



**NOTICE AND CALL OF SPECIAL MEETING
YREKA CITY COUNCIL
June 24, 2021 - 5:30 P.M.
Yreka City Council Chamber 701 Fourth Street, Yreka, CA**

The full agenda packet can be found on the City's website: www.ci.yreka.ca.us/AgendaCenter

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

PLEASE SILENCE YOUR CELL PHONES AND TURN THE WI-FI OFF ON YOUR DEVICES TO HELP STAFF CONSERVE BANDWIDTH FOR BROADCASTING. THANK YOU.

The meeting details have been placed on the agenda to allow Councilmembers, staff, and the public to participate in the meeting via teleconference, pursuant to the Governor's Executive Order N-29-20. There will be **limited public access** to the Council Chambers at this time. Masks and physical distancing will be encouraged.

Members of the public may join the meeting via Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6194957056>

Members of the public may also remotely listen to and participate in the meeting via teleconference. If you wish to listen or participate in this meeting through teleconference, simply dial into the conference number below, enter the meeting ID#.

Conference call in Number: 669-900-6833 (Toll-Free 888 788 0099)
Meeting ID# 619-495-7056

- During the call you may press *9 to "raise your hand" to ask to speak during the meeting.
- Speakers will be asked to identify themselves.

SPEAKERS:

Members of the public have the right to address the City Council in order to speak their opinion regarding issues within the jurisdiction of the City Council at all regular and special Council meetings. Please speak from the podium. When addressing the Council, please state your name for the record prior to providing your comments. Please address the Council as a whole.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

This is the time for public comments. Council may ask questions but may take no action during the public comment section of the meeting, except to direct staff to prepare a report or place an item on a future agenda. If you are here to make comments on a specific agenda item, you may speak at that time. If not, this is the time. Please limit your remarks to five (5) minutes.

PRESENTATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC:

This time slot is for information from the public. Informational presentations are valuable to the community, and both Councilmembers and Staff appreciate the time and effort needed to prepare these items. Communities and organizations are encouraged to appoint a single spokesperson to represent a larger group and individual speakers should attempt to present new material and avoid making repetitive comments. When a public presentation is made, the Council or City officials may briefly respond to statements made or questions posed and may request that the City Manager report back at a subsequent meeting. Presentations will be limited to fifteen (15) minutes.

1. Discussion/Possible Action:

Location of Temporary Alternate Sites for Homeless Encampments.

ADJOURNMENT.

In compliance with the requirements of the Brown Act, notice of this meeting has been posted in a publicly accessible place, 24 hours in advance of the meeting.

All documents produced by the City which are related to an open session agenda item and distributed to the City Council are made available for public inspection in the City Clerk's Office during normal business hours.

Public Hearings: If, in the future, you wish to challenge in court any of the matters on an agenda for which a public hearing is to be conducted, you may be limited to raising only those issues which you (or someone else) raised orally at the public hearing or in written correspondence received by the City at or before the hearing. Any person seeking to challenge a City Council decision made as a result of a proceeding in which by law a hearing is required to be given, evidence is required to be taken, and the discretion in the determination of facts is vested in the City Council, shall be required to commence that action 90 days following the date on which the decision becomes final as provided in Code of Civil Procedure Section 1094.6. Please refer to Code of Civil Procedure 1094.6 to determine how to calculate when a decision becomes "final."

"CHALLENGING DECISIONS OF CITY ENTITIES The time limit within which to commence any lawsuit or legal challenge to any quasi-adjudicative decision made by the City of Yreka is governed by Section 1094.6 of the Code of Civil Procedure, unless a shorter limitation period is specified by any other provision, including without limitation Government Code section 65009 applicable to many land use and zoning decisions, Government Code section 66499.37 applicable to the Subdivision Map Act, and Public Resources Code section 21167 applicable to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Under Section 1094.6, any lawsuit or legal challenge to any quasi-adjudicative decision made by the City must be filed no later than the 90th day following the date on which such decision becomes final. Any lawsuit or legal challenge, which is not filed within that 90-day period, will be barred. Government Code section 65009 and 66499.37, and Public Resources Code section 21167, impose shorter limitations periods and requirements, including timely service in addition to filing. If a person wishes to challenge the above actions in court, they may be limited to raising only those issues they or someone else raised at the meeting described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City of Yreka, at or prior to the meeting. In addition, judicial challenge may be limited or barred where the interested party has not sought and exhausted all available administrative remedies."

