



July 6, 2021

For immediate release

PUBLIC MEETING FOR OPERATION SHELTER SET FOR JULY 8

Mayor John Engen and Missoula County Commissioners Dave Strohmaier, Juanita Vero and Josh Slotnick will hold a public meeting this week to hear a report and recommendations on potential alternative sites for people without shelter who are currently camping illegally in the urban wild.

The meeting will take place at noon on Thursday, July 8, via Zoom. Office of Emergency Management Director Adriane Beck, who has overseen the work of the Operation Shelter Incident Command Team, will provide an overview on the team's methodology for evaluating sites and present its recommendations. The commissioners and the mayor charged Beck in late May with setting up the team to address the ongoing concern of people illegally camping in the urban area.

The City and County invite members of the public and media to attend, and Beck will be available after the meeting to answer news media questions. The meeting will last 90 minutes, and it will be recorded and available in the City's meetings archive and on the City and County's YouTube channels.

The elected officials will not make any decisions at this meeting. They will take public comment on the options presented at the meeting and via email during the week ahead at solutions@missoulacounty.us. The county commissioners will direct staff on how to proceed at their July 15 administrative public meeting, and they will allocate any financial resources, likely using funds from the American Rescue Plan Act, during the County's upcoming budget process. The City will take a similar approach during its budgeting process.

Meeting instructions:

Attend by computer:

[Join the meeting](#)

Attend by phone:

Cell phone users: 1-253-215-8782, 1-213-338-8477 or 1-267-831-0333

Landline users: 1-888-475-4499 or 1-877-853-5257

Webinar ID: 870 4481 1654

Password: 609581

Press *9 to raise your hand to be recognized for public comment, *6 to mute and unmute

Watch the meeting:

[Web stream \(live or on demand\)](#), [YouTube](#), or Spectrum Cable Channel 190

For more ways to watch the meeting and submit public comment, see the Citizen Participation Guide.

Issues? Call the City Clerk 406-552-6078.

If anyone attending this meeting needs special assistance, please provide 48 hours advance notice by calling the City Clerk Office at 406-552-6073.

For more information about Operation Shelter, visit Engage Missoula at <https://www.engagemissoula.com>.

For questions about the meeting:

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