



June 22, 2022

Welcome Home Skagit  
Attention: Sarah Vogt  
P.O. Box 1527  
Mount Vernon, WA

Mount Vernon Seventh Day Adventist Church  
Attention: Steve Ebsen  
4520 East College Way  
Mount Vernon, WA 98273

Re: Safe Parking Program at 4520 East College Way, Mount Vernon

Dear Sarah and Steve:

This letter is sent in response to the materials submitted to the City on June 16, 2022 for a proposed safe parking program at 4520 East College Way (hereinafter site). The items submitted, and your efforts to-date, are a great start; however, the City needs you to provide the additional information outlined below:

1. Consistent with MVMC 17.210.070(C)(3)(b) you need to provide the exact dates the safe parking program will be operating at the site.

The materials provided to the City indicate more than one church plans on operating a safe parking program to result in the site being used for no more than two weeks every other month. The City has no objections to this type of an arrangement.

Having these dates provides the nearby neighborhood with information they should have; and it allows the City to ensure the time limits per calendar year are being complied with.

The City only needs to be notified once per calendar year with information regarding proposed safe parking programs. Once we can verify the six month maximum during a calendar year is met there is no need to submit additional items to the City.

2. Consistent with MVMC 17.210.070(B)(1) the Safe Parking host, manager or sponsor must provide notice of the required public meeting with the neighbors. Staff will be sending (via email) our suggestions on how these requirements will be best met.

3. Consistent with MVMC 17.210.070(C)(3)(b) the City needs a final copy of the below described items to be submitted. The materials submitted last week to the City are identified as Draft materials and the City needs to have final, versus draft, materials submitted:
- A description of the security measures that the encampment host, encampment sponsor and encampment manager intend to employ at the proposed location, including criteria for rejection as a resident, a code of conduct, neighborhood security patrols, if any, whether and how they will implement outstanding warrant or registered sex offender background checks, and whether and how any temporary homeless encampment residents or prospective residents may be ejected from the temporary homeless encampment based on the results of such checks; and
  - The encampment sponsor and/or the encampment host shall submit a code of conduct for the temporary homeless encampment and a statement describing how the code of conduct will be enforced. The code of conduct shall, at a minimum, contain the following:
    - a. A prohibition on the possession or use of illegal drugs or alcohol.
    - b. A prohibition on the possession of guns, knives with blades in excess of three inches, and weapons of all kinds.
    - c. A prohibition on violence.
    - d. A prohibition on open flames.
    - e. A prohibition on trespassing into private property in the surrounding neighborhood.
    - f. Hours during which quiet is to be observed.

While Temporary Homeless Encampments regulated under Chapter 17.210 MVMC do have limitations on pets, limited homeless encampments (i.e. Safe Parking accommodations) do not have the same limitations on pets.

Thank you for your anticipated cooperation in providing the City with the information we need to ensure this proposed Safe Parking program will be code compliant. Don't hesitate to contact me with questions or concerns, 360-336-6214 or [rebeccab@mountvernonwa.gov](mailto:rebeccab@mountvernonwa.gov)

Sincerely,



Rebecca S. Lowell,  
Principal Planner