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, those requiring accommodations for this meeting should notify the City Clerk 48 hours prior to the meeting at (530) 841-2336 or by notifying the Clerk at aboyn@ci.yreka.ca.us.



CITY OF YREKA
CITY COUNCIL AGENDA MEMORANDUM

To: Yreka City Council
Prepared by: Arthur Boyd, Municipal Projects Manager
From: Steven Baker, City Manager
Agenda title: Discussion/Possible Action: Location of Temporary Alternate Sites for Homeless Encampments.
Meeting date: June 24, 2021

Discussion:

The City has had an increase in homeless encampments in the last few years. Some of these encampments are in high fire danger areas or sensitive environmental areas (e.g., near creeks or streams). In past years, escaped or suspected escaped fires from encampments in Yreka and other local cities have resulted in multi-acre brush fires that threaten structures and lives.

On June 1st, the City Council discussed urban campground locations. The Council also decided to have a series of meetings regarding the homeless on the first and third Thursdays of the month at 6:30 p.m. The Council requested that there be a discussion of a safe site for the homeless so that they could relocate from high fire danger areas.

Another challenge the City is meeting requirements in a 2018 decision from the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in the case *Martin v. City of Boise*, which deals with criminalizing homelessness.

The City owns a parcel next to the Beacon of Hope's shelter that is under construction on South Foothill Drive. This site is suitable for an "urban campground"; however, an environmental review indicates that some dirt will need to be removed from the site before it can be used for such a purpose. This site is planned for the longer term.

On June 3rd, two sites were being considered for the temporary camp: Yreka City Yard on Highway 263, and a site off of Deer Creek Road, which is located near Montague Road. It was decided the Deer Creek site due to access and fire fuels issues. In addition, the Siskiyou Gardens Parks and Greenway Association (SGPGA) has plant habitats that could be damaged by the presence of a camp in the area. There were also concerns that it was close to senior living facilities and housing.

The city yard site was ruled out as well. The Public Works department said the City's north well is near the proposed site and it is the only backup water supply that could be used if water was ever unavailable from Fall Creek. Because the well is not a traditional well and could be contaminated by a nearby urban campsite, the presence of the campsite could trigger a need for a new Drinking Water Source Assessment and Protection Report.

On June 17th, Code Enforcement and the SGPGA presented the Oberlin Trailhead of the Yreka Creek Greenway be used as a temporary urban camp for the homeless. This included requests/comments for the following:

- enforcement of tent-free buffer zones along riparian areas. 100 ft. from the creek is the standard distance recommended by agencies, but at minimum, no camping in the vegetation bordering the creek
- portable toilets and washing stations to prevent ecosystem contamination and protect human health
- continue with trash bag pick-up
- keep the camp temporary (vacate before winter)
- restore Greenway and Greenhorn Park sites after campers leave, such as: trash and toxin cleanup, soil surface smoothing, and seeding/mulching before winter rains
- consider opportunities for homeless campers to perform positive enhancements to their camp vicinity, such as supervised noxious weed removal, litter patrol, support of nearby campers, etc.

At the June 17th meeting, no formal action was taken but staff was directed to proceed with the Oberlin site. There was also discussion that two or more members of the Council wanted to physically inspect the site before committing to a course of action

Staff has visited various sites and can provide input as appropriate.

Recommendation:

That the Council discuss the location of temporary sites for homeless encampments and provide direction to Staff.