


**Agenda Sheet for City Council Meeting of:**

09/13/2021

**Date Rec'd**

9/1/2021

**Clerk's File #**

RES 2021-0076

**Renews #****Submitting Dept**

CITY COUNCIL

**Cross Ref #****Contact Name/Phone**MELISSA 625-6711  
MORRISON**Project #****Contact E-Mail**

MMORRISON@SPOKANECITY.ORG

**Bid #****Agenda Item Type**

Resolutions

**Requisition #****Agenda Item Name**

0320 - VOLUNTEERS OF AMERICA CROSSWALK CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

**Agenda Wording**

Stating the intent to commit funds to the Volunteers of America Crosswalk Capital Campaign to fund the construction for a new licensed emergency shelter for homeless youth.

**Summary (Background)**

Volunteers of America (VOA) has purchased property near Spokane Community College to build a new Crosswalk youth shelter outside of the downtown core. VOA has obtained multiple funding sources for this project and has applied for \$4m from the Housing Trust Fund, which required local government funding of \$2m. This resolution states the City's intent to commit \$1m toward this project. Funding specifics will be determined at a later date if the grant is awarded.

Lease? NO

Grant related? NO

Public Works? NO

**Fiscal Impact**
**Budget Account**

Select \$

#

Select \$

#

Select \$

#

Select \$

#

**Approvals**
**Council Notifications**
**Dept Head**

ALLERS, HANNAHLEE

**Study Session\Other**

9/13 Urban Experience

**Division Director****Council Sponsor**

CP Beggs, CM Wilkerson

**Finance**

WALLACE, TONYA

**Distribution List**
**Legal**

PICCOLO, MIKE

**For the Mayor**

ORMSBY, MICHAEL

**Additional Approvals**
**Purchasing**

Approved by Spokane City Council  
on: 9-13-2021

DocuSigned by:

CC56CBA4DC08406

City Clerk

## Briefing Paper Urban Experience

<b>Division &amp; Department:</b>	City Council
<b>Subject:</b>	Volunteers of America Crosswalk Capital Campaign
<b>Date:</b>	9/13/21
<b>Contact (email &amp; phone):</b>	Melissa Morrison <a href="mailto:mmorrison@spokanecity.org">mmorrison@spokanecity.org</a>
<b>City Council Sponsor:</b>	Council Member Betsy Wilkerson
<b>Executive Sponsor:</b>	
<b>Committee(s) Impacted:</b>	Urban Experience
<b>Type of Agenda item:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Consent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Discussion <input type="checkbox"/> Strategic Initiative
<b>Alignment:</b>	Comprehensive Plan Housing Action Plan Spokane City/COC 5 year plan to Prevent and End Homelessness
<b>Strategic Initiative:</b>	Safe and Healthy Urban Experience
<b>Deadline:</b>	Filed for consideration on 9/13/21
<b>Outcome:</b> (deliverables, delivery duties, milestones to meet)	Increasing shelter bed capacity for youth experiencing homelessness. Program will provide wrap around services and assistance with education opportunities.
<p><b>Background/History:</b> Volunteers of America operates the Crosswalk Youth Shelter. VOA will build a new Crosswalk shelter outside of the downtown core to better serve the needs of youth.</p> <p>VOA has multiple sources of funding for this project. VOA has applied for \$4 million from the Housing Trust Fund, and the Housing Trust Fund funding requires local government funding of \$2 million.</p>	
<p><b>Executive Summary:</b>          Spokane City Council states the City's intent to commit \$1 million to help VOA's Crosswalk Capital Campaign close the funding gap</p>	
<p><b>Budget Impact:</b>          TOTAL COST:          Approved in current year budget? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A          Annual/Reoccurring expenditure? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A          If new, specify funding source:          Other budget impacts: (revenue generating, match requirements, etc.)</p>	
<p><b>Operations Impact:</b>          Consistent with current operations/policy? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A          Requires change in current operations/policy? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A          Specify changes required:          Known challenges/barriers:</p>	

## **RESOLUTION NO. 2021-0076**

A Resolution stating the City Council's intent to commit funds to the Volunteers of America Crosswalk Capital Campaign to fund the construction of a new licensed emergency shelter for homeless youth.

**WHEREAS**, Spokane became the first community in Washington State to have a measurable reduction in active homelessness for any population and third in the nation to achieve this milestone for youth and young adults; and

**WHEREAS**, Spokane has sustained a reduction in the number of young people actively experiencing homelessness across the community, has reduced the number of young people experiencing unsheltered homelessness, and has increased the housing placement rate for young people across the system; and

**WHEREAS**, youth and young adult shelters played a major role in reducing the numbers of young adults sleeping unsheltered each night; and

**WHEREAS**, the trauma of homelessness, even if experienced short-term, can have a major effect on a youth's future development, and children who have experienced homelessness have significantly higher rates of emotional, behavioral, and immediate and long-term health problems over their lifetimes; and

**WHEREAS**, to meet all the physical, developmental, and social needs of youth experiencing homelessness, we must ensure access to safe shelter and emergency services; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Spokane is recognized as a member of the Anchor Community Initiative (ACI), within which the City has committed to the goal of functional zero youth and young adult homelessness by the end of 2022, and the VOA young adult shelter has been a key partner in reaching that goal by providing shelter and case management for youth experiencing homelessness; and

**WHEREAS**, young people of color and those who identify as LGBTQ+ experience homelessness at higher rates and for longer times and return to homelessness at higher rates than their white, straight, cisgender peers; and

**WHEREAS**, Volunteers of America ("VOA") currently operates Crosswalk Youth Shelter, a licensed emergency shelter which provides services for homeless youth; and

**WHEREAS**, professional case managers, teachers, health care workers, and chemical dependency counselors work with Crosswalk youth with the primary goal of ending their homelessness and connecting them to stabilizing and supportive services; and

**WHEREAS**, Crosswalk is currently located in the downtown core of the City of Spokane and due to predatory risk factors, youth are no longer safe in this area; and

**WHEREAS**, VOA has purchased land near Spokane Community College to build an expanded service model that includes the original shelter and wrap-around services; and

**WHEREAS**, the expanded services will include college-style dorms for youth aged 16-20 who are engaged in Spokane Community College's career readiness degree programs and Running Start programs as an additional way to help youth get out of homelessness and onto a stable path; and

**WHEREAS**, VOA is committed to preventing adult homelessness by creating career pathways to livable wage jobs for youth and young adults receiving services at Crosswalk Shelter; and

**WHEREAS**, Crosswalk Shelter's project budget is \$15 million, with \$7.4 million committed from the state legislature, private donations and an allocation from the Building Communities Fund; and

**WHEREAS**, VOA has applied to Housing Trust Fund for \$4 million in funding for the Crosswalk Shelter, which requires a funding commitment from local government; and

**WHEREAS**, there still remains local government funding gap of \$2 million for this project.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the City Council finds that safe shelter and accompanying services for youth experiencing homelessness are fundamental public safety infrastructure, which must be funded and operated in our community

**BE IT ALSO RESOLVED** that the Spokane City Council states the City's intent to commit \$1 million to help VOA's Crosswalk Capital Campaign close the funding gap.

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED** that the appropriate officials of the City are authorized to implement the provisions of this resolution.

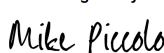
Passed by the City Council this 13th day of September, 2021 DS

DocuSigned by:

  
City Clerk

Approved as to form:

DocuSigned by:

  
Assistant City Attorney

