



**City of Missoula, Montana**  
**Item to be Referred to City Council Committee**

**Committee:** Committee of the Whole

**Item:** Emergency Winter Shelter Contract and Update

**Date:** October 21, 2020

**Sponsor(s):** Eran Pehan

**Prepared by:** Eran Pehan

**Ward(s) Affected:**

<input type="checkbox"/> Ward 1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ward 4
<input type="checkbox"/> Ward 2	<input type="checkbox"/> Ward 5
<input type="checkbox"/> Ward 3	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ward 6
<input type="checkbox"/> All Wards	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A

**Action Required:**

Authorize the Mayor to sign a contract for services for Emergency Winter Shelter with the Poverello Center.

**Recommended Motion(s):**

I move the City Council: Authorize the Mayor to sign a contract for services with the Poverello Center for \$100,000 for the provision of Emergency Winter Shelter Services.

**Timeline:**

Referral to committee:	October 19, 2020
Committee discussion:	October 21, 2020
Council action (or sets hearing):	October 26, 2020
Public Hearing:	n/a
Deadline:	October 26, 2020

**Background and Alternatives Explored:**

COVID-19 has created challenges for all of us. While as a community we are doing our best to adapt, some of our neighbors are exceptionally at risk as we approach winter. We all need to have safe and warm spaces. However, fear of sheltering in places where people are congregating indoors means that more people are living outdoors. Now, with the presence of a pandemic, Missoula is faced with a short supply of shelter and essentially no rental vacancies. Community members' lives are at risk.

The Missoula County commissioners, Missoula's mayor and the Missoula City Council have heard from community members who feel it's everyone's responsibility to help those in need during our cold winters. And they agree. To meet the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic this winter, the City of Missoula, Missoula County and the Poverello Center are partnering to provide an expanded emergency winter shelter program. Working as an addition to the Poverello Center, the Johnson Street Community Center will be a new, temporary 24/7 shelter. It will be operated by the Poverello Center's trained professional staff from Nov. 1, 2020, through March 31, 2021. Located at 1919 North Ave. W., it will serve one hot meal every day, with sack lunches available throughout the day, and it will be staffed every day around the clock.

Clients can stay at the shelter through daytime hours or access daytime services at the Poverello Center on West Broadway. This means that folks using the shelter have a safe, warm place to stay throughout the day and night. The staff at the Johnson Street Community Center will do all they can to be a good neighbor. By allowing folks to stay in the shelter during the day, there is a higher likelihood that Center residents will stay either in the building or close by.

**Financial Implications:**

The program, operated by the Poverello Center, is largely financed through CDBG-CV Funds (Federal Community Development Block Grant Entitlement funds from the Department of Housing and Urban Development) to support COVID-19 mitigation. Over \$360,000 in CDBG-CV funds will be allocated to the emergency shelter, and the City and County will each contribute an additional \$50,000 each. These are one-time funds for this season only, due to the COVID pandemic. A contract for the CDBG-CV funds will be in front of council in the coming month, pending an amendment to our annual action plan with the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

**Links to external websites:**