



Safe Parking Pilot Program

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the Safe Parking Pilot Program?

The Safe Parking Pilot Program is a one-year pilot program that will provide legal car camping for families and individuals experiencing homelessness and support to transition them from living in their vehicles into housing. For people who have lost their homes, living in a car or camper may be their only option besides sleeping on the street. Providing designated places for people to park while living in their vehicles helps families and individuals stabilize their lives and improve their chances of gaining access to services and employment.

How does the program work?

The program will consist of host sites distributed throughout the city with assigned parking spaces and onsite portable restrooms, storage, and garbage removal, as well as case management. The Program Manager will manage intake and case management of guests, assignment of parking spaces, and coordination of host sites in collaboration with the city.

Beaverton City Council approved \$42,200 to the program for a pilot year of operation. This budget includes \$30,000 for a contract with a non-profit for program management and \$12,200 for portable restrooms and onsite storage.

Who operates the sites?

The City of Beaverton contracted with Just Compassion of East Washington County, a non-profit that will provide program management for the pilot year. Just Compassion will be responsible for intake and case management of the guests participating in the program.

The focus of Just Compassion is to serve as a community centered response for addressing the needs of people experiencing homelessness by building relationships and creating a community that connects people to services that expand their support system and help them overcome barriers to housing. Just Compassion has been managing the Beaverton Severe Weather Shelter for the last three years and currently operates a day center in Tigard twice a week. The organization actively fosters permanent solutions for individuals in need.

How long can guests stay in the program?

Guests start with a 30-day probationary period in which they must meet with Just Compassion to complete a case management plan. Guests that complete the plan and comply with program rules throughout the probationary period will be able to stay for up to 120 days. After 120 days, guests may request an extension if housing is imminent.

What do host sites provide and where are they located?

Host sites provide space for three vehicles to park, one space for a portable restroom and storage unit, and garbage service. Each host site will have a dedicated contact person that communicates site needs and concerns to Just Compassion. Site locations are dispersed throughout Beaverton at faith-based organizations and public agencies. Once a guest is approved to stay in the program, they are assigned a space at one of the host sites – they cannot drive up and park in a space.



Who is eligible for the program? How do they enroll?

Washington County families and individuals that are experiencing homelessness and using their vehicle as primary residence are eligible to apply for this low barrier program. Vehicles must be operational with up-to-date registration.

Potential guests contact Just Compassion to enroll in the program. Just Compassion staff will invite the applicant in for an interview and intake process, during which they will complete a background check and inquire about individual needs and challenges in finding housing and their strengths and abilities to contribute, follow rules, and abide by the structure and rules of the program. Applicants will need to commit to working on a case management plan with the intention of transitioning into housing.

Will this program cause more people to park in my neighborhood?

In June 2018 Beaverton City Council passed an ordinance banning overnight camping in the public right-of-way. This ordinance is still in place, and car camping outside of the program is not permitted. Host sites must be approved by the City of Beaverton, with a maximum of five sites selected for the pilot year. The Safe Parking Pilot Program provides a legal place for families and individuals in crisis to park but they must apply and be assigned to a host site. Guests accepted into the program are the only ones permitted to stay, and are not allowed to have visitors onsite.

How are the host sites and guests kept safe?

Guests sign agreements with the host sites that they will abide by the rules and program expectations. Guests are expected to attend regular case management meetings with Just Compassion. There is zero tolerance for violent behavior or drug and alcohol use on-site. No firearms or weapons are allowed on the property. Guests are expected to keep the site tidy, refrain from disruptive behavior and be good neighbors.

The Beaverton Police Department is aware of program host sites and as always, should be contacted if an emergency occurs; however, it is important to note that this program provides much greater management and safety for individuals and families living out of their vehicles than currently exists without it.

How do I volunteer or donate to the program?

There is no volunteer component to the program and we do not need any donations currently. One of the best ways that you can help is to refer anyone living out of their vehicle in our community to this program.

Who should I contact?

- For intake and referral:
Just Compassion of East Washington County
503-624-4666 | safeparkingbeaverton@gmail.com
- For program questions and concerns:
City of Beaverton Community Services Program
503-526-2584 | mcohen@BeavertonOregon.gov
- For general information:
www.BeavertonOregon.gov/safeparking