



Tacoma

Community Listening Session

Temporary Warming Center

Center at Norpoint

January 14, 2021

Pandemic Response to Shelter Needs

- Declaration of Emergency related to Homelessness and COVID-19
- Normal inclement weather shelter expansion adds 160 shelter beds to our community
- Those beds are not available this year due to COVID-19 protocols requiring physical distancing
- Temporary Warming Center at Eastside Community Center activated in October 2020 (overnight capacity 55, serving men and women)
- Temporary shelter serving single men scheduled to be activated by end of January (capacity 35)



Activating Center at Norpoint as Temporary Warming Center

- Capacity = no more than 25
- Women and couples only; 18 years and older
- Managed, indoor setting, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week
- Reservation only; no 'walk-ups'
- Transportation to and from the site
- COVID-19 Screening and protocols in place
- Background checks: no sex offenders
- Participants must comply with behavioral agreement including no drug use
- Increased park security and priority patrol for Tacoma Police
- Close temporary warming centers at the end of February



Next Steps and Timeline

- Finalize operator contract
- Prepare the building for temporary use
- Invite community to volunteer or donate
- Opening within the next 7-10 days
- Continue working with the Health Department to ensure compliance with CDC guidelines



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Contact Us

Email: shelters@cityoftacoma.org

Visit our website: cityoftacoma.org/inclementresources