



BELLINGHAM CITY COUNCIL

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BELLINGHAM CITY COUNCIL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the Bellingham City Council will hold a public hearing on **Monday, January 27, 2020, at 7:00 PM, or as soon thereafter as possible, in the City Council Chambers, City Hall, 210 Lottie Street, Bellingham, Washington**, to take public comment on the following:

A draft ordinance that makes several amendments to BMC 20.15, temporary shelter regulations. The Planning Commission recommends four of the amendments: 1) allow temporary encampments in buildings to be established in Public zones with a Type II temporary shelter permit, 2) require managing agencies of temporary shelters that are accessory to the primary religious use of a church building to demonstrate compliance with City building and fire codes or seek an exemption, 3) allow adverse weather shelters of very short duration to be established without a temporary shelter permit, and 4) provide the City with the ability to close a temporary shelter that is in violation of the City's temporary shelter regulations until compliance is achieved. City staff recommends additional amendments to make the temporary shelter regulations consistent with the City's interim housing regulations, including: 1) clarify the rationale for requiring identification of guests staying in a shelter and keeping a list of this information, 2) add language that states a waiver from the prohibition on registered sex offenders staying in a shelter may only be requested from managing agencies with demonstrated experience managing this population, and 3) replace the requirement regarding potential status checks on guests staying in a shelter by the Bellingham Police Department with a requirement for the BPD and managing agency to establish requirements for appropriate access and coordination.

Detailed information can be found at meetings.cob.org five days prior to the public hearing.

The following project webpage includes Planning Commission meeting materials, public comments and other resources: <https://www.cob.org/services/housing/homeless/Pages/temporary-longterm-shelters.aspx>.

Staff Contact: Lisa Pool, AICP, Senior Planner, lapool@cob.org or (360) 778-8390

Anyone wishing to comment is invited to attend the hearing and/or send comments to the Council Office, 210 Lottie Street, ccmail@cob.org or 778-8101 prior to 10:00 a.m., Wednesday, January 22, to be included in the agenda packet. Comments received after that time will be distributed to Council, but not included in the published packet.

The Council Chambers is fully accessible. Elevator access to the second floor is available at the west entrance. Hearing assistance is available from the Clerk. Contact the Legislative Assistant at 778-8200 for additional assistance prior to the meeting.

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