SAFE PARKING - PSU

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:
A national study done to collect data on homelessness rates in metropolitan areas finds that between 11% - 14% of students are experiencing homelessness. A study has not been done on specific data at PSU; however, there are students and staff experiencing homelessness at PSU, and some of those individuals are sleeping in their vehicles. Some of the individuals living in their vehicles purchase quarterly parking passes for the PSU parking garages. These individuals would benefit from a Safe Parking Program. There are existing infrastructures, systems and services that could be made available or utilized immediately. The purpose of this proposal is to map those existing infrastructures, systems and services to use as a document to suggest the feasibility of a Safe Parking Program that could be a pilot project on campus. This project is an opportunity to embark on a project of this nature, it has more of different flexibilities of costs, allowance, uses of buildings, and accesses than city systems might have. Parking Structure 2 (PS2) is an ideal site to launch the SPPP - PSU's roof level parking is at the same elevation as the AMC - US Bank. The external entry of USB can be either from this skybridge, or from the southern exterior stairwell of the USB. The southern entry leads to a corridor consisting of 3 restrooms and the office of Advising and Career Services. From the entry from the skybridge, passing through the hallway there is an exit that opens to the top level of PS2. The office can be turned into a community center, with access to its own restrooms open for use by Safe Parking Program participants only. Card access can be utilized to allow for the participants, without causing any security issues for the building.

WHERE & WHAT IS THE NEED?

Portland State University has a unique advantage to become a successful safe parking program over other city or county based projects. It can become a program that can set an example for future programs like it in universities and colleges across the US (PSU) because of its university status and the diversity of its campus grounds than city grounds might have, meaning it does not need to abide by some of the laws and codes by which other city properties are bound.

IMPLEMENTATION & BARRIERS
FOR FUTURE SAFE PARKING PROJECTS OUTSIDE OF PORTLAND STATE UNIVERSITY

CASE STUDIES: GREATER PORTLAND

A PLACE TO CATCH YOUR BREATH

Minneapolis Lutheran Church 05.04.19

LEADER: Cladonias Housing Team (a grassroots group of residents and services in Oregon City)

GOAL: to avoid "feeding the streets". The goal of the even "A Place to Catch your Breath" was organized to host an event to communicate the proposed Safe Parking Program to the public. The result was their input into its proposed goal of a safe overnight shelter.

WHERE: church parking lot

WHY CLADONIAS: because a local free clinic operates 3 EIRs in Clackamas County

ORGANIZATION HELP: MAG (Metro-Alliance for Common Good) & Case Managers

WHO: discharged and displaced individuals from a public emergency department

PHASE 1

Identify student or faculty member experiencing homelessness and immediately necessary arrangements to provide 24 hour card-entry access to the restrooms in the USB corridor on the 4th floor via the entry exit from the parking lot. Provide individuals with a mailing address to help with the ability to complete documents required by social and health services such as the DHS, DMV, and SSI for other health providers.

Use data from the Harc campus-wide survey to find out the location of the necessity on campus for safe parking program. Begin working with the Campus Planning office and the Campus Safety to look out parking spaces for the Center to place.

Scale safe parking program to serve all individuals experiencing vehicular homelessness. Begin work with the Center for Public Internet Design on Safe Parking specific infrastructure such as site specific storage units, kitchen, restrooms, warm or cool indoor spaces, mailboxes, sharing and perception device, and a secure access gate separating non-safe parking areas and safe parking areas. Connect Safe Parking participants with PSU Social Work program.