

#	Question or comment	Answer	Zip code
1	If it's ok to put it this close to St Paul's Lutheran school, please ask yourself are you ok with it that close to your child's school? The back lash these concerned parents took for protecting their own children is disgusting.	The Mayor's Office respects your opinion and shares your desire to keep children safe. There are no "sexual violent predators" or "offenders against children" living in the immediate area around the proposed resource center according to the Sex Offender Registry. As part of her research, Mayor Tucker requested 3.5 years of data from the Fort Wayne Police Department. Specifically, she asked for data about crimes against children in downtown and within a mile of downtown. The data showed no crimes against children downtown. There were crimes against children outside of downtown. Those crimes were committed by family members. There is no perfect place for a homeless resource center, but as long as there are homeless people there will be a need for a resource center.	46804
2	I don't think it's a good idea. That's just inviting more to come, what happens when the place fills up?	It's important to note that the City has already taken steps to prevent this. In late March, City Council passed an ordinance proposed by the Mayor that makes it illegal to transport or "drop off" a homeless individual in Fort Wayne from another community. The Anchor Resource Center is designed to serve the people who are already here. Our homeless population is overwhelmingly local, and the center's purpose is to better manage and support those individuals—not draw new people into the city.	46825
3	I am for this homeless center. People need a place to go, and the resources they need are in this area. Where else can it go?	Thank you for your comments. The Anchor Resource Center is designed to serve the people who are already here. Our homeless population is overwhelmingly local, and the center's purpose is to better manage and support those individuals—not draw new people into the city. Most of the available resources are located near the proposed site, which is one reason why it was selected.	46815
4	My only comment is I believe we can find a better location that what is proposed. I am not against helping the homeless - but why does everything need to be downtown? There are bus lines everywhere for people to access services - maybe something out on Beacon Street close to Parkview Randallia	Thank you for sharing your thoughts. We understand the desire to find a location that feels like the best possible fit for everyone. The reality is that there is no truly ideal location for a service like this — every option comes with tradeoffs. One of our key considerations is avoiding residential areas, but at the same time, we also have to recognize how our homeless population	46807

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		currently moves through the city. Most individuals experiencing homelessness are already centered downtown because that is where the existing amenities, supports, and community resources are located. If we were to place the facility too far from downtown, we would risk creating a situation where people have to travel back and forth through residential neighborhoods just to reach the services they need. For these reasons, a downtown location — while not perfect — is the one most likely to support the program’s success and reduce unintended impacts on other parts of the community.	
5	Why does the mayor think it’s ok to have sex offenders located so close to a school? Her response was that most aren’t violent offenders towards children. Isn’t the possibility of 1 too many? How does she plan to get elected with mentality like this? (Should be noted she was not elected by the people to be in this position).	The Mayor’s Office shares your desire to keep all children safe. There are no “sexual violent predators” or “offenders against children” living in the immediate area around the proposed resource center accord the Sex Offender Registry. As part of her research, Mayor Tucker requested 3.5 years of data from the Fort Wayne Police Department. Specifically, she asked for data about crimes against children in downtown and within a mile of downtown. The data showed no crimes against children downtown. There were crimes against children outside of downtown. Those crimes were committed by family members. There is no perfect place for a homeless resource center, but as long as there are homeless people there will be a need for a resource center.	46802
6	No thanks....Drive to downtown from the South....You soon see the current Homeless shelter on the right....and the Old Hotel that also seems to have homeless people and people are standing and laying on sidewalk. Its all downtown. You need to have a place out in the country. It is crazy Ft Wayne is spending money to enhance downtown with River access, Bridge beautifications and downtown improvements.....and want to spoil it with more homeless issues downtown.....move them out	Thank you for your input.	46802

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7	Absolutely NO homeless (resource) center downtown, or anywhere in Fort Wayne.	Thank you for your input.	46802
8	This is the best place close to things they need. Neighborhoods isn't the place for homeless people. Thank you.	Thank you for your input.	46816
9	We need this to open! I cannot think of any better location for this shelter. You can see how many homeless folks there are just in the downtown area. How can anyone expect them to get to any other location? Everything they need to survive is downtown- medical care (Mathew 25), clothing (Salvation army), Food and other resources (Rescue Mission , St Mary's soup kitchen)the list goes on... These are people! We are all one car wreck away from being on the street or an addict! Compassion!	Thank you for your input.	46818
10	I think this is a great location for the proposed homeless resource center. It's a stones throw away from the Rescue Mission where the unhoused often get a meals. Public transportation is accessible from this location. The YMCA is nearby for showers. Neighboring churches should be welcoming God's people with open arms, praying with them, inviting them in to hear the word of the Lord. Why push people away? Can you be a faithful servant while also ignoring God's people who could use a hand up? How do we make our community stronger and better if we never help the weakest link? Let us be united rather than divided.	Thank you for your input.	46816
11	Why call it Anchored when The Lighthouse 30 day program is called Anchored. Seems to be confusing. The Lighthouse has used this name for the last 8 years.	We chose the name "Anchor" because we believe it symbolizes stability — a steady, grounding force for people who are navigating some of the most difficult moments in their lives. That symbolism is likely the same reason The Lighthouse selected a similar name for their program eight years ago. While the meanings align, we do not believe the shared use of the word will create confusion. The organizations serve different functions, and each has its own identity, staff, and services. At the same time, both efforts are focused on helping people find stability, which reflects a common mission across our community.	46783
12	I grew up in Fort Wayne. The downtown was vibrant & began a decline once shoppers shifted to shopping centers like Glenbrook. Downtown Ft Wayne declined. Many parts of Ft Wayne government leadership and private groups should be applauded for bringing back our downtown. There is NO WAY Ft Wayne should put ANY homeless shelter anywhere near our central city. I will not go downtown if we install a homeless magnet. Crime, safety, will all be adversely. Avoid the Lafayette model -	Thank you for your input.	46815

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	implement the Iowa model. (See link) https://nypost.com/2026/06/22/real-estate/first-look-at-tiny-home-village-where-rent-starts-at-300/?utm_campaign=iphone_nyp&utm_source=pasteboard_app		
13	This is a great idea and there is no better place for the location than downtown. The center has my support! A lot of the people who are against the Center are ignorant or actively against the existence of homeless people. I and many other Fort Wayne natives are excited for this.	Thank you for your input.	46805
14	I have lived downtown for 35+ years. Please proceed with this needed project.	Thank you for your input.	46802
15	Since there are already several facilities catering to the homeless population, what specifically will this Resource Center be doing that is different from any of the other places? What, if any, vetting will be done to ensure people using the center are from the Fort Wayne area, rather than travelling homeless who jump city-to-city using up any resources available to them?	The Anchor is designed to fill gaps in Fort Wayne’s existing homeless response system, not duplicate existing services. While many community partners provide shelter, meals, healthcare, and specialized services, the Anchor will provide a 24/7 access point for basic stabilization services, coordinated entry, housing navigation, and connections to community resources. Individuals accessing the Anchor will complete a Coordinated Entry assessment and work with staff to identify barriers, develop a housing plan, and connect to appropriate services. The Anchor will not deny basic services based solely on where an individual is from. However, housing and supportive services are often tied to eligibility requirements and funding guidelines. The Anchor will comply with applicable city ordinances regarding transportation of individuals experiencing homelessness from other communities and will coordinate with law enforcement when required. The goal of the Anchor is to better coordinate resources and help individuals experiencing homelessness in our community move toward housing stability.	46802
16	I am 100% supportive of the homeless shelter and believe Mayor Sharon Tucker and staff are to be commended for all of the hard work they have put in on this project.	Thank you for your input.	46805
17	I am in favor of the new homeless center downtown. I feel that it is important to provide the services that the center will provide if we want to	Thank you for your input.	46802

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	help the homeless men and women progress and possibly find a way to become housed. I live in the area and I see the large swaths of homeless men and women who frequent the area. Since the city has cracked down on open urban camping, there has been a surge of people looking for services at the City On the Hill. However, they can't provide enough services. The councilmen and business owners who are against the program do not live here in the neighborhood. They are not seeing what we see as residents. They seem to think that if we push the services out of downtown it will suddenly make the homeless go away, but all it will do is move them around again. The best thing we can do as a city is provide them with a place where they can get the help they need to get back on their feet.		
18	This does not need to be downtown on Washington. Alternatives could be soon to be old jail. City property south of downtown is another location. I work downtown. Go down the alley between Clay and Lafayette and Washington and Jefferson daily, that needs to addressed. Close to schools or the YMCA is ridiculous.	Thank you for your input.	46804
19	I think it is a bad location. Washington Blvd is to busy of a street. Plus to close to a school	Thank you for your input.	46808
20	This resource center is something that is greatly needed in our city. I have lived in Fort Wayne all my life and regularly commute downtown, and have seen more homeless people now than ever. We as humans have a duty to care for each other, and this includes those who are most vulnerable in our community. The current proposed building near the Rescue Mission makes the most sense in order for people to actually be able to access it. It should be near those who need it most. Any businesses who feel it will impact their safety can invest in their own security rather than punishing our homeless community.	Thank you for your input.	46835
21	Do not build it. It will only increase the problem and further make it unsafe for law abiding citizens.	Thank you for your input.	46805
22	So, I know some people are against it for fear of "safety" and "think of the children," so my question is: Where else do you want the homeless resource center to go? Where else would it be convenient for unhoused people to get resources and help? I am very much in support of this homeless resource center and the	Thank you for your input.	46774

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	location. This can be a step towards ending homelessness in Fort Wayne. (The end goal being giving unhoused people a place to stay of course).		
23	This is not a good idea. It is an invitation to bring more homeless from other areas and will have a net negative effect of increasing homelessness in the area and make it more difficult to deal with the problem in the long run. Let the religious and private institutions deal with this and lets not repeat the mistakes of other cities who don't understand the incentives that this kind of government run homeless program creates.	It's important to note that the City has already taken steps to prevent this. In late March, City Council passed an ordinance proposed by the Mayor that makes it illegal to transport or "drop off" a homeless individual in Fort Wayne from another community. The Anchor Resource Center is designed to serve the people who are already here. Our homeless population is overwhelmingly local, and the center's purpose is to better manage and support those individuals—not draw new people into the city.	46845
24	Homelessness has been a problem in Ft Wayne and Allen County for years and this is a good starting point. But the current location being considered is not the appropriate place and needs to be further researched to satisfy all of our citizens.	Thank you for your input.	46815
25	I think the homeless resource center is a great idea. Churches have forgotten the "Love thy neighbor" part of the bible.	Thank you for your input.	46808
26	I am in complete support of the resource center as a way to improve the lives of the unhoused which in turn will improve our city Amanda and Mayor Tucker did great at laying out out the thought and work that has gone into this project. If there is something we, the citizens, can do to help see this through, please let us know.	Thank you for your input.	46805
27	I am writing to express my concerns regarding the proposed homeless shelter planned for our area. First, I want to acknowledge that homelessness is a complex issue and that individuals experiencing homelessness deserve compassion, dignity, and access to services. However, I believe it is important to honestly discuss the impact that the growing concentration of homeless services has had on our community and whether expanding those services in the same area is the best solution. Over the past several years, our community has invested significant resources into homeless assistance programs, shelters, meal services, and outreach efforts. Despite these efforts, many residents and	The issues you described — including safety concerns for employees, students, and families — are real, and we take them seriously. It's important to clarify that the Anchor Resource Center is not another shelter. It was recommended after the City completed a comprehensive Homelessness Strategic Plan, which included direct input from people with lived experience, service and shelter providers, and community partners. That feedback helped identify clear gaps in our current system, especially around daytime services, coordination, and emergency response capacity. The goal of the Resource Center is to better organize the services we already have, reduce unmanaged behavior in public spaces, and give first responders and outreach teams a structured place to take people	46802

