

Good Evening, this letter is to address the Emergency Shelter Options –

After reviewing the options presented in tonight's council meeting agenda packet, it is clear that Option 3, Purchase and Rehabilitation of the Local Motel, is the strongest and most responsible choice. It not only provides resident stability but also offers a truly long-term solution, rather than yet another temporary, short-lived fix. Importantly, it accommodates the largest number of individuals in need, allowing the city to make a real, measurable impact. Although the initial investment may be higher than some alternatives, the long-term benefits make this the wisest and most cost-effective decision.

Option 3 also offers the greatest ability to maintain safe and consistent containment of occupants, which is essential both for public safety and the safety of the residents themselves. A single, centralized location with proper oversight ensures stability, reduces risks associated with dispersed or temporary sites, and allows services to be delivered more effectively and responsibly.

The building already exists, and while bringing it up to code will require funding, its location is advantageous. Its proximity to essential services—shopping, public transportation, medical care—means residents will have far greater access to the resources they depend on. Choosing a site farther from the town center would only create additional barriers and undermine the goal of providing stable, supportive shelter.

As for concerns about losing TOT revenue, the current occupancy rate at the La Plaza Hotel indicates that the city is not forfeiting significant revenue. In contrast, transforming the property into a stable, long-term shelter provides immeasurable community value by addressing urgent needs and improving safety for everyone.

Option 3 is not just a choice—it is an investment in people, in stability, in safety, and in the future of the community.

Thank you,

Julie Creighton