

SOP/shq

**SENT ELECTRONICALLY VIA EMAIL**

Lon Pluckhahn, City Manager  
City of Vancouver  
415 W. 6th Street  
Vancouver, WA 98660

Dear Mr. Pluckhahn:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide support for the City of Vancouver's Congressionally Directed Spending request for **Vancouver Safe Park Purchase and Site Improvements**. This project will enhance essential services, health, safety, and human dignity for many of Vancouver's most vulnerable residents.

In 2020, through a partnership with C-TRAN, the City of Vancouver opened an innovative new "Safe Park" program as one strategy to respond to the urgent crisis of homelessness. Vancouver Safe Park provides a secure and service-connected community for individuals and families living in their vehicles and has blossomed into a stable and supportive community serving a daily average of 60 people.

The City of Vancouver leases the Evergreen Transit Center from C-TRAN, which is an ideal site that has hosted Vancouver Safe Park for nearly six (6) years. The City contracts with a local nonprofit to provide 24-hour staffing, case management, and access to outreach services and more than 50 community-based organizations that provide services ranging from hot meals to legal assistance. The City of Vancouver also rents hygiene trailers to provide Vancouver Safe Park residents with on-site access to restrooms and showers. However, weekly service and disposal costs are significant.

The City of Vancouver is requesting federal funding to purchase the site and invest in site improvements, including installation of water and sewer connections for accessible hygiene facilities, and accessible facilities for laundry and staff offices. These one-time investments will improve services, reduce operating costs, and enhance health, safety, and quality of life for Vancouver's housed and unhoused residents.

Vancouver Safe Park provides a low-barrier, cost-effective, compassionate, and successful strategy for addressing unsheltered vehicle habitation. Those who are unhoused, or in vehicles face tremendous challenges and are highly vulnerable to displacement, victimization, health issues, limited access to food and essential services, and other hardships. Vancouver Safe Park directly addresses these gaps and provides supportive services and opportunities for moving forward.

C-TRAN is committed to partnering with the City of Vancouver to address homelessness, and we support the City of Vancouver's request for federal funding for Vancouver Safe Park Purchase and Site Improvements as we work together to address this humanitarian crisis. Please reach out if you would like more information about our organization or our support for this project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Scott Patterson".

Scott Patterson  
Deputy Chief Executive Officer  
C-TRAN



Lon Pluckhahn, City Manager  
City of Vancouver  
415 W. 6th Street  
Vancouver 98660

Dear Mr. Pluckhahn:

On behalf of Live Love Outreach, I am writing to express our strong and heartfelt support for the City of Vancouver's federal funding request for the Safe Park Purchase and Site Improvements project. As the organization currently operating the Safe Park contract, we see every day the life-changing impact this program has and we also clearly see the need for the proposed improvements.

Live Love Outreach has the privilege of providing on-site staffing, case management, and direct support to the residents of Safe Park. We know their names. We hear their stories. We walk with them through crisis and toward stability. For many individuals and families living in their vehicles, Safe Park is not just a parking space it is their first step back toward hope and stability.

Because we operate the program daily, we also understand the operational challenges that come with leasing the site and relying on temporary infrastructure. The lack of permanent water and sewer connections increases ongoing costs and limits the level of hygiene and service access we can consistently provide.

These upgrades will significantly enhance the stability and well-being of residents while creating long-term cost efficiencies. These improvements will strengthen our ability to serve participants with excellence and expand pathways toward permanent housing and self-sufficiency.

We have seen Safe Park grow into a stable and supportive community that balances compassion with accountability. Purchasing the site secures the future of this proven model and demonstrates a long-term commitment to thoughtful, strategic solutions.

Live Love Outreach wholeheartedly supports the City's federal funding request. We are eager to see these improvements realized and remain fully committed to partnering with the City to ensure Safe Park continues to operate as a place of safety, structure, and renewed hope.

Thank you for your leadership and for investing in practical solutions that change lives. Please do not hesitate to reach out if we can provide further insight from our operational perspective.

