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**From:** John Campbell <campkids2@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 20, 2020 8:39 AM  
**To:** Cathy Halka  
**Subject:** Portable tiny shelters/ detached bedrooms.

Honorable members;

I tuned in to the HSW meeting this morning of 7/17/20, and the report from the county health dept. CARES funding mentioned a new source of funds, for tent encampments or tiny shelters that would be available to temporarily house people in need of shelter, year round. This is a good way to help people without homes, to social distance during this time of covid 19, if it is not possible to house them.

Tents, ( in my opinion ), are the worst option, and a last resort to throw up a shelter on a very limited budget. Mainly because the tents that are used were not intended for long term use and those are the ones you see in a box on the shelf at Yeagers or Dicks sporting goods and order online through Amazon. So they end up having to be replaced on a regular basis and the cost savings in the short term doesn't add up in the long term. The fix for tent longevity is to procure the ones that are made for long term use, (canvas), with a higher price tag, but they also may need annual maintenance to retain a weather resistance. The city of Seattle purchased some backyard storage type vinyl covered shelters, that were used at camp Second Chance. Another option could be the " Billion Bricks " organizations Weather Hyde, although the waiting period to acquire them may not fit into the time frame of the funding use deadline. Tents do offer visual privacy and a virus barrier but are almost impossible to heat during cold weather which will send the occupants to the heated congregate community area, if one is provided, or elsewhere to find relief from the cold. ( the Weather Hyde is an insulated reversible option to keep heat in or out ).

Hard sided tiny shelters are the better option because they offer the long term use, easy to heat, total privacy and security and are very durable. One of the challenges I see with the ones we've seen in the numerous villages around the Puget Sound, is some of the materials used to build them are in short supply right now. Treated lumber is one of those and is what is used or should be used to build the bases for tiny shelters. There are shed building companies in the local area that buy their materials in bulk and may be able to deliver a product that would have to be finished on the inside. Another challenge might be where to put them while you're deciding where to put them. There is a company in Everett WA called "Pallet"

(<https://nam03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.palletshelter.com%2F&data=02%7C01%7Cchalka%40co.whatcom.wa.us%7Cc24a50baedd341fac4b608d82cc31d75%7C2122bbce9a1d4565931b0c534ef12e43%7C0%7C1%7C637308563812257776&reserved=0>). They produce shelters, specifically for emergency housing, and they are delivered on a pallet. They can be assembled in one hour and disassembled as needed.

On another note council person Browne asked about why covid19 cases among the homeless population was low. Apparently this is a country wide phenomena according to the United States Inter- agency Council on Homelessness. Data collected from places like Los Angeles county California and Atlanta Georgia with some of the highest homeless populations are showing lower infection rates than the housed populations. It could be attributed to a quick response to the situation and maybe the tendency of homeless people to avoid contact with the general public?

I hope this input is helpful and keep up the good work during these challenging times. It could all turn very quickly.

John Campbell