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	employees have witnessed an increase in concerning behaviors in public spaces, including aggressive panhandling, harassment of pedestrians, loitering, public intoxication, trespassing, and public defecation. These issues directly affect the quality of life and sense of safety for those who live and work nearby. As an employee at a location that serves students and families, I have personally observed situations where homeless individuals have approached staff members, visitors, and students. Employees have expressed concerns about walking to their vehicles, particularly during early morning or evening hours. While many homeless individuals are not dangerous, the reality is that the current situation has created legitimate safety concerns that should not be dismissed. My concern is not simply about adding another shelter. My concern is whether the city has objectively evaluated the effectiveness of the services already in place. Before approving additional facilities, residents deserve clear answers regarding: What measurable outcomes have existing shelters achieved? How many individuals have successfully transitioned to permanent housing? How many have obtained stable employment? What accountability measures are in place to address public safety concerns? How will the city prevent further concentration of homelessness-related impacts in the surrounding neighborhoods? What protections will be provided for nearby businesses, schools, employees, and residents? I believe our community can support those in need while also protecting public safety and maintaining clean, welcoming public spaces. Compassion and accountability should exist together.	who need support. It is designed to strengthen the entire system — not duplicate what currently exists. We also understand the need for accountability. That is why the Resource Center will be overseen by both a Governance Board and a Community Advisory Board, and the facility will report to City Council annually on agreed-upon performance metrics. These structures ensure transparency, measurable outcomes, and the ability to adjust if challenges arise, whether inside the facility or in the surrounding neighborhood. We agree that Fort Wayne must protect public safety while also supporting those in need. The Resource Center is one important step toward achieving that balance, and your feedback is vital in shaping how we move forward as a community.	

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	I respectfully ask city leaders to carefully evaluate the effectiveness of current programs, consider the impact on surrounding neighborhoods, and provide transparent data demonstrating why an additional shelter is necessary and how it will produce different results than existing services. Thank you for your consideration of these concerns and for ensuring that the voices of residents, employees, families, and students are included in this important discussion.		
28	In regards to these experts the city has hired to coordinate this remarkably incompetent plan, what are the consequences these individuals and organizations will face when this turns out to single handedly make downtown Fort Wayne collapse because no one wants to drive there to eat or attend an event? The residents and businesses downtown have, and will continue to feel the consequences, so I'm just curious what consequences the decision makers will face. I suppose that's not something you've considered.	Recently, Governor Braun referred to Fort Wayne as an oasis of prosperity. Fort Wayne and our downtown are flourishing. At the same time, there has been an increase in the number of homeless people who are downtown. Both of these things are true at the same time. This is why the homeless resource center is needed downtown now.	46805
29	It is a necessity for the community at large and the area they want to put it is perfect it is close to where it is needed the most. The fear mongering from the pastor and the few businesses is uncalled for	Thank you for your input.	46805
30	As a member of this community for 42 years, I have NEVER seen homelessness reach the level it has in recent years. I think that as a community it is our job to help the homeless. I guess most of us don't understand why you wouldn't want the resource center as close as possible to the shelter? It makes sense on all levels and fronts! Not all of the homeless are deviants and criminals, and being treated that way just makes them want to act like they are!	Thank you for your input.	46804
31	The current proposed location in downtown Fort Wayne for the homeless resource center is the absolute best location for it. The Rescue Mission is nearby and it's just logical for the Anchor Resource Center to be located within walking distance of the Mission. The downtown area itself is a central location to ensure the new resource center is accessible to as many homeless individuals and families as possible. It would make no sense to decentralize it, which would make it more challenging for those who need it most. I believe caring for Americans who are struggling to survive should take absolute precedence over the wealthy and/or powerful in business and government who are only concerned about	Thank you for your input.	46835

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	becoming wealthier, even if their growing wealth comes from walking on the backs of the unfortunate and unhoused in our society.		
32	No questions; but fully in support of this project and location adjacent the Rescue Mission! This location makes the most sense with the resources surrounding, public transportation readily available, a building already there that will just need updates, and the homeless population already being located around this area! Our family fully supports this location, project, and funding towards it to help our homeless population in Fort Wayne.	Thank you for your input.	46802
33	Another shelter will only attract more homeless individuals to our city. The vast majority of the homeless individuals are from surrounding cities and states. Focus on caring for those currently here	It's important to note that the City has already taken steps to prevent this. In late March, City Council passed an ordinance proposed by the Mayor that makes it illegal to transport or "drop off" a homeless individual in Fort Wayne from another community. The Anchor Resource Center is designed to serve the people who are already here. Our homeless population is overwhelmingly local, and the center's purpose is to better manage and support those individuals—not draw new people into the city.	46805
34	I think Mayor Tuckers site choice for the new homeless resource center is perfect. Centrally located and in close proximity to other resources that a homeless person would need.	Thank you for your input.	46803
35	Seems like the best thing to do to help with the unhoused issue in town is to provide housing where they are, in town. Don't understand how this is even a debate. Stop listening to bigots and do the right thing and move forward with the center, especially with all the due diligence and research they've done that all points to positive results.	Thank you for your input.	46808
36	We already have so many services downtown for the homeless. The Rescue Mission, Miss Virginia's Food Pantry, Matthew 25, numerous churches, etc. If certain individuals are banned from those services due to alcohol or drug use, why are we offering more services to enable? If we offer more services more and more homeless will be downtown. More and more will come from other cities, counties, and states. Word gets out and they will come. The City has spent so much time and money to revitalize downtown. It is beautiful and I love seeing families enjoying the restaurants and parks downtown. However, I live across from the library and regularly see	Thank you for your comments. It's important to note that the City has already taken steps to prevent this. In late March, City Council passed an ordinance proposed by the Mayor that makes it illegal to transport or "drop off" a homeless individual in Fort Wayne from another community. The Anchor Resource Center is designed to serve the people who are already here. Our homeless population is overwhelmingly local, and the center's purpose is to better manage and support those individuals—not draw new people into the city.	46802

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	people sleeping, drug deals, fights, police and fire presence, etc. I had to call the police one night recently because a man was "pleasuring" himself right outside the library's main entrance. Please spread out the resources. The downtown businesses, residents, and churches will be overloaded if yet another resource is added. Let alone one that is low barrier and less restricted. Please!! Consider something else other than right next to the Rescue Mission. Fort Wayne can do better.		
37	While a homeless center is needed, I oppose the location being in downtown where there has been such an effective effort to revitalize and renew businesses and buildings. Unfortunately the homeless population already quite visible downtown, have justly earned themselves a bad reputation by their unsanitary behaviors. I feel uncomfortable already walking downtown. This would make it even worse. Just the Rescue mission moving to their current location from Superior street made things so much worse. I fear an additional homeless center nearby will be the death of those businesses already close by. I also think it poses a safety issue with the school. Why can't the homeless center be created in an already blighted area with not so much to lose? I'm extremely concerned that this proposed homeless center was trying to be expedited in there with little or no public input until just recently. It feels like there must have been a rush to ram it in before people had a chance to say something. They puts up big red flags to me.	Thank you for sharing your thoughts. We understand the desire to find a location that feels like the best possible fit for everyone. The reality is that there is no truly ideal location for a service like this — every option comes with tradeoffs. One of our key considerations is avoiding residential areas, but at the same time, we also have to recognize how our homeless population currently moves through the city. Most individuals experiencing homelessness are already centered downtown because that is where the existing amenities, supports, and community resources are located. If we were to place the facility too far from downtown, we would risk creating a situation where people have to travel back and forth through residential neighborhoods just to reach the services they need. For these reasons, a downtown location — while not perfect — is the one most likely to support the program's success and reduce unintended impacts on other parts of the community.	46835
38	I am fully in support of the center and find it shameful that so many businesses around downtown Fort Wayne are not. There is already a resource and draw in the Rescue Mission. Comparisons to Lafayette's center are not equivalent, as they don't have a shelter near their resource center location. This is a great fit for the area and supports some of the most vulnerable members of our community. Ignoring a problem and outsourcing it to a religious non-profit that places	Thank you for your input.	46805

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	restrictions on help is not the answer. I'm proud to support the resource center.		
39	I think it is a wonderful place close to the one we have that cannot accomodate more and helps support for no need to house yourself under a bridge or in a wooded area in a tent. God Bless...Hope this proposal makes it through.	Thank you for your input.	46807
40	THIS LOCATION IS TOO CLOSE TO SCHOOLS AND PLAYGROUND. YOU GUYS DONT PLAN ON CHECKING IF THEY ARE SEXUAL PREDATORS OR NOT. MOVE THIS TYPE OF SHELTER TO THE COUNTY. THERE IS NO REASON EVER TO PUT HUNDREDS OF KIDS AT DANGER. THIS TYPE OF SHELTER SHOULD BE IN A FARM SETTING.	Thank you for your input.	46802
41	I think it is important to help the homeless people in fort wayne. I do not however feel the building across from the rescue mission is the right place. The city of fort wayne has spent so much money making downtown look so nice with all the businesses and apartments that have been built there. People driving through town, some of which are tourists, already can see some of the people from the rescue mission sitting on the side of that building. If we have more homeless loitering across the street, or going to and from Belmont. What kind of look does that give people traveling through the downtown area of our city. How does that make downtown feel safe to the residents of fort wayne?	We understand the concerns about how a resource center may affect downtown. Many of us at the City have spent years investing in downtown's growth, safety, and success, and this decision was made only after extensive research and input from experts and other communities. A few clarifications may help. "Low barrier" does not mean low accountability—the center will have clear rules, trained staff, security cameras, and 24/7 supervision to ensure safety for both clients and the surrounding area. The goal is to bring activity indoors and reduce unmanaged issues on the streets, not increase them. The downtown location is intentional because this is where most of our homeless population already is and where they have access to services and transportation. Placing the center farther away—such as near the new jail—would make it difficult for people to reach, which dramatically reduces usage and effectiveness. Our intent is the same as yours: a safe, welcoming downtown. A well-managed, accessible center is designed to improve current conditions by providing structure and support, rather than allowing challenges to remain unaddressed in public spaces.	46807