Sincerely,

Brian Norris  
Executive Director  
Live Love Outreach



Margaret Milem, Chair  
Fircrest Neighborhood Association  
12711 NE 13<sup>th</sup> Circle  
Vancouver, WA 98684

March 3, 2026

**Lon Pluckhahn, City Manager**

City of Vancouver  
415 W. 6th Street  
Vancouver, WA 98660

Dear Mr. Pluckhahn:

On behalf of the Fircrest Neighborhood Association, we are pleased to offer our strong support for the City of Vancouver's federal funding request for the Safe Park Purchase and Site Improvements project.

Since its opening in 2020, Vancouver Safe Park has provided a structured, secure, and service-connected community for individuals and families living in their vehicles. What began as a necessary emergency response has evolved into a stable and thoughtfully managed program serving an average of approximately 60 people daily.

Importantly, the Safe Park located in Fircrest has proven to be a respectful and well-managed presence within our neighborhood. The residents of Safe Park have consistently been good neighbors, and we deeply appreciate the professionalism and responsiveness of Live Love Outreach. Their organization has been an engaged and collaborative partner with the Fircrest Neighborhood Association, maintaining open lines of communication and upholding their mission to operate a truly safe, orderly, and well-managed facility for neighbors in need.

For the Fircrest Neighborhood Association, the safe and responsible operation of Safe Park is as important to us as it would be for any other residential area in Fircrest. We value programs that are well-managed, accountable, and integrated into the community. The City's partnership with a local nonprofit to provide on-site staffing, case management, and coordinated access to community services has helped ensure Safe Park operates in a structured and respectful way. Investing in the site through purchase

and permanent utility connections would strengthen this model, reduce long-term operational costs, and support safe, dignified living conditions for residents while maintaining the stability and quality of life that neighbors expect.

Vancouver Safe Park represents a cost-effective, humane, and successful strategy for addressing vehicle habitation in a way that supports individuals while maintaining neighborhood stability. We are proud to support this funding request and remain committed to working collaboratively with the City and our community partners to address this ongoing humanitarian challenge with compassion and accountability.

Please feel free to reach out if additional information regarding our support would be helpful.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Margaret Milem". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a long, sweeping tail on the final letter.

Margaret Milem, Chair

Fircrest Neighborhood Association

360.836.6736



**City of Vancouver  
Police Department**

**Troy Price**  
Chief of Police



March 2, 2026

Lon Pluckhahn, City Manager  
City of Vancouver  
415 W. 6<sup>th</sup> Street  
Vancouver, WA 98660

Dear Mr. Pluckhahn:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide a letter of support for the City of Vancouver's federal funding request for **Safe Park Purchase and Site Improvements**. This project will enhance essential services, health, safety, and personal dignity for many of Vancouver's most vulnerable residents.

The Vancouver Police Department is committed to making our city the safest in the state by partnering with our community to preserve life, protect property, and enhance livability. The City has made significant progress in addressing homelessness and related issues, and Vancouver Police is proactively working with community partners, stakeholders, and volunteers to be part of the solution. Vancouver police officers and volunteers take pride in providing compassionate assistance and resources to those living unsheltered while addressing community concerns to promote public safety and quality of life.

The City of Vancouver opened Safe Park at the Evergreen Transit Center in 2020 to provide a secure and service-connected community for individuals and families living in their vehicles, which has blossomed into a stable and supportive community serving a daily average of 60 people.

The City contracts with a local nonprofit to provide on-site staffing, case management, and access to outreach services and more than 50 community-based organizations that provide services ranging from hot meals to legal assistance. The City of Vancouver leases the Evergreen Transit Center, which is an ideal site that has hosted Vancouver Safe Park for nearly six years. The City of Vancouver also rents hygiene trailers to provide Vancouver Safe Park residents with on-site access to restrooms and showers. However, without utility service connections, weekly service and disposal costs are significant.

The City of Vancouver is seeking federal funding to purchase the site and invest in improvements, including water and sewer connections to improve hygiene facilities, and providing accessible facilities for laundry and other essential services. These one-time investments will provide cost efficiencies and improve services, enhancing health, safety, and quality of life for all Vancouver residents.

