



Who is invited to work on GNA's?

The Homeless Services Department has invited community groups, individuals, and organizations neighboring the facility to identify representatives to be a part of a working group that will review, amend, and agree upon commitments within the program's Good Neighbor Agreement (GNA). Representatives have been identified from the Gresham Neighborhood Coalition (including Rockwood Neighborhood Association), the City of Gresham, Kaiser Permanente, The Salvation Army, Sunstone Way (the planned site operator), Reynold Schools, and the Tamra Colonial Estates apartment complex (located next door to the ECHRC).

How can we as a neighborhood trust that the County will hold up their end of the bargain when the neighborhood was not involved in the original siting of the project?

Multnomah County has established Good Neighborhood Agreements with communities throughout Multnomah County. These have been successful in maintaining *ongoing* clear communication between the neighborhoods, communities, and homeless service centers and Non Profit providers. These agreements are maintained and updated as necessary to ensure ongoing transparency and communication channels.

There are limits to the ability to involve the community during purchase or lease negotiations with property owners. When the property was purchased, the County had the support of local elected officials to increase such services in East County.

Is the planned use of the facility going to be temporary or is the County planning on this being a homeless center indefinitely?

Funding for the ECHRC is planned to be ongoing and help people of East County get into housing, including long- and short-term housing. Improvements planned for the facility include modular shelter pods that give the County flexibility for other potential future uses. The County has an annual budget process to deliberate on the projects and programs it will fund in the next fiscal year. [Learn more about the County's budget cycle and how to provide public comment here.](#)

In working with Gresham Police, do they have a plan how they are going to ramp up protection around the ECHRC?

The City of Gresham Police Department is a key partner in the success of this project, which is why the County is committed to the City's inclusion in the Good Neighbor Agreement. Sunstone Way, the planned site provider, has pledged to ensure accurate and timely reporting of incidents and partner with law enforcement in addressing security concerns that cannot be addressed through other interventions. Sunstone Way requires staff to have deescalation training and other skills to prevent and diffuse tense situations.

Security is of the utmost concern for those living within close proximity to the facility. Area residents are concerned that existing issues with homeless individuals and those living in their cars will increase and be more severe.

Sunstone Way, the planned site operator, will check the perimeter of the facility on a regular schedule to ensure that people are not camping in the area of the facility. Staff will also have access to transportation or other client services to assist individuals in connecting with available shelter beds and resources.

For community issues not in the immediate area of the ECHRC, the Gresham outreach teams, police, and/or behavioral health mobile crisis will be contacted, as necessary. A Community Advisory Committee, which is planned as part of the Good Neighbor Agreement and is composed of parties represented in the Agreement, will meet monthly to review incidents and work out issues as they arise.

Will you come and get a homeless person who's passed out on my lawn?

Sunstone Way will be available 24/7 to assist neighbors and provide available resources to help you through such an incident. This may include contacting local law enforcement and/or behavioral health specialists.

Will the ECHRC continue to be used as a severe weather shelter?

While the ECHRC is under construction, alternative locations will be used for severe weather shelter activities. After the ECHRC has reopened in Winter 2025/2026, the facility will once again be utilized for severe weather shelter, with a temporary capacity for up to 90 individuals. Sunstone Way, will manage the facility during severe weather

events (both cold and hot). Once the activation is over, the facility will resume service as a day center, offering a place for people to be while they determine their next steps.

How was news about this event shared with the public?

A mailer with information about the March 20th public event was mailed to approximately 1,100 addresses within a quarter mile radius of the property at 194th & Stark Streets, known as Cook Plaza. Information of the public event was also included in community neighborhood association newsletters and on social media.

There will be additional public meetings planned in the future and we commit to leveraging community groups and partner organizations to help broadcast an invitation and get the word out.

Where can neighbors give their input?

Neighbors are encouraged to provide their input and feedback to the Homeless Services Department (HSD) in person at community meetings or by email at ECHRC@multco.us. The HSD is committed to remain actively engaged in the community by organizing JOHS-led community meetings and participating in listening sessions hosted by community partners.