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42	This center sounds amazing! Helping each other used to be a normal human thing to do.	Thank you for your input.	46804
43	terrible idea, public safety should be number 1, not drug addicts that serve no purpose in society.	Thank you for your input.	46825
44	This is something our community needs. It needs to go ahead and be approved so the city can get it going to help those in need.	Thank you for your input.	46805
45	I think it is a great resource to have. As long as it is used Soley for its purpose to wash up wash clothes and want to help themselves. They should know sleeping wise is caddy Corder with the mission. but soley for the fact of them getting help I think it will be great. I understand the peoples concern but the mission has been there for quite some time and it is still standing.	Thank you for your input.	46835
46	Why did the City Council deny the funding for the anchor resource center? We need this in our community. It feels irresponsible from the vote of 5 of our elected officials, who have a duty to be a good public servant.	Thank you for your input.	46802
47	My question is for the opposing citizens that think this is a bad area for the site. With the mission, Oak Street Health, and other valuable resources within walking distance, how is it going to change the current environment of downtown? The same people using the listed services will be the same people looking to be helped at the homeless resource center. And if we are to put it elsewhere, how are these same people supposed to transport themselves the longer distances between resources? Frankly, the scare tactics used by the critics of this location have gotten out of hand and borderline unethical. Don't scream we need to help people but get mad when the helps being offered in your neighborhood.	Thank you for your input.	46805
48	I am happy to see the needs of Fort Wayne homeless being addressed with this new facility. I also understand the concern of area businesses and residents about an influx of homeless to the area (many of whom struggle with mental illness and/or drug and alcohol abuse). As a patron	Safety remains one of our top priorities. Alongside the new resource center, the City is taking concrete steps to ensure downtown remains a welcoming and secure place for everyone. This includes the Mayor's creation of a dedicated Downtown Police District, which is designed to	46845

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	of downtown parks and restaurants, I want to continue to feel safe. I feel that a stronger police presence would allow the facility to function but also keep people feeling secure as they navigate downtown.	strengthen patrol presence, improve response times, and support public safety.	
49	Worst idea yet, doesn't solve the root cause and only invites people from other areas to come here and suck the system paid for by the hard working citizens of our city	Thank you for your input.	46808
50	As someone who lives near downtown and works at Electric Works, I support the homeless center. The 2 biggest issues facing downtown are inflated rents and the homeless. They are already there...this would simply give them a place to go where they may have access to resources.	Thank you for your input.	46807
51	Are we going to address the homeless problem that is already over taking our downtown? I can't even drive through downtown on my way to and from work with my windows down anymore otherwise we hear screaming incoherently or constant begging for money. We have a major issue with this city trying to build up our downtown to completely destroy it by letting hundreds of unhomed civilians making our city look like skid row. There's tents overtaking the side walks, homeless living in the woods near our family parks. there is not one day any citizen, and I'm talking about the leaders of this city as well, can drive through downtown or anywhere in Fort Wayne and think this is acceptable. The answer is not another homeless shelter. It's ensuring the safety of all, including the homeless. Which obviously is unattainable otherwise we would be handling the already major issue we have.	We know many people across Fort Wayne are feeling the impact of homelessness in very visible ways right now, and we understand how challenging and frustrating these situations can be. Safety for everyone — residents, businesses, visitors, and the homeless population itself — is and will continue to be a top priority for the City. At the same time, the City is taking parallel steps to keep the community safe — including the Mayor's creation of a dedicated Downtown Police District to provide a stronger, more responsive presence. We aren't ignoring the issue, nor are we accepting the status quo. The Resource Center is part of a larger, long-term strategy focused on safety, dignity, and restoring order while helping people move toward stability.	46806
52	Given Bill Bean's association with this property and he and his business partners association with other downtown properties acquired by the city, I am curious as to how much influence he and his business partners had on the city choosing this location for the shelter?	Bill Bean has not had any influence on the selection of this location.	46803
53	I have heard the statement, "You want homeless people off of your doorstep/ away from your building/ etc." then let the center be built in the proposed location." How will you guarantee that this will actually happen? How will you guarantee that the homeless population that is camping/ urinating/ defecating/ etc. in places they shouldn't will actually go into and use the ARC? The last time I checked, they still have free will like everyone else. Would some people use the ARC, I'd guess so. But how can you be sure that by building this center in this location, those problems will just magically disappear?	You're absolutely right that no single action can guarantee behavior change, and we're not suggesting that the Resource Center will magically make every challenge disappear. There is no magic wand. But the ARC is a critical next step in addressing the issues we are already experiencing as a community. Low-barrier service models are built on the premise of meeting people where they are, reducing obstacles that keep individuals from seeking help, and steadily moving them toward stability. This approach has	46835

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		been highly successful in other communities, where creating a central, coordinated access point has significantly reduced unsafe encampments, unmanaged public behaviors, and the strain on both neighborhoods and public safety resources. For the Anchor Resource Center to function as a low-barrier, coordinated service hub, it needs to be accessible to the population it serves and close to the existing network of resources. While we cannot take away anyone's free will, we can provide a place where people can safely go, access services, and get connected to the supports they need. For many individuals, having that consistent, accessible option dramatically increases engagement — and reduces the kinds of issues residents are seeing now. The ARC isn't the entire solution, but it is an essential part of a broader, long-term strategy focused on safety, stability, and dignity for the homeless population that is already here.	
54	I work downtown and this would make downtown very unsafe. Just last week, we had to chase a homeless man off of our property while he was peeing on the side of a building during the day. When asked to leave he was threatening and turned very violent.	Thank you for sharing your experience — situations like the one you described are understandably frightening, and no one should feel unsafe at their workplace or anywhere downtown. Safety is and will remain a top priority for the City. When incidents like this occur, it's important to call 911 immediately so police can respond and intervene. No employee or business owner should have to handle a threatening or violent situation on their own. To strengthen safety downtown, the Mayor has created a dedicated Downtown Police District, which increases patrol presence, improves response times, and ensures officers are focused on the unique needs of the area. At the same time, part of improving safety long-term is ensuring people who are struggling have access to services that reduce exactly these kinds of unmanaged behaviors. That's why the Resource Center is being developed — it's not a standalone fix, but it is a meaningful step toward addressing the issues that are already present and supporting a safer, more stable environment for everyone.	46802

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55	I am in strong support of the homeless resource center. Fort Wayne is often regarded and celebrated as being a great place to live and has been recognized by countless organizations as such. With recent changes to state laws regarding homelessness and with the pushback on the resource center, it is apparent Fort Wayne's kindness is a lie. Properly researched studies have proven that homeless resource centers boost communities through improved public health and safety, and lowered street homelessness. Fort Wayne's crimes, as proven by public safety records, show that the majority of these crimes are not committed by homeless individuals, but are committed by housed individuals. People attribute crime to homeless individuals because we are taught to believe that being homeless is a personal fault, when in reality, homeless is a failing of our social system. We are told that homeless individuals must be uneducated, lazy, and drug addicts/alcoholics, therefore, they must commit crimes in order to survive. This is patently false. In fact, only 6-8% of crimes are committed by homeless individuals and are 'survival' crimes like petty theft and sleeping in restricted public areas. By denying this resource center, we are allowing crime to continue in downtown rather than trying to find a solution to alleviate it. The majority of Fort Wayne residents are 1-2 paychecks away from being homeless themselves. The average household income in Fort Wayne is \$61,422 which is barely enough to sustain a one-bedroom apartment and necessities. Marty Bender's 2021 salary of \$120,449 would not be enough to live comfortably in Fort Wayne. The pushback from downtown (and non-downtown) residents is NIMBY behavior and an embarrassment, on a national level, to Fort Wayne as a whole. The pushback from downtown businesses and churches is appalling. Downtown businesses are not leaving because of homelessness but because the cost of their building rent and operations fees are rising. These businesses often have no choice but to relocate to more affordable locations within the city. Downtown has been overridden by unaffordable	Thank you for your input.	46808

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	housing and outrageously priced restaurants that most Fort Wayne residents cannot viably afford to frequent. The businesses downtown that flourish are those who welcome all people and provide other resources to the community. The simple fact that Chuck Surack, founder and former CEO of the most globally successful business in Fort Wayne, supports the resource center should serve as reminder to all Fort Wayne businesses that success and kindness can go hand-in-hand. These downtown businesses that oppose the resource center location clearly value profits over people. These businesses seem to have no understanding that they may have to close their doors due to one bad quarter. As for the churches, this is quite possibly the most troublesome and un-Christianlike behavior I have ever seen. The Bible explicitly states that we must help our downtrodden neighbors and treat them with respect and dignity. Their excuse is that, because there is a school within a certain distance of the proposed resource center, the children will be in danger. This is patently false - statistics show that the majority of violence committed against children happens in either their own home or in a school shooting. Individuals guilty of child abuse/assault are typically family members or family friends - perhaps the church should take a closer look at the families they serve and find the monsters within their flock. Jesus would be embarrassed and infuriated by the beliefs of these churches. Lastly, the majority of Fort Wayne's city council are embarrassments to the community and are unfit for their positions. Their job is to serve ALL residents of Fort Wayne, not just those who are lucky enough to have housing. Their responsibility to the people is to ensure the people have resources and support to flourish within our community, but clearly the councilmembers only serve their own interests, save for Rohli, Michelle, and Geoff. The other council members claim they are in support of the resource center, just not the proposed location. What they fail to offer are options on how to transport homeless individuals to wherever they believe the center should be located. Many of our homeless citizens have		

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	physical impairments that would hinder them from traversing to a location outside of downtown without transportation assistance. Marty Bender, in particular, should re-examine himself and step down from the council. His former employer, FWPD, supports the resource center location and states it is a needed resource within the downtown community, as this is where the majority of Allen County homeless individuals are found. Bender has essentially turned against the organization that for so long gave him gainful employment and allowed him to enjoy retirement. This is a slap in the face of the department sworn to protect our city and citizens. Bender's behavior at city council meetings is unbecoming of a public official, and he should resign. The city council members in opposition would be wise to remember that their positions are at the behest of voters and simply being a Republican in Indiana is no longer a guarantee of holding a political office. The voice of the city will be heard, and we will remember the words of these unkind and selfish individuals when at the polls.		
56	I am concerned about the level of drugs and crime that has followed the existing homeless shelter that as not done anything to combat the drugs , crime and prostitution that has moved with it, it also concerns me that the same people that run the Fort Wayne Rescue Mission will be running or in some sort way in charge of the city's run mission the Cty of Fort Wayne has failed with the Fort Wayne Rescue Mission and will never provide an actual number of people that are actually homeless because 95% of the people at the Fort Wayne Rescue Mission are on SSI and SSDi or both so they get there checks spend on drugs, alcohol, and women and stay in a homeless shelter to live and eat for free instead of accepting they have income and can find an apartment or house to live in. The Fort Wayne Rescue Mission and the City of Fort Wayne have failed the citizens of Fort Wayne for way to long whale the people in charge of any homeless shelter get there pockets full of money. I say no, to this.	Thank you for your input.	46204
57	will this facility be open 24 / 7? will there be on-site security at the facility or in the parking lot during	Yes. The Anchor is planned to operate 24/7 with staff available at all times. The facility will have security personnel, security procedures,	46808

