISION | MISSION | BELIEFS

- Opportunity | We seize opportunities to improve our community's social, environmental, and economic well-being. We endeavor to realize positive opportunities in adverse situations and periods of change.

Strategic Priorities and Goals 2023-2024

- Build a Community Recognized for Quality, Compassion and Humanity
 - Support housing stability policies/programs
-

4) Alternatives:

This is an update only.

5) Fiscal Notes:

There is no cost associated with this update. The total contract with TOGETHER! for the pilot program was \$100,000.00 (\$50,000.00 per school year 2021-2022 and 2022-2023.)

6) Attachments:

A. TOGETHER! Host Homes Pilot Program Quarter 3 Report

City of Tumwater-TOGETHER! Contract
Host Homes Pilot Program Quarter 3 Report

Report Date: 01/15/2023

Funding Period: October 2021 – October 2023

Report Period: July 2022 – January 2023

Report Prepared By: Tami Lathrop, Host Homes Program Director
tlathrop@WaTogether.org

Program Description

The Host Homes model is an alternative to shelters and transitional housing services for unstably housed young people at-risk of entering young adult chronic homelessness. This model is an example of place-based youth homelessness prevention, meaning that the program supports the young person in their own community.

TOGETHER! Host Homes Pilot Program supports unaccompanied (not in the care of a parent or legal guardian), unstably high school students in the Tumwater School District in Thurston County Washington. The pilot program serves adolescents and young adults ages 13-21. This program operates independent of the Child Welfare system and is one of the few if not only program in the continuum of services to youth to offer youth a choice for participation.

3rd Quarter Accomplishments

The Host Homes Pilot program launched in January 2022 and received two student referrals in February-May 2022. During the 3rd quarter, we received 2 Host applications who housed 2 students from Tumwater High School and 1 student from River Ridge. The following is a list of accomplishments:

1. The Host Homes Pilot Program is fully staffed and approved applications for the first student participants and host families.

During May 2022, the Host Homes Director who developed the pilot program left and hired a replacement Director, Tami Lathrop. Tami came with over 8 years of experience working in child welfare and nonprofit organizations. She hired a Program Manager who works directly with Host families and a Youth Case Manager who supports the students in the program.

Host Homes received 4 student referrals from the North Thurston Public School District and 2 student referrals from the Tumwater School District. Of the 6 student referrals,

we approved and housed 3 students, 2 students withdrew their applications, and 1 student is currently working on their intake and contracts to be approved into Host Homes.

Of the 3 students who were housed, 1 had to leave due to high mental health needs, and 2 are still housed (1 THS, 1 River Ridge).

2. What we have learned since launching and implementing the program with our first participants.

We initially projected housing 10 students from the Tumwater School District each year. While we are still committed to meeting this goal, we found that recruiting Host families and student referrals has been much slower than we anticipated. Part of this is due to bringing on all new staff to the Host Homes Program which took some time to onboard and train them in their new positions. Another issue was simply working towards educating the community about what our program is and recruiting hosts and students to be the first participants of a brand new program. We underestimated how challenging it would be during our first year of piloting.

To address these issues, we essentially started from scratch in terms of outreach. We found that going out in the community to individual counselors, teachers, churches, clubs, and organizations has been a slow but effective strategy to build trust. We also learned that some people did not want to refer students until they knew we had a Host Home to place them in. We were able to explain that students entering our program without an identified Host Home would still benefit the student by building their relationship with the case manager, completing intakes and training, and receiving support from the program while they wait for a match.

3. Outreach and Marketing Efforts

Host Homes created new marketing materials to use for social media, presentations, and print materials. We were highlighted in an article for The Olympian and Thurston Talk, created podcast episodes for TOGETHER!'s Thrive Podcast, and made a commercial. These have all proved to be very helpful for recruiting hosts—4 host applicants applied because they had seen our program in The Olympian.