Vancouver Safe Park provides a cost-effective, compassionate, and successful strategy for addressing unsheltered vehicle habitation that addresses both the immediate shelter needs of unhoused residents and the broader health and safety of the community.

We are glad to share our support for the City's request for federal funding to invest in Vancouver Safe Park improvements. This facility is a key resource for helping our community address this humanitarian crisis. Please reach out for more information about our organization or our support for this project.

Sincerely,



Troy Price  
Chief of Police

[vanpd@cityofvancouver.us](mailto:vanpd@cityofvancouver.us) | 360-487-7400 | [cityofvancouver.us/police](http://cityofvancouver.us/police)

March 3, 2026

Lon Pluckhahn, City Manager  
City of Vancouver  
415 W. 6th Street  
Vancouver, WA 98660



Mental Health Services

Dear Mr. Pluckhahn:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide a letter of support for the City of Vancouver's federal funding request for Safe Park Purchase and Site Improvements. This project will enhance essential services, health, safety, and personal dignity for many of Vancouver's most vulnerable residents.

The Mobile Health Team provides medical and mental health care to those without long-term housing and sees the positive impact that Safe Park has on the clients we provide services to. The team goes into the community to meet clients where they are at, but when an individual lacks a consistent and predictable place to stay, meeting basic needs takes precedent over therapy and primary care appointments. A reliable place to park and access services is key to making meaningful changes. Safe Park also serves a vital role in referring those in need who have barriers to accessing care otherwise.

The City of Vancouver opened Safe Park at the Evergreen Transit Center in 2020 to provide a secure and service-connected community for individuals and families living in their vehicles, which has blossomed into a stable and supportive community serving a daily average of 60 people.

The City contracts with a local nonprofit to provide on-site staffing, case management, and access to outreach services and more than 50 community-based organizations that provide services ranging from hot meals to legal assistance. The City of Vancouver leases the Evergreen Transit Center, which is an ideal site that has hosted Vancouver Safe Park for nearly six years. The City of Vancouver also rents hygiene trailers to provide Vancouver Safe Park residents with on-site access to restrooms and showers. However, without utility service connections, weekly service and disposal costs are significant.

The City of Vancouver is requesting federal funding to purchase the site and invest in improvements, including water and sewer connections to improve hygiene facilities, and providing accessible facilities for laundry and other essential services. These one-time investments will provide cost efficiencies and improve services, enhancing health, safety, and quality of life for all Vancouver residents.

Vancouver Safe Park provides a cost-effective, compassionate, and successful strategy for addressing unsheltered vehicle habitation that addresses both the immediate shelter needs of unhoused residents and the broader health and safety of the community.

We are glad to share our full unwavering support for this funding request to make Vancouver Safe Park improvements, and we are committed to working with our community to address this humanitarian crisis. Please reach out for more information about our organization or our support for this project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Dan", written over a light blue horizontal line.

Daniel Smith, MSW  
Chief Executive Officer

**LIVES CHANGE HERE**



**CLARK COUNTY  
FOOD BANK**

*Alleviating Hunger and its Root Causes  
in Clark County, Washington*

March 2, 2026

Lon Pluckhahn, City Manager  
City of Vancouver  
415 W. 6<sup>th</sup> Street  
Vancouver, WA 98660

Dear Mr. Pluckhahn,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this letter of support for the City of Vancouver's request for federal appropriations funding for **Vancouver Safe Park Purchase and Site Improvements**.

The City of Vancouver has demonstrated a strong commitment to working with community partners to address homelessness. Our common goal is getting people safely housed with appropriate support, and the current system provides tools and resources for engagement and referral, stabilization and support that addresses the immediate needs of unhoused residents and the broader health and safety of the community.

The City opened Vancouver Safe Park in 2020 at the Evergreen Transit Center to provide a secure and service-connected community for individuals and families living in their vehicles. The City contracts with a local nonprofit to provide on-site case management, access to outreach services, and coordination with more than 50 community organizations to provide services for Safe Park residents.

The City of Vancouver leases the Evergreen Transit Center site and rents hygiene trailers to provide on-site restrooms and showers for Vancouver Safe Park residents. However, without utility service connections, the ongoing service and disposal costs are significant.