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	operating hours? are their going to be overnight accommodations for the clientele? how does this facility differ from the high rise in the high rise across from the Rescue Mission?	and monitoring systems to support the safety of guests, staff, and the surrounding community. Specific security procedures, including parking lot operations, will be finalized by the Anchor Board prior to opening. The Anchor will include limited overnight stabilization cots for individuals who need a safe place to stay while they are connected to shelter, treatment, or housing resources. It is not intended to operate as a permanent housing facility. The Anchor differs from the residential programs at the nearby high-rise because it is designed as a low-barrier access point for services, coordinated entry, and housing navigation. The goal is to connect individuals experiencing homelessness to appropriate resources and housing options rather than provide long-term residential housing. The near-by highrise is an assisted living facility which is not part of homeless services.	
58	Due to the vote to delay the nearly 3 million dollars in funding the shelter will now open anywhere from 4-7 months later if an agreement on funding is voted for in September later this year. In that time the city of Fort Wayne will have let anywhere from 55 to 128 people succumb to the nearly never ending cycle of homelessness and poverty. How does our community benefit from keeping people living on the streets, it's time we stop judging people for who they have been and start helping them become the person they can be.	Thank you for your input.	46808
59	How will you be able to make sure that the area (public spaces, sidewalks) between the ARC and the shelter does not become even more of a blight on downtown Fort Wayne? The shelter already has people who are drinking alcohol and doing drugs crowding the sidewalks and/or stumbling into the street at times. How will make sure that this doesn't expand and become a bigger issue, both from a welcoming downtown/ tourist perspective and from a safety perspective?	The Anchor Resource Center is being intentionally designed to reduce, not increase, the impacts of unsheltered homelessness in the surrounding neighborhood. Unlike many existing services with limited hours, the Anchor will operate 24/7, giving people a place to go at any time rather than waiting outside for services to open. The facility will have trained security personnel on-site 24 hours a day, security cameras monitoring both the interior and exterior of the building, and staff responsible for routine perimeter checks and proactive engagement with individuals outside the facility. The building is also being designed with a secure, enclosed courtyard that can only	46835

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		be accessed from inside the Resource Center, providing guests with an outdoor space without encouraging gathering on adjacent sidewalks. Anchor is committed to being a good neighbor. A dedicated phone number will be available for nearby businesses and residents to report concerns, and a Community Advisory Group will meet regularly to review neighborhood impacts, address concerns, and identify opportunities for continuous improvement. The Resource Center will also track and report community concerns, neighborhood engagement activities, and other performance measures.	
60	Thank you for providing this forum for information and input. I've read everything on this website and have multiple questions before I can make an informed opinion. 1. Has anyone investigated low barrier shelters that have not lived up to expectations or failed? 2. Is Matthew 25 involved in this program? 3. Although the Township Trustee office is nearby will they have a representative on site? 4. Who will actually be working with individuals to address their specific needs and direct them to appropriate resources? 5. Who will be providing security i.e. FWPd or a private security service? 6. Will this facility provide on site overnight accommodations?	1. Yes. As part of the planning process, we have researched successful and unsuccessful low-barrier models across the country. While no model is perfect, low-barrier, housing-focused resource centers are considered a national best practice because they reduce barriers to engagement and increase opportunities to connect individuals with housing and supportive services. Low-barrier does not mean "no rules." The Anchor will have a Guest Code of Conduct with clear expectations, accountability, and consequences for behavior that threatens the safety of guests, staff, or the community. 2. Matthew 25 is not currently a formal partner in the Anchor Resource Center. The Anchor is continuing to engage healthcare providers and community organizations to expand on-site services and referral partnerships as planning progresses. Currently Parkview Hospital, Lutheran Hospital and Three Rivers Ambulance are in discussions about what services can be offered and how to reduce emergency room visits. 3. Wayne Township Trustee Austin Knox serves on the Anchor Resource Center Board of Directors, and conversations have occurred about opportunities for Township services to be available on-site. Any long-term arrangements will depend on the final location, operational needs, and agreements between the organizations. 4. Anchor will employ its own staff, including leadership, Housing Navigators, outreach staff, peer support specialists, and security	46819

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		personnel. Housing Navigators will complete Coordinated Entry assessments, develop individualized Housing Action Plans, and connect guests with the community resources best suited to their needs. The Resource Center also plans to partner with community organizations to provide specialized services, such as case management, employment assistance, healthcare, behavioral health services, recovery support, and financial empowerment. 5. The Anchor will employ trained security personnel who will provide on-site security 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Security staff will work closely with the Fort Wayne Police Department and other public safety partners when appropriate, but day-to-day security will be provided by Anchor employees. 6. The current Operations Plan includes limited stabilization cots for individuals who need a safe place to rest while awaiting placement in an emergency shelter or other appropriate housing option. Overnight accommodations are intended to be temporary and housing-focused. Individuals utilizing these services will complete a Coordinated Entry assessment and work with a Housing Navigator to develop a Housing Action Plan and connect to longer-term housing solutions.	
61	I truly don't see how a homeless resource center would improve the homeless population in Fort Wayne. From what I hear, homeless people are brought in from other cities for these resources too. With all the development downtown I think it's a tremendous waste of space. There is already an issue with homeless individuals taking over that corner and committing crime. I guess you could put it there so all the homeless people get their own block to colonize so the rest of Fort Wayne can avoid it like the plague. Homeless people IN FORT WAYNE reiterate that they don't like utilizing these resources anyways. It's a waste.	Thank you for your input.	46815
62	I've heard it said that we need to put this center where the [homeless] people are because transportation is a barrier and the whole point of the ARC is to be low barrier. Given that Matthew 25 is already in that location meeting needs of the same population (not low barrier necessarily, but still with multiple resources), why would you not put the ARC in a different area to make it more accessible to more homeless people who	Thank you for raising these important questions. While Matthew 25 is located nearby, it does not offer the same services the Anchor Resource Center is designed to provide. In fact, being in close proximity could create meaningful partnership opportunities between the two organizations.	46835

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	aren't already being serviced by resources in that area? Why not put it more south to be able to meet more people where they are?	Our homeless population is already concentrated downtown because that's where most existing resources and amenities are. Placing the Anchor farther south or outside the downtown core would require people to travel back toward downtown for other services, increasing barriers and pushing foot traffic through residential areas. Since the Anchor is intended to be low-barrier, locating it where people already are is essential for its success.	
63	Homelessness down town is an issue that all of us see regularly. People on the sidewalk strung out looking near death, dancing randomly in the street, camping illegally and police having to address the issue regularly. Increasing homeless resources downtown will just continue to attract more homeless people down town and make the area unsafe for children and families to visit. We see acts from near by communities dumping their homeless in Fort Wayne due to our community "having resources to deal with them" this now illegal dumping will only increase in the downtown area with having a large section of homeless resources located there. Why spend any time trying to build up downtown just to erase years of progress? The need is there but the location is wrong. In an area designed to be walker friendly we should not be making it unsafe to walk to your car at night due to increasing the density of desperate people. We should be moving these resources to the appropriate areas that can handle them without negatively impacting the community progress downtown. We also shouldn't be placing homeless people in a high car traffic area where they could be injured. Lastly they should be allowed to have easy access to the facilities they need to heal not feel as if a police state now has to watch their every move to ensure the other citizens of the downtown area feel safe.	Thank you for taking the time to share your concerns. We understand the challenges downtown residents and visitors are seeing, and we agree that safety and the long-term vitality of the downtown area are important considerations. At the same time, our homeless population is already concentrated downtown because that's where the majority of existing services, amenities, and support networks are located. If we move essential resources far outside the downtown core, people will still travel back into the area for other services, which increases barriers, pushes foot traffic through residential neighborhoods, and ultimately makes it harder for individuals to access the help they need. The Anchor Resource Center is designed to provide coordinated, low-barrier support that does not currently exist elsewhere. Locating it downtown helps reduce unnecessary movement across the city, improves safety by offering structured, centralized services, and supports better outcomes for both individuals experiencing homelessness and the broader community. The goal is not to attract more homelessness, but to better manage and address the issues we are already seeing.	46845
64	1. Please list the other properties that were considered and why this property was chosen instead of the others. 2. The neighbors of the center this is modeled after all talk about how bad things are now surrounding it. What is the city going to do to protect the neighbors and businesses? 3. What happens if this nonprofit the city created doesn't receive enough donations to continue to operate? Will the taxpayers then be on the hook or does it shut down?	1. We will be presenting the full property evaluation — including the other sites reviewed and the reasons they were not selected — to City Council. Throughout this process, we prioritized locations that avoided residential neighborhoods, were accessible for those who rely on services, and were financially feasible to acquire and renovate. There is no perfect location, but the proposed site best meets these criteria.	46802

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	4. Does the city expect the homeless population to increase or decrease with the opening of this center? The opening of the current shelter definitely increased the homeless population already. 5. Does the city have a plan for the surrounding buildings who's businesses are looking to vacate because of the proposed shelter? 6. This process has obviously been going on for a long time. Why was it kept secret and there was no public input, impact studies on surrounding properties, professional real estate agents engaged, etc... before putting a property under contract?	2. The center this is modeled after is located in a primarily residential area. We agree that is not appropriate here, which is why we intentionally prioritized staying away from residential neighborhoods. Additionally, the Anchor Resource Center will have both a Governance Board and a Community Advisory Board to ensure ongoing accountability, communication, and responsiveness to any concerns that arise in the surrounding area. 3. The nonprofit created to operate the center will function like other nonprofit organizations in our community — funded through donations, foundations, and federal and state grants. The City will maintain ownership of the building, but the nonprofit is responsible for operations. The expectation is that taxpayers will not be responsible for its ongoing funding. 4. Like every growing community, Fort Wayne is seeing an increase in homelessness due to rising costs of living and stagnating wages. Our hope is always that the number of people experiencing homelessness decreases, but we must also acknowledge the realities all cities are facing. The Resource Center is designed to better coordinate services and reduce the strain on public systems, and not to increase homelessness. 5. We do not expect businesses to vacate. The center is intended to strengthen coordination and reduce unmanaged activity, which ultimately supports safety and stability for surrounding businesses, schools, and organizations. 6. The process was not kept secret. As with any major property acquisition, details must remain confidential until due diligence is complete and a property is formally under contract. Once that step was taken, the project was released publicly, and we are now engaging openly with the community.	
65	The Anchor Resource Center needs to move forward at 333 w Washington blvd which is close to other resources. The Anchor center has a mission to be a low barrier center, and moving it farther away from the other	Thank you for your input.	46808

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	existing resources is based in selfishness and lack of empathy. Adding distance to access Anchor from downtown is a significant barrier. Please know that people complaining about it being on Washington are people who are not seeing the big picture of caring for the community. Avoiding SEEING resource users is NOT a personal right.		
66	there were mental health facilities available in fort wayne thay handled this stuff. they got shut down. open them back up and fund them properly. stop destroying our city.	Thank you for your input.	46819
67	We do not need another section 8 or homeless shelter in Fort Wayne to encourage migration of more homeless or unmotivated individuals to take advantage of our working class's tax contributions. Instead that money would be better spent to re-integrate dysfunctional individuals back into "working" society and actually help them, help us; help society. Instead of enabling bad behavior and poor life choices for others to bail them out with "another" homeless shelter. There is a stark difference between compassion and enabling poor life choices.	The goals you describe are consistent with the purpose of the Anchor Resource Center. The Anchor is designed to help individuals move from crisis to stability by connecting them with the services needed to achieve greater independence, not by creating long-term dependence. Every individual seeking housing-focused services will complete a Coordinated Entry assessment and work with a Housing Navigator to develop a personalized Housing Action Plan. That plan identifies barriers to stability and connects individuals with the appropriate community resources, including employment, healthcare, behavioral health services, substance use treatment, benefits, and permanent housing. The Anchor is working with community partners to improve access to healthcare, mental health services, substance use treatment, employment training, and financial stability. For example, Blue Jacket plans to provide workforce development and job readiness programming, while treatment providers will help connect individuals seeking recovery with appropriate services. The Resource Center is not intended to replace emergency shelters. The current Operations Plan includes limited stabilization cots for individuals who are waiting for placement in an emergency shelter or another appropriate housing option. These accommodations are temporary and are intended to help individuals safely bridge the gap while actively working toward shelter or permanent housing.	46803

