



City Council

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May 2, 2018

Gwen Lachelt, Chairperson
Julie Westendorff, Commissioner
Brad Blake, Commissioner
La Plata County
1101 East 2nd Avenue
Durango, Colorado 81301

Dear Commissioners:

Pursuant to your April 18, 2018 letter request, we are hereby providing design and operational details associated with the City's proposed Lightner Creek Sheltering Area. The foregoing information should serve as confirmation of the City's intent to open the sheltering area upon commitment from La Plata County that the County-sanctioned homeless camp located off Tech Center Drive will be closed.

- 1) **Location:** The Lightner Creek Sheltering Area is located on the Smelter Property immediately south of and west of the Hwy 550/160 intersection at the Double Tree (see attached map);
- 2) **Hours of Operation:** Overnight sheltering will be allowed between 6:00pm and 9:00am. No campsites will be allowed to remain within the sheltering area outside of these hours. Please note that City Code does not preclude individuals from sleeping in City parks or open space during the hours which the sheltering area will be closed.
- 3) **Constraints:** The site of the Lightner Creek Sheltering Area is site is flat and easily accessible by way of the Highway 160 pedestrian crossing near the bridge crossing Lightner Creek at the off-leash area. The north side of the pedestrian crossing has a direct link to the Animas River Trail as well as to the road shoulder and pedestrian path adjacent to Roosa Avenue. No special accommodations for access are being provided.
- 4) **Directions:** See attached map
- 5) **Sheltering Area Rules:** The rules established for the County-sanctioned camp will be utilized in establishing a unique set of rules for the sheltering area that

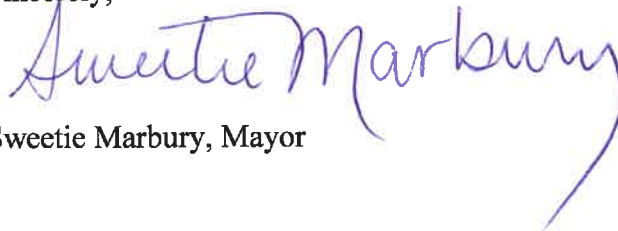
will be reflective of the site's overnight-only nature. Rules will be posted on site and may be amended as conditions warrant.

- 6) **Services:** As shown on the attached site plan, the sheltering area will have a portable toilet and dumpster located in close proximity. Barrier fencing will be installed to clearly demarcate the boundaries of the sheltering site and to minimize potential interaction between site users and the adjacent off-leash area. Private secure storage for individual's belongings will be available by way of lockable, sanitized 96 gallon trash containers. The containers will be kept in one location and not allowed to be removed from site.

As with the County-sanctioned camp, it is expected that individuals using the sheltering area will need to utilize other existing facilities throughout the community for such things as bathing and laundering.

The opening date of the Lightner Creek Sheltering Area must coincide with the closure date of the County-sanctioned camp to ensure a smooth transition between the two locations and to limit the number of days for which two locations are open simultaneously. Given the County's stated requirement of needing 60 days to close the existing camp, this letter shall serve as notice that the Lightner Creek Sheltering Area will be available for use within one week notice from the County, or on June 30, 2018, whichever is sooner.

Sincerely,



Sweetie Marbury, Mayor

cc: Ron Le Blanc, City Manager
Joanne Spina, County Manager