Federal funding for Vancouver Safe Park would make it possible for the City of Vancouver to purchase the Evergreen Transit Center and invest in site improvements that will provide cost efficiencies and service improvements to enhance health, safety, and quality of life.

We are glad to share our support for this project and grateful for the City of Vancouver's commitment to providing essential services, health, and safety for its residents. Please reach out for more information about our organization or our support for this project.

Sincerely,

Emily Straw

President



March 4, 2026

Lon Pluckhahn, City Manager  
City of Vancouver  
415 W. 6<sup>th</sup> Street  
Vancouver, WA 98660

Dear Lon Pluckhahn,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this letter of support for the City of Vancouver's request for federal appropriations funding for **Vancouver Safe Park Purchase and Site Improvements**.

Open House Ministries has been part of the community for over 40 years, serving homeless families. We are deeply committed and dedicated to efforts to restore families. The Safe Park has been a substantial resource for our community and is much needed for the safety of our homeless population. It has also provided employment for some of our graduates, so it is doing more than providing housing, it is allowing some families to sustain their housing.

The City opened Vancouver Safe Park in 2020 at the Evergreen Transit Center to provide a secure and service-connected community for individuals and families living in their vehicles. The City contracts with a local nonprofit to provide on-site case management, access to outreach services, and coordination with more than 50 community organizations to provide services for Safe Park residents.

The City of Vancouver leases the Evergreen Transit Center site and rents hygiene trailers to provide on-site restrooms and showers for Vancouver Safe Park residents. However, without utility service connections, the ongoing service and disposal costs are significant.

Federal funding for Vancouver Safe Park would make it possible for the City of Vancouver to purchase the Evergreen Transit Center and invest in site improvements that will provide cost efficiencies and service improvements to enhance health, safety, and quality of life.

We are overjoyed to share our support for this project and grateful for the City of Vancouver's commitment to providing essential services, health, and safety for its residents. Please reach out for more information about our organization or our support for this project.

Sincerely,

Renee Stevens

OHM Executive Director

**From:** [Peck, Kerry](#)  
**To:** [Tryon, Brenda](#)  
**Cc:** [Spinelli, Jamie](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Vancouver Safe Park Purchase and Site Improvements  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 4, 2026 11:34:00 AM  
**Attachments:** [96f7b311-126d-4cd1-afad-c764259e908e.png](#)  
[54dc6ec4-fced-4e04-b0d4-69eee7497d59.png](#)

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Another letter

Warm Regards,  
Kerry

**From:** Melissa Burke <[melissab@livinghopechurch.com](mailto:melissab@livinghopechurch.com)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 4, 2026 11:30 AM  
**To:** Peck, Kerry <[kerry.peck@cityofvancouver.us](mailto:kerry.peck@cityofvancouver.us)>; Spinelli, Jamie <[jamie.spinelli@cityofvancouver.us](mailto:jamie.spinelli@cityofvancouver.us)>  
**Cc:** Brian Norris <[briann@livinghopechurch.com](mailto:briann@livinghopechurch.com)>  
**Subject:** Vancouver Safe Park Purchase and Site Improvements

Some people who received this message don't often get email from [melissab@livinghopechurch.com](mailto:melissab@livinghopechurch.com). [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Mr. Pluckhahn,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this letter of support for the City of Vancouver's request for federal appropriations funding for **Vancouver Safe Park Purchase and Site Improvements**.

The City of Vancouver has demonstrated a strong commitment to working with community partners to address homelessness. Our shared goal is getting people safely housed with appropriate support, and the current system provides tools and resources for engagement and referral, stabilization and support that addresses the immediate needs of unhoused residents and the broader health and safety of the community.

Our church, Living Hope Church, is very supportive of these essential services provided, as they benefit our community and, in some cases, our own people in our church. The partnership we have with the city is of great benefit to many who are underserved, and we support any venture that elevates people from hopelessness to hope. Live Love Outreach started here in our church many years ago and currently is the nonprofit organization who operates the Vancouver Safe Park. We are so happy to see this open and hope that it will be for the long term for our city and its citizenry.