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		The Anchor's mission is to reduce homelessness by helping people address the underlying barriers that led to their housing crisis and supporting them as they work toward self-sufficiency and permanent housing.	
68	The shelter should be located in a location where the occupants do not pose a threat to children in nearby schools and YMCA...often they are mentally ill or are addicts, and definitely not so close to a liquor store. It does not promote a safe environment for visitors coming into the downtown area who would not be on their guard. You are putting their minority welfare above the welfare of the majority.	Thank you for your input.	46805
69	As a side note, this website is garbage. It doesn't load properly, failed twice, and navigation back to the FAQ is nearly impossible. The front page also has way too many words on it to say this is a site dedicated to getting community input. As for the proposed homeless resource center, my question is in regards to the objective, the strategy, the program if you will, that folks will engage with at such a site. The objective is to serve the homeless community, yes, but what I think will help sell this is to detail how a facility will improve the homeless issue. We want less homelessness in our community, not another place for the homeless to hang out. Map it out, how does it work? Each person that walks through your doors should be welcomed, assessed, treated, fed and left to have a moment of peace. Then, I would expect anyone taking a salary at such a facility , be working on the plan for this individual, what will they do for the next days/week? What program can they enroll in? How are we getting this individual back into the world and moving forward in it? You don't have to solve homelessness immediately, but you do need to have a better plan in place for 'assisting' these people. If the community can see the successes, it will trust the facility more. However, that means setting accountability standards for all those who enter and need assistance. That may require more buy-in from our larger Health Care Providers. The Library does a tremendous amount of assisting in places for these folks to seek refuge as well as services to find employment, housing, getting basic ID, etc. Leverage these relationships to make a program that the public can follow to see that this could work to eliminate homelessness	Thank you for your thoughtful feedback. You have accurately described the intent of the Anchor Resource Center. The goal is not simply to provide a place for people to spend time, it is to create a structured pathway from homelessness to stability. Individuals who come to the Resource Center for housing-focused services will complete a Coordinated Entry assessment and meet with a Housing Navigator to develop a personalized Housing Action Plan. That plan identifies each person's barriers to housing and outlines the next steps toward stable housing, employment, healthcare, recovery, income, or other needed services. Housing Navigators continue working with individuals to monitor progress and connect them with the community partners best equipped to meet their specific needs. The Anchor is designed to bring together organizations that specialize in different areas of support. Current planning includes partnerships focused on healthcare, behavioral health, substance use treatment, employment services, benefits assistance, and financial stability. For example, Blue Jacket plans to provide workforce development and employment programming, while treatment providers will help connect individuals seeking recovery with appropriate services. Accountability is an important part of the model. Individuals seeking housing-focused services are expected to participate in the assessment process, work toward the goals identified in their Housing Action Plan, and follow the Resource Center's Guest Code of Conduct.	46815

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	in our area as long as folks are held to account. Also, maybe try not to let a liquor store go up right next to the facility.	The Anchor will also be accountable by measuring outcomes such as housing placements, employment connections, referrals completed, and neighborhood concerns. The Resource Center's limited stabilization cots are intended only as a temporary bridge for individuals who are waiting for placement in an emergency shelter or another appropriate housing option. They are one small component of a larger strategy focused on helping people move as quickly as possible toward permanent housing and self-sufficiency.	
70	Position on the Proposed Anchor Resource Center I have reviewed the project page, the linked Good Neighbor Agreement, and the Salt Lake County study the City cites in support of this location. I want to be clear at the outset: the underlying goal is worthy, and the data showing shelters at capacity, 586 people unsheltered, and over 1,000 students without stable housing describes a real crisis that demands a real response. My objection is not to helping people. It is that this specific proposal, as currently presented, is not ready to be approved, and the City's own materials prove it. I am asking the City to fix the plan before committing public buildings and public money to it, not to abandon the effort. 1. The City is selling a decision it has not actually made. The page presents the Anchor Resource Center as a settled solution, yet the City's own timeline states that it is still "researching available properties," still "exploring financial support for capital and operating funds," and has not yet contracted an operator. In plain terms: no building has been chosen, the money is not secured, and the organization that would run the facility has not been hired. The public is being asked to endorse a model before the three things that determine whether it succeeds or fails have been settled. That is backwards. Input should follow a concrete plan, not substitute for one. 2. Operating funding is unsecured, and that is the single most common way these centers fail. A 24/7, low-barrier facility serving roughly 150 people per day is one of the most expensive forms of homeless services to run. Around-the-clock staffing, security, de-escalation personnel, and maintenance are recurring annual costs, not one-time costs. The most predictable failure	Thank you for your input. The Anchor is committed to opening only after sufficient operating funding has been secured, and the organization has already secured or received commitments for nearly three years of operating support. The Center is not designed to offer permanent housing, but will refer individuals to emergency shelters, transitional housing and in some cases permanent housing. The Governing Board will oversee metrics for the Center and those will be presented annually to City Council. While most local shelters are near or at capacity, many are adding space, such as Just Neighbors, A Mother's Hope and the Rescue Mission. Staff have studied resource center models across the country, including those in Memphis, New York, Rock, San Jose, Austin, Portland Maine and talked with providers around Indiana (South Bend, Indy, Bloomington, Lafayette) about what is working and not working in their communities.	46802

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	mode for facilities like this, in cities across the country, is opening on capital and startup dollars and then degrading into exactly the unsafe, unmanaged environment neighbors fear once that initial money runs out. The City admits on its own timeline that operating funds are still being "explored." Before any building is purchased, the City should identify, commit, and publish a minimum number of years of fully funded, recurring operating dollars. If that number cannot be produced, the project is not ready. 3. This is a "front door to housing" with no housing behind it. The center itself provides no housing. The services listed are showers, laundry, lockers, mail, respite space, safe parking, and "Coordinated Entry assessments to enter the housing system." It is an intake point that routes people into a housing system that the City's own data shows is already full. Shelters are at or near capacity. The winter overflow served 250+ people. And the City's own economic-impact section states that 90% to 95% of downtown housing is occupied, with new units filling almost as soon as they open. You cannot assess hundreds of people into a housing pipeline that has no room in it. Without permanent housing capacity on the other end, a "front door" becomes a long-term holding space, which is the opposite of what is being promised. The City should state, in numbers, how many permanent housing placements per year this center is projected to produce, into what specific inventory, and what the expected average length of stay will be. Absent those figures, the central promise of the project is unsupported. 4. The accountability document is an empty template. The City repeatedly points to a "formal Good Neighbor Agreement" as the safeguard for the surrounding neighborhood. The document it actually links is a blank, fill-in-the-blank template. Every operative term remains a bracketed placeholder: the operator's name, the address, the geographic area, the date, and a term of just 1 to 2 years. It is voluntary and unenforceable. The operator "agrees to" a clean perimeter, a hotline, and 48-hour complaint responses, but there is no penalty, no dedicated funding, and no remedy if those commitments are not met. The Community Advisory Group it creates is explicitly advisory and can compel nothing. And the obligations are asymmetric: neighbors are asked to resolve concerns "directly before escalating to the City" and to		

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	avoid "stigmatization," while the operator's duties are soft and set to expire in two years. A safeguard that is unsigned, unfunded, unenforceable, and time-limited is not a safeguard. The City should make a fully executed, project-specific agreement, with enforcement mechanisms and financial penalties for noncompliance, a binding condition of the operator's lease that runs for the life of the facility. 5. The one study the City cites does not support the claim it is attached to. The City uses the Salt Lake County study to argue that decentralizing services increases unsheltered homelessness, implying it validates this downtown model. That study is a transportation and mobility report produced by a U.S. Department of Transportation university research center. Its actual finding is narrow and mechanical: when Salt Lake County relocated its centers in 2019, the new sites landed farther from transit and outside the downtown free-fare zone, so clients traveled less, with visits to services dropping by as much as 40%, and some camped downtown rather than make the harder trip. The driver was transit access, not "centralization" as a philosophy. Every recommendation in the study is about transportation: shuttles, ride-hailing, bus frequency, free passes. Critically, the study measured client mobility only. It reached no conclusion about housing placements, reductions in homelessness, or impacts on surrounding businesses, which are exactly the outcomes the City is using it to support. A single transportation case study from a county with an unusual free-fare geography is not evidence that a downtown low-barrier hub will deliver housing results or benefit the neighborhood. The City should produce evidence that actually addresses outcomes before citing research as validation. What I am asking. Before any building is purchased or any lease is signed, the City should publicly answer, in writing and in numbers: How many years of recurring operating funding are secured and identified, and from what sources? How many permanent housing placements per year is the center projected to produce, into what inventory, and at what average length of stay?		

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	What binding, independently audited performance metrics will be written into the operator's lease, and what is the defined remedy or sunset if those targets are missed in years one and two? Will a fully executed, enforceable, facility-lifetime Good Neighbor Agreement be a condition of the lease? What outcome-based evidence, beyond a transportation study that does not measure outcomes, supports this model? These are not unreasonable questions. They are the questions any responsible steward of public funds and public buildings should be able to answer before breaking ground. If the City can answer them, the project is stronger for it. If it cannot, that is the clearest possible sign that this proposal is not yet ready for the community's endorsement.		
71	I believe that the homeless resource center will be an amazing asset to aiding and resolving homelessness in Allen county. As a shelter worker myself I have witnessed the homeless attempting to overcome homelessness and mental health illness alike, and while the resources available are helpful, there is no agency that operates as this homeless resource center is planning to. I believe it will be a one of a kind resource and is very needed in the community. I look forward to the likelihood of reduces homeless should the resource center open as proposed. I believe the location for the homeless resource center is ideal and accessible to the community it intends to serve. With resources like InAsMuch Ministry, the Rescue Mission, Matthew 25 and oak st heath in the nearby vicinity make it the perfect location for homeless to access assistance and resources. It would be my vote to open the center as proposed in the location proposed. I am very hopeful and excited.	Thank you for your input.	46805
72	As an employee of the Main Library, I am very much in favor of the homeless resource center going in at the proposed location. As you are likely aware, we have a number of homeless individuals who frequent the library. Giving them access to lockers, showers, laundry, etc. will be a great benefit to us and other library users, as well as the homeless themselves. It would seem unnecessarily short-sighted (and even cruel) to locate outside the immediate downtown area with all of the other resources here and make individuals walk a significant distance to access those resources.	Thank you for your input.	46805