During the 3rd quarter, we have tabled or presented to the following:

- Tumwater City Council
- Tumwater Rotary Club
- Lacey Police Department
- North Thurston Public Schools Counselors

- North Thurston Public Schools Family Navigators
- Tumwater School District Golf Event (hosted by TOGETHER!'s Community Schools Program)
- Back to Basics event for Tumwater School District (hosted by TOGETHER!'s Community Schools Program)
- ASHHO Cultural Bazaar (3 events)
- Virtual Info Meetings for the public (4 events)
- Met with several individuals from churches, schools, and nonprofits in our community.

There have been no significant changes to our project development or implementation since we were awarded the grant.

Challenges

1. Recruiting Host families – as described above, this has been a challenge but we received 3 host applications in the month of December from our efforts put forth in the Fall. We feel that we are now seeing the results of our efforts and are confident that we will continue to see more and more applications.
2. Student Referrals – we hoped to receive more referrals but understand that it takes time to build trust for a pilot program. We have setup visits to the high schools by our Youth Case Manager alongside the Community Schools Managers in the Tumwater high schools and hope this will build trust and gain opportunities for students to get to know us.
3. Staffing – during the 3rd quarter, we had 3 new staff join Host Homes and essentially were brand new to the program. It took a few months to get the team onboarded and trained, but are currently in a place where we can fully function and support a robust Host Homes program.

TO: City Council
FROM: Chuck Denney, Parks and Recreation Director
DATE: July 25, 2023
SUBJECT: Discussion of Park Naming Process

1) Recommended Action:

Discussion Item

2) Background:

The Tumwater City Council adopted a park naming policy in September of 1999. The creation of this policy was to ensure public participation in the naming of City parks and to establish the procedures for adoption.

The process has been used in the naming of Isabella Bush Park, Deschutes Valley Park, Jim Brown Park, Barclift Park, and Kindred Park.

3) Policy Support:

Build a Community Recognized for Quality, Compassion and Humanity

- Pursue “quality of life” (e.g., trails, trees, parks, community gardens, events) and aesthetic improvements
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4) Alternatives:

Discussion Item – City Council request to review the policy and procedures

5) Fiscal Notes:

None

6) Attachments:

A. Park Naming Policy – TMC 12.30.010 (Policy) and TMC 12.30.020 (Procedure)

Chapter 12.30 NAMING PUBLIC PARKS, FACILITIES, OR OTHER NATURAL FEATURES

Sections:

[12.30.010](#) Policy.

[12.30.020](#) Procedure.

12.30.010 Policy.

A. It is the policy of the city to follow this procedure to establish names for parks and other facilities.

B. In naming parks and other facilities, consideration shall be primarily given to:

1. Neighborhood, geographic or common usage identification;
2. Significant historical or cultural attributes;
3. An individual (living or deceased) who has made a significant land or monetary contribution to the park system and who has stipulated the name of the park as a condition of the donation;
4. An individual (living or deceased) who has contributed outstanding civic service;
5. An organization who has donated a significant parcel of property or facility, or has provided the major source of financing for the acquisition/development of the public facility.

C. Facilities shall not ordinarily be named for living persons.

D. Public participation and input will be encouraged throughout the process.

(Ord. O2003-009, Amended, 03/18/2003; Ord. O99-016, Added, 09/21/1999)

12.30.020 Procedure.

A. All portions of the park or facility shall have the same name as the entire park or facility; provided, however, elements or features within the park may be named separately as long as the name does not detract from the intended identity of the park or facility. An example would be: The Historical Park, Rotary Shelter.

B. All name suggestions will be reviewed by the parks and recreation director for appropriateness. The parks and recreation director shall also review existing building, facility and park names to avoid duplication, confusing similarities and inappropriateness.

C. The parks and recreation director shall forward all names deemed appropriate to the Tumwater parks board.

D. The Tumwater parks board will review all appropriate name suggestions and forward their recommendation to the Tumwater city council.

E. The city council shall make the final decision as to the name to be given to any park or facility. Provided, however, in the event the city council does not approve the recommendation of the parks board or if the council prefers a name or names not recommended by the parks board, the matter will be returned to the parks board for reconsideration and additional recommendations shall then be transmitted to the city council for further consideration.

F. Action by the city council in naming parks or facilities may be taken by majority motion.

(Ord. O2011-002, Amended, 03/01/2011; Ord. O99-016, Added, 09/21/1999)