



CITY OF ALLENTOWN

No. _____

RESOLUTION

R57 - 2026

Introduced by City Council on April 15, 2026

Strongly urges the City and County administrations to address the crisis created by the recent posting of encampment sweep after the closing of the Warming Shelter

Resolved by the Council of the City of Allentown, That

Whereas, the YMCA Winter Shelter is prematurely closing for the season;

Whereas, the City of Allentown has recently posted an encampment sweep and potentially other notifications of encampments will occur;

Whereas, approximately 100 individuals currently staying at the Warming Shelter are left with no viable options for shelter;

Whereas, displacing these community members with less than a week's notice and without a transition plan in place puts lives at immediate risk;

Whereas, the City and County have emphasized the importance of city and county collaboration;

Whereas, a designated, stable location is the only way to prevent the dangerous scattering of this population into hidden or unsafe areas and allows service providers to continue the coordinated "Service Hub" model;

Whereas, providing a stable location ensures providers can wrap essential medical care, mental health support, housing transition services, and benefit application assistance around those who need it most in a centralized, efficient manner;

Whereas, valuable time is lost searching for information, and delays in sharing details and deadlines place our most vulnerable residents at unnecessary risk;

Be it Resolved, Allentown City Council strongly urges the City and County administrations to address this crisis through short-term crisis management by immediately identifying a specific plot of land and/or location where individuals can reside legally without fear of being swept or ticketed.

Be it Further Resolved, that budgeted funds in the City of Allentown be made immediately available to cover hotel costs for our unhoused neighbors to reduce the service disruption and provide a short-term housing option for those who would otherwise return to rough sleeping.

Be it further resolved, that Allentown City Council urges the City administration to deliver a reliable and transparent communication channel among the city, the county, and service providers.