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73	Why doesn't the surrounding cities offer support and take some of the unhoused? I can't even take my kids downtown to the parks without a homeless person being passed out drunk, doing drugs or engaged in sexual relations	We cannot answer for housing plans other communities may have. Thank you for your comments.	46802
74	I am 100% opposed to a "Homeless Resource Center" in our community....anywhere!	Thank you for your input.	46804
75	As a tax paying resident who enjoys walking around town, riding our trails and overall enjoying the vibe that is continuing to grow downtown. It is a huge turnoff trying to navigate the homeless population sleeping on park benches, trash everywhere and the overall feeling of not being safe in our own public spaces. It seems like the public areas our tax dollars have built for our enjoyment, have only turned into homeless encampments. It is no different when traveling to different bigger cities and dealing with the same thing.... It would seem to me the better option would be to get the homeless resources out of downtown proper and into an area where they might have a better chance of getting help and not just walking back out onto the streets where they are struggling. Perhaps we need some form of "haven" outside of the city, a "camp like" area where they can be helped, served and learn skills or trades that might help them get out of homelessness. This might also help keep our officers where they are most needed, instead of having to remove homeless from public areas. We all want to talk about the safety of our children when it comes to public schools, but that complaint is thrown out when it's a Christian school that brings up concerns, because they have dealt with the homeless entering their school during school hours... It is a safety concern for everyone.	Thank you for your comments. The goal of the Anchor Resource Center is to better manage and address the issues with homelessness you mention and that we are already seeing. The Anchor Resource Center is designed to provide coordinated, low-barrier support that does not currently exist elsewhere. Locating it downtown helps reduce unnecessary movement across the city, improves safety by offering structured, centralized services, and supports better outcomes for both individuals experiencing homelessness and the broader community.	46809
76	I do not understand why another shelter is needed. Having said that, there has to be a place that is less visible for our city. My issue is when you enter our city coming from the east on Washington Blvd. you already drive by the rescue mission where we have a fair amount of people outside at any given time. This does not give visitors a safe impression.	Thank you for your input.	46815

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	When you enter the city from all directions but east as you get close to the coliseum, you have strip bars. When you go to the mall, you have a strip bar across the street. Again, does not give a positive nor safe image to our city. Now we want to add to that. My vote would say no.		
77	What about a "shelter" that is ran more like a large farming off grid homestead? Where people could live, work, grow their own food. Maybe a shuttle service would have to be provided from the rescue mission? There are areas of farmland for sale near the data center, maybe google would be willing to donate towards it? I dont disagree that we need more bed space downtown as well but a multi-prong approach is definitely needed.	Thank you for sharing this idea. A multi-pronged approach is indeed needed. The proposed Anchor Resource Center is part of a larger strategy to address homelessness. However, transportation would be a major barrier for many individuals. The cost of shuttles, staffing, and ongoing operations would be significant, and most people experiencing homelessness still need regular access to downtown services, medical care, and community resources. A rural or off-grid location could actually make it harder for them to stabilize. The Anchor Resource Center is designed to fill immediate gaps with low-barrier services that are most effective when located where people already are. A downtown site also allows for potential partnerships with other service providers, which helps strengthen the overall support network.	46825
78	The local church, school and businesses have said that they're worried about homeless urinating on their walls and behind their dumpsters. Shouldn't this make them want a resource center with bathrooms and "personal hygiene services" nearby?	Thank you for your input.	46805
79	I think we need the center for the homeless. I also think it would be good where the Mayor wants it close to the Fort Wayne rescue mission. I think that is the best location for the shelter	Thank you for your input.	46804
80	I encourage the City to move forward with the resource center. I hope and pray it will be a bright spot for those less fortunate.	Thank you for your input.	46745
81	I'm in disagreement of the new facility. The city as a whole is experiencing decreased revenue due to SB 1. This is not a good time to be making this type of investment. The city has also worked very hard to improve our downtown area and I don't think another facility like this is going to help. To offer a facility that allows unhoused individuals to enter when they are high or under the influence is not going to be beneficial. It will become difficult for the staff and public safety personnel, not to mention the Fort	We understand the concerns about the impact on downtown. Many of us at the City have invested heavily in downtown's growth and safety, and this decision was made only after extensive research and consultation with experts. A few key points may help. Low-barrier does not mean low accountability—the center will have clear rules, trained staff, security	46835

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	Wayne Police Department having to exhaust their resources when problems arise and they are already short staffed for the population of the city. We already have facilities in place that assist unhoused individuals. It would be better for the city to partner with them to expand services.	cameras, 24/7 supervision, and it will serve as a valuable resource for the Police Department by providing a safe, structured place to bring individuals who need support rather than leaving issues on the streets. The downtown edge location is intentional because this is where most of our homeless population already is and where they can access services and transportation. Moving the center farther away would significantly reduce its effectiveness due to transportation barriers. Our shared goal is a safe, welcoming downtown. A well-managed, accessible center is meant to improve current conditions by bringing people indoors and reducing unmanaged street-level activity.	
82	The City of Fort Wayne is looking for a dignified and humane way to care for the City's homeless population, however, per the Mayor and the Homeless Services Manager's presentation to the City Council, it was presented that the homeless population would be arrested if the unhoused person(s) did not accept the offer of a bed at the Resource Center by law enforcement. It was also stated in the same presentation to the City Council that the Resource Center would always have an open bed. This strategy sounds like this is a bait and switch tactic for the unhoused, coupled with, and a dead-end way to appease the constituents that something is being done about the unhoused, while speaking out of both sides and contradicting the true purpose of the Resource Center. So, are we trying to arrest the unhoused or trick them to get the help they need to maintain a dignified existence? Either way, the unhoused need to be aware of the Resource Center's tactics to have them arrested if the unhoused do not comply with the demands of the Resource Center. Should the unhoused feel they can trust the Resource Center when their tactics are being used against the unhoused that could potentially end them up in jail?	Thank you for raising this concern. The Anchor Resource Center is not intended to arrest, coerce, or "trick" individuals into accepting services. Its mission is to provide a safe, welcoming place where people experiencing homelessness can access basic needs, complete a Coordinated Entry assessment, and work with Housing Navigators to develop a plan toward stable housing. The Resource Center does not have law enforcement authority, and decisions regarding the enforcement of state or local laws are made by law enforcement agencies, not by the Anchor. Anchor staff will focus on engagement, relationship-building, and connecting individuals with housing and community resources. The Resource Center's Draft Operations Plan includes limited stabilization cots intended to provide a temporary place for individuals who are waiting for placement in an emergency shelter or another appropriate housing option. The goal is to ensure that people have a safe alternative while staff work with them to identify longer-term housing solutions. Trust is essential to the success of the Resource Center. Anchor's approach is grounded in dignity, respect, trauma-informed care, and voluntary engagement. Staff will work alongside individuals to help them identify their goals, remove barriers to housing, and connect	46802

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		them with the services they need to move toward stability. The Resource Center's success depends on building relationships that encourage people to return for assistance, not on coercion.	
83	I just want to let you know that I think this is a necessity for downtown and that it needs to be downtown, not moved somewhere else. No matter where the homeless center will go there will be places and businesses around it. I believe and trust that proper measures will be taken to keep places around the homeless center safe. in order to get homeless people off the streets, we must take this necessary step in the right direction by putting the homeless center downtown. Thank you!	Thank you for your input.	46835
84	I fully support the resource center in the proposed location, and I appreciate the due diligence completed over the past two years to develop this plan.	Thank you for your input.	46804
85	I guess my biggest question is why is the city wanting to purchase a property to tear down an existing building and build, when they own a clear property already. Also, why is the city wanting to pay 2.75 mil for a property that not 2 years ago was for sale for 1 mil????? What kind of shady politely mess is really going on?	The City will be renovating the building. Building a new facility would be more expensive than renovating this building. Your question might be referring to the northwest corner of East Wallace and South Hanna. This corner has been documented to be a location that was permitted to handle hazardous waste in the past. There also are some sites near this corner that may contain underground storage tanks and where auto repair businesses operated. Building a homeless resource on this site likely will require significant remediation and increase the cost to build a building to serve homeless people. Currently, the corner is currently used by Public Works and City Utilities to park vehicles and building the homeless resource center on this corner would necessitate finding a new location for those vehicles. The purchase price is based on the average of two independent appraisals, as required by law.	46804
86	Anyone opposing the proposed homeless resource center has lived a very fortunate life & sadly lack empathy for other human beings. ESPECIALLY, "pastor" Joe Hoem of St. Paul's Lutheran Church who has been actively campaigning against this solution by lying to our community by fear mongering & misrepresenting the interests of certain businesses downtown, this has been verified. People who are against this	Thank you for your input.	46805

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	center are all of the same people who incessantly complain of the homeless population in downtown spaces. Their concerns are shallow, insensitive & unintelligent. Unintelligent due to their short sightedness, this center could be an enormous solution to quell the homeless epidemic. Homelessness is not a burden to businesses or tourists, it is a real life problem that many people in our society are faced with either due to substance abuse, mental illness and or financial struggles. If Fort Wayne gives into the small group of "concerned citizens" then as a city you are telling homeless people that they are less than human. That is not an accurate reflection of Fort Wayne & will further contribute to the division in not only our country but our own city.		
87	My opinion is that having this homeless resource center as close to the rescue mission as it is will create a blight on that section of the city. When I was a child, it was terrifying to go to downtown Fort Wayne. Nothing was there and it felt dirty and dangerous. Downtown Fort Wayne is wonderful, now. I truly enjoy walking around downtown and enjoying the multitude of vendors and restaurants. This could be a catalyst to discouraging new investment in downtown and could cause current vendors/restaurants to rethink their location. Think long and hard about not only the stigma of homeless, but also their behavior. Many have mental health issues or substance abuse problems. This is not the answer to continue the downtown revitalization and improvement process.	We understand the concerns about the impact on downtown. Many of us at the City have invested heavily in downtown's growth and safety, and this decision was made only after extensive research and consultation with experts. A few key points may help. Low-barrier does not mean low accountability—the center will have clear rules, trained staff, security cameras, 24/7 supervision, and it will serve as a valuable resource for the Police Department by providing a safe, structured place to bring individuals who need support rather than leaving issues on the streets. The downtown edge location is intentional because this is where most of our homeless population already is and where they can access services and transportation. Moving the center farther away would significantly reduce its effectiveness due to transportation barriers. Our shared goal is a safe, welcoming downtown. A well-managed, accessible center is meant to improve current conditions by bringing people indoors and reducing unmanaged street-level activity.	46835
88	This is definitely needed and I support doing it in any way possible. Consider finding a location away from businesses, schools, and churches. Perhaps a location that is not as expensive as Downtown Real Estate. Use the savings to fund transportation to and from that location for people to reach the Downtown support systems. An alternative is to use the Washington Street location but provide extra security 24 hours a day in that area.	Thank you for your support and for sharing these suggestions. We understand the desire to find a location away from businesses, schools, and churches, and we also recognize concerns about the cost of downtown real estate. However, transportation would become a significant barrier if the Anchor Resource Center were moved far from the downtown area, where most existing services and supports are already located.	46805

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		If the Washington Street location moves forward, the ARC will have security staff on-site 24/7, and our team will work closely with the Fort Wayne Police Department to ensure safety for both clients and the surrounding community. This level of coordination is essential to maintaining a safe, well-managed environment.	
89	Maybe focus on why people are homeless. I see people panhandling at businesses that have advertising hiring workers. Drugs? Maybe harsher penalties for those that are caught selling or using. Maybe work requirements for services rendered? Mental health? Maybe transition back to institutional regulated living arrangements with weekly unannounced oversight for the protection of those institutionalized. If children underage? Maybe contact parents and charge for their care and arranging required counseling to mend unhealthy relationships.	Thank you for your comments. The Anchor Resource Center recognizes that homelessness is not caused by a single issue. Individuals experience homelessness for many different reasons, including the loss of employment, mental illness, substance use disorders, family conflict, domestic violence, physical health challenges, and financial hardship. Because the causes vary, solutions must be individualized. Every individual seeking housing-focused services at the Anchor will complete a Coordinated Entry assessment and work with a Housing Navigator to develop a personalized Housing Action Plan. That plan helps identify the barriers each person is facing and connects them with the services most appropriate to their situation. The Anchor is working with community partners to improve access to healthcare, mental health services, substance use treatment, employment assistance, and other supports that help individuals achieve long-term stability. Planned partnerships include healthcare providers, behavioral health and recovery organizations, workforce development programs, and other agencies with expertise in addressing the underlying causes of homelessness. The Resource Center's goal is not simply to meet immediate needs, but to help individuals address the barriers that led to their homelessness and support them on a path toward self-sufficiency and permanent housing.	46797
90	everything else is around this site.....it is a good choice for the homeless...	Thank you for your input.	46818
91	While the need is obvious, the location is a further nail in the coffin of business life of that block of downtown. Additio ally the idea that Lafayette has a center which should be a model is a poor comparison.	Thank you for your input.	46802

