



Frequently Asked Questions:

Q: Where is the City's designated Camping Area?

A: The designated camping area is located at 380 Avenida Pico. The site is a 1/3 acre parcel that is part of the City's Maintenance Services Yard.

Q: How long will the area be open?

A: The City does not currently have a set period for how long we expect the site to be open.

Q: What are the hours of operation? How long are people allowed to stay?

A: For now, the site will be open 24/7 for people experiencing homelessness in the City. People will be allowed to camp for as long as the site is open and active.

Q: How many people will be allowed to camp there?

A: The City currently expects that the site will be large enough to handle the City's homeless population.

Q: What presence will the Orange County Sheriff's Department (OCSD) have at the site?

A: The City's number one goal is to ensure public safety for all of our residents. OCSD will properly monitor and respond to issues as they arise. OCSD has a Homeless Liaison Officer who has received special training on behavioral health issues and is able to connect the homeless with available services and resources.

Q: What security measures does the City provide outside of OCSD?

A: The site is outfitted with fencing around the perimeter, security cameras and lighting. In addition to physical measures taken, the City has hired a security guard that will be on-site 24/7.

Q: Will there be a code of conduct campers have to follow at the site?

A: The City ensures safety at the site through its Community Safety Plan - Code of Conduct. The Code of Conduct prohibits alcohol, drugs, weapons, violence, abuse of any kind, and littering or disturbing the surrounding area, just to name a few. The City's Code Compliance Division inspects the camp to ensure there are no Municipal Code violations.

Q: What measures are proposed to handle refuse and human waste on the site?

A: The City has provided several trashcans around the site for handling refuse, with a regular collection schedule to ensure sanitary conditions. The City is providing portable toilets and handwashing stations sufficient to the needs of the campers. The toilets are serviced every other day, Monday through Friday.

Q: Are open fires allowed?

A: The Community Safety Plan – Code of Conduct states that no open fires are permitted within the site.

Q: Will outside organizations and the public be able to feed the campers?

A: The City is actively working to coordinate food provision through a single designated non-profit partner.

Q: Who will be allowed to camp? Is it restricted to people with San Clemente ties?

A: The City expects that the site will be limited to people who have lived in the City or have immediate family ties to San Clemente.

Q: Are there designated spaces in the camp for each person? What is the layout of the site?

A: The site will have designated camping spaces for each individual. Each camping space will be allocated a personal storage bin with a lock to store personal belongings. There will be portable restrooms, hand washing stations, a designated smoking area, and a section for dogs.

Q: Why was this location chosen by the City?

A: This location was chosen due to it being the only city-owned parcel that was available and large enough to accommodate camping.

Q: Will there be parking for people who have cars?

A: There will be a limited number of parking spots available to people who have cars. These spaces will be provided in a separate location within the City's Maintenance Services Yard.

Q: What will be done to ensure this location does not become permanent?

A: The City is continuing to explore and exercise every option as it relates to locations and funding for a temporary shelter. In addition to a temporary shelter, the City is continuing to work collaboratively with our partners in neighboring cities and at the County to come up with long-term solutions and work towards delivering resources that will help get people experiencing homelessness off our streets.

Q: Who can I contact if there are non emergent issues related to the site?

A: To report non emergencies related to the site, please call (714) 288-6742.

Q: How can I get more information?

A: You can stay up-to-date on the latest information regarding the City's homeless issue and this site on the City's website at <http://www.san-clemente.org/departments-services/housing-social-services/homeless-resources>