The city opened Vancouver Safe Park in 2020 at the Evergreen Transit Center to provide a secure and service-connected community for individuals and families living in their vehicles. The City contracts with a local nonprofit to provide on-site case management, access to outreach services, and coordination with more than 50 community organizations to provide services for Safe Park residents that range from hot meals to legal assistance.

The City of Vancouver leases the Evergreen Transit Center site and rents hygiene trailers to provide on-site restrooms and showers for Vancouver Safe Park residents. However, without utility service connections, the ongoing service and disposal costs are significant.

Federal funding for Vancouver Safe Park would make it possible for the City of Vancouver to purchase the Evergreen Transit Center and invest in site improvements that will provide cost efficiencies and service improvements to enhance health, safety, and quality of life.

We are glad to share our support for this project and grateful for the City of Vancouver's commitment to providing essential services, health, and safety for its residents. Please reach out for more information about our organization or our support for this project.

Sincerely,

Doug Frazier  
Lead Pastor  
Living Hope Church



**Melissa Burke** | Office Administrator  
*Living Hope Church*

360.944.3905

✉ [melissab@livinghopechurch.com](mailto:melissab@livinghopechurch.com)

[livinghopechurch.com](http://livinghopechurch.com)

2711 NE Andresen Rd, Vancouver, WA 98661

March 3, 2026

Lon Pluckhahn, City Manager  
City of Vancouver  
415 W. 6<sup>th</sup> Street  
Vancouver, WA 98660

Dear Mr. Pluckhahn:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide a letter of support for the City of Vancouver's federal funding request for **Safe Park Purchase and Site Improvements**. This project will enhance essential services, health, safety, and personal dignity for many of Vancouver's most vulnerable residents.

As City Prosecutor and a partner in Vancouver's Community Court program, I have seen firsthand how Safe Park fits into the City's broader, balanced response to unsheltered homelessness. It serves individuals and families living in their vehicles – many of whom have no justice involvement, and this program often helps keep it that way.

Individuals living in vehicles on city streets frequently experience law enforcement contact, typically due to complaints, parking restrictions, inoperable vehicles, or expired registrations. Safe Park provides officers and outreach staff with a constructive alternative when space is available. Rather than citations, vehicle impounds, or court involvement, individuals can be directed to a managed, service-connected location that promotes both stability and accountability. In that sense, Safe Park often functions as a form of early diversion, preventing justice system contact before it occurs.

For others, Safe Park works in coordination with Community Court. Some individuals who initially decline services later accept Safe Park placement while participating in Community Court, using the stability of the site to comply with court conditions and engage more consistently with services. This dual function – prevention and intervention – strengthens both public safety outcomes and individual stability.

Safe Park also serves families with children, including some who are involved with child welfare systems. This stable, single location allows children to attend school consistently, with reliable transportation access. The presence of 24/7 on-site staffing provides additional oversight and support, creating opportunities for early intervention when concerns arise and reinforcing child safety when needed.

In addition to these system benefits, Safe Park provides essential infrastructure, including restrooms and showers. However, the current facilities rely on temporary rental units that are not connected to permanent water and sewer systems, resulting in significant ongoing service costs. The proposed federal investment would allow the City to purchase the site, establish utility connections, and add improvements such as on-site laundry facilities. These enhancements will improve hygiene, dignity, and cost efficiency while strengthening the long-term sustainability of the program.

Safe Park is not a stand-alone solution. It is one part of a coordinated system that includes outreach, Community Court, shelter options, and housing pathways. While the City continues to work toward long-term solutions to homelessness – including expanding shelter capacity and increasing access to permanent housing – programs like Vancouver's Safe Park serve as an important interim strategy to provide greater safety and stability for people experiencing homelessness and mitigate community impacts while those larger efforts advance. Securing and improving this site will reinforce that system

and continue to provide a practical, humane, and fiscally responsible response to vehicle habitation in Vancouver.

For these reasons, I strongly support the City's request for federal funding to invest in Safe Park site acquisition and improvements.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kevin J. McClure". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'K'.

Kevin McClure  
City Prosecutor