

Homelessness Proposal

2017 Utah State Legislative Session

March 6, 2017

Over the last two years, stakeholders from all sectors — public, private, and nonprofit — have been working to responsibly address the homelessness crisis we face in our state. Through this work, we have developed a plan to break up the ‘one-size-fits-all’ shelter model and reorient the system to minimize homelessness.

Plan Overview

This plan has four primary components:

- **A redesigned shelter model that** breaks up the one-size-fits-all emergency shelter into three resource centers, in addition to the current Midvale Family Shelter, tailoring services to population needs. These three new resource centers include two facilities in Salt Lake City capped at 200 beds each, and another resource center located in an area outside Salt Lake City. These resource centers will serve distinct populations of adult women, adult men and a gender-segregated facility serving both adult men and women. Population locations will be determined at a later date. No additional facility for families with children is anticipated at this time, as the intent is to divert and prevent these families from entering homelessness through the alternatives discussed below.
- **Alternatives to shelter** will continue to be pursued to draw down demand for emergency shelter. Efforts include Salt Lake County’s Pay for Success initiative which targets persistently homeless individuals, more affordable housing, behavioral healthcare treatment facilities, increased diversion, additional efforts to reduce length of stay at a shelter and prevent repeat stays, motel vouchers and other alternatives to meet shelter demand.
- **System improvements** that more efficiently coordinate resources across the housing and homelessness delivery system, including a coordinated entry and assessment system.
- **A public safety and treatment initiative**, similar to Operation Diversion launched last fall, to ensure neighborhoods are safe and individuals have access to treatment.

Full funding for the above plan is anticipated to move forward this legislative session.

Next Steps

Utilizing the process created by last year’s HB436 Housing and Homelessness Reform Initiative, funds will be distributed to achieve the above plan. At the request of the state, through a process facilitated by Salt Lake County, stakeholders will identify possible sites for a resource center located in an area outside Salt Lake City for consideration and approval by the State Homeless Coordinating Committee by March 30, 2017. If implemented, the state anticipates being able to responsibly close the downtown emergency shelter by June 30, 2019.



**Third Homeless Resource Center
Public Feedback Schedule**

Date	Event	Time	Location
Tuesday, March 14	Open House	6-8 p.m.	Utah State Capitol Campus, Senate Building, State Room (Cafeteria)
Saturday, March 18	Open House	3-5 p.m.	Utah State Capitol Campus, Senate Building, State Room (Cafeteria)
Wednesday, March 22	Site Evaluation Committee Meeting (Public comment)	6-8 p.m.	Utah State Capitol Campus, Senate Building, Room 210
Tuesday, March 28	Site Evaluation Committee Meeting (Deliberation)	3-5 p.m.	Utah State Capitol Campus, Senate Building, Room 210

Site Evaluation Committee's recommendation presented to the State Homelessness Coordinating Committee on March 30, 2017.