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	We should be looking at like-sized and bigger cities along with cities who have successfully navigated this issue. A town on the other side of the state is a poor comparison. As a downtown business this is a discouraging location.		
92	Fully against the homeless slum that is being proposed downtown. It is already dangerous enough with the missions on the other side of downtown and now the city wants to further ruin the other side of downtown. It is 2026, anyone who is homeless has no one to blame but themselves. 99% of them don't want the help they are just looking for their next high. The city needs to let natural selection do its job with these drug addicts.	Thank you for your input.	46808
93	Good plan. Good location. Go for it!!!!	Thank you for your input.	45815
94	I grew up in Ft. Wayne and attended the old St. Mary's church. As a family we used to serve in the soup kitchen in the basement of the church. I was just a 6 year old kid, but even I could feel and see the need in the downtown community. I believe if you really want to serve the downtown community, and the homeless, you need to meet them where they are.	Thank you for your input.	46804
95	Hello was wondering how this effect the downtown area? I use to love the public library downtown so much to enjoy there but it's loaded with homeless people inside and outside and it's scary ..I understand homeless people need help but not sure about it being down town area .. Thank you for listening	We understand the concerns about the impact on downtown. Many of us at the City have invested heavily in downtown's growth and safety, and this decision was made only after extensive research and consultation with experts. A few key points may help. Low-barrier does not mean low accountability—the center will have clear rules, trained staff, security cameras, 24/7 supervision, and it will serve as a valuable resource for the Police Department by providing a safe, structured place to bring individuals who need support rather than leaving issues on the streets. The downtown edge location is intentional because this is where most of our homeless population already is and where they can access services and transportation. Moving the center farther away would significantly reduce its effectiveness due to transportation barriers. Our shared goal is a safe, welcoming downtown. A well-managed, accessible center is meant to improve current conditions by bringing people indoors and reducing unmanaged street-level activity.	46803

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96	As a community, it is our divine duty to help others. I am in complete favor of having another very valuable resource available, especially in the downtown area of Fort Wayne. Location should not matter. This will be a place of and for hope, not a place of and for shame. How can we truly be of service and help others if we are ashamed of and shun them? We are all in need of some kind of help and this is simply the beginning for so many. To paraphrase Luke 12:48, "To whom much is given, much is required." Fort Wayne is a city that is rich with finances and other resources. No one objects to a new Trader Joe's or another Culver's. Let us utilize our strengths to help those in a time of vulnerability. We need to take personal responsibility and act with generous and cheerful compassion.	Thank you for your input.	46816
97	Homeless have ruined the city of Fort Wayne. Please stop accommodating them.	Thank you for your input.	46816
98	I just wanted to say. I am for the resource center. Instead of everyone focusing on the location of the facility we should be focusing on the families in need of assistance. Stop shaming them. I'm sure they feel enough humiliation. No one like to ask for help. Poverty can happen to anyone at anytime. Alot of us are one paycheck away from losing everything. We all should remember that.	Thank you for your input.	46816
99	I support a homeless resource center but I am not in support of having it so close to a school.	Thank you for your input.	46819
100	When does it end? Why are we using taxpayer dollars to disrupt businesses downtown, especially on the main artery into the city when the Rescue Mission and Lighthouse are feet away? Certainly, there must be other real estate available - other than on a well-traveled corridor into the city. Making it easy to be homeless isn't a solution to the homelessness problem.	Thank you for your input.	46835
101	It's about time we start looking out for each other. When did we stop caring about people? People deserve dignity. Help them get back on their feet. Homes to get themselves started. My children are in their 20s and still live at home. State already made it illegal just to be homeless. We say we're Christians but choose only what sermons to listen to instead of what we're called to do and be as stewards of His grace. Let's try to pass some of that on to the less fortunate.	Thank you for your input.	46808

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102	When I moved here in 2014, homelessness was virtually nil. Since opening the Mission, our homelessness (and this is only what I see on the streets) has more than doubled. So, the Mission did not help solve the homelessness problem, but only enabled it. Now, the Mayor wants to have another facility. Why? What will it do that The Mission can't? And, why right in the middle of downtown where people work and live? Mayor Henry worked hard to bring housing and businesses downtown. Now, we're going to add to the homeless problem. I would rather see constructive ways to help the homeless. Let's provide them with the mental and addiction problems that a lot of these people have. Let's help those who are down on their luck by assistance with job hunting or training. Enabling their problems more, does not help. That's been proven around the world. I vehemently oppose adding any more homeless facilities downtown. I would like to see more avenues available for these people to actually get help, whether mental health or just simply down on their luck.	Thank you for sharing your perspective. The Anchor Resource Center was created to provide many of the constructive solutions you describe. Its purpose is not to enable homelessness, it is to reduce it by helping individuals address the barriers that are preventing them from obtaining stable housing. Unlike an emergency shelter, the Anchor is designed to serve as a centralized access point where individuals can complete a Coordinated Entry assessment, meet with a Housing Navigator, and develop a personalized Housing Action Plan. Staff then connect individuals with the services they need, including healthcare, mental health services, substance use treatment, employment assistance, benefits, and permanent housing opportunities. The Anchor is also designed to complement, not replace or duplicate, the important work already being done by organizations such as the Rescue Mission and other community providers. By bringing housing navigation, assessments, and community partners together in one location, the Resource Center will help individuals access the right services more quickly while improving coordination across the entire homelessness response system. The Resource Center is working with community partners to expand access to healthcare, behavioral health services, recovery support, workforce development, and other resources that help people regain stability. The Draft Operations Plan also includes limited stabilization cots for individuals who are waiting for placement in an emergency shelter or another appropriate housing option. The Anchor's purpose is not to make homelessness more comfortable; it is to make homelessness shorter. By focusing on housing, accountability, and coordinated services, the Resource Center aims to help more individuals move from homelessness to self-sufficiency while reducing unsheltered homelessness throughout the community.	46809
103	I am for doing good to the poor, but I differ in opinion of the means. —I think the best way of doing good to the poor, is not making them easy in	Thank you for sharing your concerns. We agree that the goal is to help people move out of crisis, not remain in it. The Anchor Resource	46818

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	poverty, but leading or driving them out of it. The Location of the "Low Barrier" Facility is a mistake and this could have the potential to destroy all the hard work we have put into making Downtown Fort Wayne a safe place to Live, work and Play. If we give Drug addicts, habitual offenders and unstable individuals a free place to live obviously we will have more of these individuals dropped off from other locations which in turn will lead families, business and visitors to not visit downtown. My recommendation is to provide this shelter near the new Jail where a lot of these individual's are in and out of. In this way we can manage their movements in areas that the Majority of the public does not visit. We can fund this by running a campaign that i am sure would be well received by the business and the individuals that reside downtown.	Center is not a free housing program; it is a coordinated service hub designed to connect individuals with the support needed to stabilize and move forward. Our homeless population is already centered downtown because that's where most essential services are located. Placing the Anchor near the jail or far from downtown would make it harder for people to access those resources and would increase movement through residential areas as they travel back to the services they rely on. To support safety, the Anchor staff will work closely with the Fort Wayne Police Department, and the center will have 24/7 on-site security. The intent is not to attract more people downtown, but to better manage and address the needs of those who are already there.	
104	I think this is going to be good for the Community. There's far too many homeless that I see on a day to day basis driving through Fort Wayne. The Rescue Mission can only do so much to help with the donations they receive. I think this will alleviate a lot of the homeless people sleeping in the public places, around businesses, and possibly even pan-handling.	Thank you for your input.	46802
105	I'm in complete favor of the homeless resource center being downtown. It makes perfect sense to meet people where they are. The unhoused population is there... all over downtown every day. Why not make access to a facility designed to help them... near them?	Thank you for your input.	46805
106	It is fantastic that the City of Fort Wayne is addressing the problem of homelessness. I think it is appalling for these so-called churches opposing the proposed location because they don't want it in "their neighborhood". These churches opposing the location are simply pathetic hypocrites. Regardless of any proposed location, somebody will be whining "not in my neighborhood". They are probably also the first ones saying "why doesn't the city do something about the homeless?"	Thank you for your input.	46808
107	I think the homeless center is definitely needed. I can understand the fears of the businesses/schools/churches that are near the proposed site. But it seems to me that most problems that arise could be overcome by tackling them head on as they pop up. There are many	Thank you for your input.	46845

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	different types of homeless people and they shouldn't all be shunned just because some of them will cause problems. I think we need to focus on the positives that could come from having a well-run homeless center, like actually getting some of these people into permanent housing, vastly fewer people living under the bridges and cluttering up the trails, fewer people walking around downtown carrying their belongings up and down the streets and trails, fewer people sleeping in the parks and using random spots for bathroom business. The list goes on and on of possible positive outcomes. Perhaps there are ways to get the neighbors of the center to be a part of the positives. Get them involved. Or maybe give them tax breaks to offset what they fear will be a decline in business. I'm sure there are ways to make this work if enough people are willing to try.		
108	As long as there's adequate security available, I'm in favor of this center.	Thank you for your support. Safety is a top priority for the Anchor Resource Center. The facility will have trained security personnel on-site 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, along with security cameras monitoring both the interior and exterior of the building. Staff will also be trained in de-escalation, trauma-informed care, emergency response, CPR, First Aid, and naloxone administration to help ensure a safe environment for guests, staff, volunteers, and the surrounding community.	46807
109	The City has spent millions of taxpayer's dollars to develop downtown. Individuals and local businesses have invested for the same reason. And now the City wants to populate the center of these investments with homeless people who contrary to popular parlance are not my neighbors. A lot of them will loiter, linger steal, defecate, urinate, panhandle, harass and generally ruin the downtown experience. The homeless center, as proposed, is poor public policy because it will at a minimum destroy what the community has invested in the downtown. Does anyone in City government really think a homeless population is going to attract new investment or promote choosing to live among them?	We understand the concerns about the impact on downtown. Many of us at the City have invested heavily in downtown's growth and safety, and this decision was made only after extensive research and consultation with experts. A few key points may help. Low-barrier does not mean low accountability—the center will have clear rules, trained staff, security cameras, 24/7 supervision, and it will serve as a valuable resource for the Police Department by providing a safe, structured place to bring individuals who need support rather than leaving issues on the streets. The downtown edge location is intentional because this is where most of our homeless population already is and where they can access services and transportation. Moving the center farther away would significantly reduce its effectiveness due to transportation barriers.	46845

