

9/26/22

City of Lewiston
27 Pine Street
Lewiston, ME 04240

Re: Conclusion of Ad Hoc Shelter Committee

To the Mayor, City Councilors, and City Administrator:

As of the completion of our report on 8/11/2022 and passing of the new ordinance on 9/20/2022 regulating homeless shelters in Lewiston, the Mayoral Ad Hoc Shelter Committee has concluded the scope of our charter.

With regards to recommendations in the report, we wish to highlight some important next steps:

- 1) A temporary 24-hour shelter has yet to be established to help protect people through the colder Fall months and this coming Winter. Our recommendation was for it to be established by October 1, 2022. The city should court potential operators to take on this role and, to that end, should facilitate meetings regarding space and funding sources with relevant community partners, including MaineHousing.
- 2) The City Council should swiftly move through next steps on the Planning Board's unanimous recommendation to add an overlay district in the industrial areas surrounding Exit 80.
- 3) It is critical that there be ongoing discussions and policymaking regarding homelessness in Lewiston. A subcommittee of either the Lewiston Area Public Health Committee or Housing Committee should be formed to further monitor and advise on the issue.

It has been an honor to serve on this committee, and we would like to thank everyone for their time and attention to the issue of homelessness in our community.

Sincerely,



Craig Saddleire, Co-Chair



Amy Smith, Co-Chair