



Dear Councilor ,

Be Your Best is a coalition of community builders working to advance the health and well-being in South Lane. Our monthly meetings bring together almost 40 organizations in Cottage Grove and greater Lane County. Collectively, we have consistently identified the development of shelter and housing in Cottage Grove as a priority for improving the overall quality of life for our community.

Be Your Best's partnering organizations support the City's efforts to create shelter and housing and encourage the allocation of some of the American Rescue Plan Act funding toward these efforts. Proactively finding solutions for the unhoused for humanitarian, legal, and financial reasons will prove beneficial for many reasons, including cost savings related to decreased use of emergency services in hospitals, jails, and emergency shelters.

Cottage Grove's Housing Study <https://www.cottagegroveor.gov/cd/page/housing-needs-analysis-0> demonstrates the need for housing at all levels in our community, including market rate, affordable and low-income housing.

Warming Shelter for the unhoused:

*BYB members support the City's efforts to provide shelter for the unhoused during the winter months and increase the temperature threshold for activation and operation.

*Providing shelter for the unhoused makes sense for legal, fiscal, and humanitarian reasons.

Transitional housing:

*A housing-first model stabilizes lives and creates opportunities for people.

*Wrap around services provide the support needed to make this model successful.

*BYB urges the City to continue moving forward with a transitional housing plan with wrap around services.

Low-income affordable housing:

*There is a critical need for affordable rentals and housing in Cottage Grove.

*There is a 1% rental vacancy level and what little is available is unaffordable for many.

*We urge the City to develop and approve a low income rental housing property tax exemption (LIRHPTE) that encourages affordable housing development similar to the success that has been achieved with MUPTE in creating market rate housing.

BYB members are ready to support actions by the City that address the range of housing needs in Cottage Grove.

Sincerely,

Samantha Duncan, Coordinator
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Name

Affiliation (if any)

ROD & DARCIE WILLIAMS CO CITIZENS

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MM Deb Blackstone

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KAREN GORMAN Cottage Grove

Stephen Thoemmes Cottage Grove

Jean Maddy Cottage Grove

~~Shuff Kurt~~ Cottage Grove

Duane Raley Cottage Grove Amen

Virginia Royal Cottage Grove

Martha Gatchell Drain Co



Name

Affiliation (if any)

Robert Bellin *RB Bellin*

Alise Gunk Head Start of Lane County

Robert P. Hoelze concerned citizen of C.G.

~~Alise Gunk~~

Romney Shuffert *Romney Shuffert*

Shradha Maji Lynn Doramus Looking Glass Rural Program

Alise Gunk Looking Glass Rural Program

Elsa Page FPC

David P. Brauser Cottage Grove

Samir Payment Cottage Grove

Kathleen Kern Cottage Grove

Vicki Chack Fernreach LLC, Be Your Best, Cottage Village Coalition



Name

Affiliation (if any)

Allyson Cole Cottage Grove Resident

Bradford _____

Cynthia Sharp Cottage Village Coalition

Laurie Anderson First Presbyterian Church

Judy Anderson Cottage Grove

Catherine G. Burke Cottage Grove

Rebecca Hill Eugene, OR

Bruce & Cindy Vogel Cottage Grove

Angela Machacek Eugene, OR

Wendy Kelsh Cottage Grove

Suzanne Schubert-Sonne Cottage Grove

Matt Hoyle Cottage Grove *M. Robinson*
South Lane Mental Health