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		Our shared goal is a safe, welcoming downtown. A well-managed, accessible center is meant to improve current conditions by bringing people indoors and reducing unmanaged street-level activity.	
110	Will the center allow someone under the influence of drugs or alcohol at the facility? If so what is going to be done to ensure the medical safety of those individuals to make sure an overdose, fall, etc does not occur and result in an ER visit to an already overwhelmed health system or a costly lawsuit. Also what will be the repercussions for if someone damages property? Will they still be allowed to stay in the facility, will law enforcement get involved?	The Anchor is designed as a low-barrier facility, meaning individuals will not be denied access to basic services solely because they have a substance use disorder. However, guests must follow established safety rules and the facility's code of conduct. Individuals who are experiencing a medical emergency, including a possible overdose, will receive an appropriate emergency response, and staff will be trained in safety protocols, including response procedures and use of Narcan. Property damage, threats, violence, or other violations of the code of conduct will be addressed through established procedures. Consequences may include loss of access to certain services, removal from the facility, and involvement of law enforcement when appropriate. Final operating procedures and enforcement protocols will be established by the Anchor Board prior to opening.	46804
111	Totally support the plan as it currently is proposed. Way to go , City of Ft Wayne! Our citizens who are unhoused need support where they have the greatest number of services! This site and the concepts proposed as services are ideal! Come on,Republican Council members! What is your better plan? And please raise \$ to support the plan you propose as Mayor Tucker has done!!	Thank you for your input.	46815
112	I think the location is excellent , I also think you should move the police satellite office from the Pearl district to close to the resource center and keep it staffed 24/7.	Thank you for your input.	46845
113	This is a horrible idea. Stop using the tax payer dollars for any of this! Put it towards helping the vets, supporting public safety!!!	Thank you for your input.	46815
114	Fort Wayne needs another homeless facility for the homeless in need of shelter. In my opinion, it should be like a Self-Sufficiency Program to assist the homeless in getting the help they need and deserve and getting them into a permanent homes. When Thomas Essix was Trustee of Wayne Township Trustee's Office, he created a homeless program called T.H.A.F. Shelter (once located in Brentwood Apartments)which assisted all homeless clients with temporary shelter, food, etc. as well as assisting the clients in finding permanent housing with Wayne Township	Thank you for your input.	46816

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	assistance. They also had a program that they started in Oaklawn Court Apartments and moved it to the Centlivre Village Apartments out North; the programs no longer exist, but it was a huge help for many. It was a great program and definitely help homeless clients get on their feet and on the right track in life. There are too many young homeless people out there and that is very concerning. They are harmless but they are also desperate for housing. This center will be a perfect center to help the community with homeless and will also decrease the number of homeless people out there in the city of Fort Wayne. The facility will not take from the attractions that is going on in the downtown area.		
115	I think it would be a great service to help the homeless. The address proposed for downtown is a excellent location to serve them.	Thank you for your input.	46805
116	I am supportive of having the resource center downtown. However, I would like information from FWPD. Also the Allen County Government so we can know if they are supportive and how or if the county will be supporting it in any way. The unhoused in Allen County should be a county issue not only a FW issue.	The City has met with city and county law enforcement officers. There are no “sexual violent predators” or “offenders against children” living in the immediate area around the proposed resource center according to the Sex Offender Registry. The Allen County Sheriff’s Office works closely with the Rescue Mission and keeps an eye on who is staying at the Rescue Mission and elsewhere in Allen County. As part of her research, Mayor Tucker requested 3.5 years of data from the Fort Wayne Police Department. Specifically, she asked for data about crimes against children in downtown and within a mile of downtown. The data showed no crimes against children downtown. There were crimes against children outside of downtown. Those crimes were committed by family members. Mayor Tucker has often pointed out that the City can only take care of the things that are in Fort Wayne’s control. Homelessness is a problem that stretches well beyond Fort Wayne’s border. The number of homeless people in Fort Wayne is increasing. The homeless resource center is one way for the City to work on our part of this national problem.	46825
117	I support the homeless shelter	Thank you for your input.	46805

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118	The unfortunate homeless are not allowed to “live” under walkways, railroad overpasses, etc. so where are they allowed to be? I realize that some are drug or alcohol addicted but what about people who have lost their income due to the ever changing financial conditions over which they have no control! Offering them a livable environment may help them conquer their current situations and live a normal life. Let’s take some of the money earmarked for prettying up the overpriced areas of Downtown and give these people a chance to make their lives easier and perhaps become valuable citizens!	Thank you for your input.	46807
119	I am proud of this proposal, and I think we should be proud that we are facing this difficulty together. We will not be the spineless who bus human beings around but people who accept the many ways our loved ones do fall through the gaping holes in our corporate and social systems. It should be central and may we all contribute so it becomes an example to all cities across America!	Thank you for your input.	46819
120	I understand the concerns about homeless people possibly loitering about near a school and a house of worship, but as the Rescue Mission is nearby already stopping the low barrier shelter will not eliminate or even reduce this issue. The shelter is badly needed by our Fort Wayne community! As a pastor I have sent people in need to the Rescue Mission and they've been turned away for various reasons - often because of 'medication' they are taking. I am not naive, but I also know if someone in that situation has nowhere to go in the dead of winter, they WILL freeze to death!	Thank you for your input.	46845
121	As someone who works downtown near this proposed location, and as someone who frequently comes downtown for entertainment and to spend money, I have serious concerns about the location of this facility. I am a transplant to Fort Wayne, and have called this city home for almost 17 years, in part because of how much I fell in love with Downtown and its development. I have worked downtown 15 of my 17 years here, and I have lived just north of Downtown for all 17 years. In that time I have had very many experiences with unhoused people, both positive and negative. In my time employed downtown I have worked at locations near the old Rescue Mission and the new Rescue Mission, on both occasions my experiences with unhoused individuals was	Thank you for taking the time to share your perspective. We appreciate that your comments come from many years of living and working downtown, and we understand why those experiences have shaped your concerns. The issues you describe, including public intoxication, drug use, public urination, discarded needles, and people experiencing behavioral health crises, are real challenges for many downtowns. The purpose of the Anchor Resource Center is to address these issues by providing a staffed, indoor location where people can access restrooms, showers, storage, housing navigation, behavioral health services, and	46808

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	overwhelmingly negative. I have had to clean up excrement, urine, and other bodily fluids countless times, I have been berated and physically threatened, and I have witnessed illegal drug use, overdose, and violence on several occasions. I have had to call the police on several occasions, including one occasion when an individual who was acting unstable approached and scared a group of schoolchildren, in addition to disrobing almost to the nude in front of them. Since the Rescue Mission moved closer to my current employer downtown I have seen a great uptick in incidents with unhoused individuals. Some of these incidents include use of needles and pipes to ingest and consume illicit drugs, broken drug paraphernalia and needles thrown on the ground. Individuals using our front entrance area and flower pots as a restroom, or simply relieving themselves out in the open. Employees at our workplace have been harassed and have been scared to walk to their vehicles at different times of day, and we regularly have to clean up various items, bodily fluids, and garbage up from unhoused individuals camping at our place of business. I support the general idea of this resource center, and agree much needs to be done to help those less fortunate than those of us who are lucky enough to be able to offer help. However, the location has me concerned. Downtown has seen hundreds of millions of dollars of investment, and is such a major center of commerce and tourism for Fort Wayne. Placing the center next to the Barr Street Market, arguably one of the crown jewels of said commerce and tourism, seems like a poor decision. I want to lay out my comments against this proposed location, and not against the Anchor Resource Center, in a couple of bullet points to be succinct. 1 - It is too close to the center of commerce and tourism of Downtown. I believe this will lead to an increase in negative interactions between people coming downtown and unhoused individuals, or it might cause some people to steer clear of these areas and hurt the growth that the city has fostered. 2 - It is too close to the YMCA, schools, and other areas where youth	connections to treatment rather than relying on public spaces to meet basic needs. Research on well-managed homeless resource centers and navigation centers has found they do not increase crime in surrounding neighborhoods and, when paired with outreach and coordinated services, can reduce unsheltered homelessness and improve conditions in public spaces. While every community is different, these findings informed the planning and operational design of the Anchor Resource Center. We recognize that a successful Resource Center must support both those experiencing homelessness and the surrounding neighborhood. That is why safety, security, ongoing evaluation, and collaboration with downtown businesses, residents, and community partners are central to the project's operation.	

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	should be welcomed without fear of negative interaction with strangers or where potential predators can approach children, women, or other vulnerable populations. 3 - There has been mixed messaging and clear indication that Mayor Tucker and the City of Fort Wayne have made the decision that this is their location, and they're not budging from it. It seems as though they chose this location without consulting local businesses, schools, and other organizations influential to downtown and near the proposed location. The city and Mayor Tucker's office have delivered several different messages and indications on how the center would deal with Sex Offenders, and have continually changed messaging or the description of services to be provided. 4 - I have been particularly unhappy with Mayor Tucker. While I understand her background in working with and advocating for unhoused individuals and vulnerable populations, she seems to have jumped into the breach without considering her constituents, and partners to the City of Fort Wayne such as Downtown Fort Wayne, the YLNI Market, and other downtown businesses. On several occasions I have seen Mayor Tucker blatantly lie, or tell half truths, gaslight the public, and misrepresent statements made by those who oppose or have questions about this location. I have been incredibly disappointed in her lack of tact, cooperation, and self-awareness. As someone who voted for Tom Henry, and as someone who appreciates the fact that he was a big part of the growth of downtown, I find it discouraging that the person who was never actually elected and is serving out his term, is disregarding and damaging the legacy he has left behind. 5 - The Lafayette center touted as a similar model for the Anchor Resource Center has seen the same exact issues that those opposing the location have pointed out, and that I have personally experienced. This model clearly does not work for vibrant downtown areas. I hope that Mayor Tucker and the City of Fort Wayne take the time to listen to all voices, and not just those who are the loudest. While many of my friends, colleagues, and neighbors have voiced support for this location, and loudly, there are far more of them who have voiced opposition or concern. I implore Mayor Tucker's Office to do more than		

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	just offer a simple online form and instead hold actual public forums intended to review concerns regarding this location, and to canvas areas surrounding the proposed location. People who have concerns about the proposed location should not be made to feel as if they hate unhoused individuals or that they don't support the intent of the Anchor Resource Center, and there has been far too much jumping to conclusions from those who wish to shove this location into Fort Wayne citizens' faces without actually considering points of opposition on merit. The fear of retaliation, or unfair judgement is what will cause me not to fill in my name on this form.		
122	This is the worst idea I've ever heard. Keep drawing homeless into the downtown area. This will definitely keep people from wanting to walk around downtown. This city is slowly eroding away and the only option I'm starting to see is to move out of the county. Thumbs down to this waste of resources.	The Anchor Resource Center is designed to serve the people who are already here. Our homeless population is overwhelmingly local, and the center's purpose is to better manage and support those individuals—not draw new people into the city. Mayor Tucker has often pointed out that the City can only take care of the things that are in Fort Wayne's control. Homelessness is a problem that stretches well beyond Fort Wayne's border. The number of homeless people in Fort Wayne is increasing. The homeless resource center is one way for the City to work on our part of this national problem.	46845
123	The resource center establishes a necessary facility to help solve the chronic problem of homelessness. No other solution is forthcoming from the opposition. It is in close proximity to other resources utilized by this population therefore the concerns raised by the opposition are mute..the homeless are familiar with and utilize the area at present..what changes except a more positive experience that includes help and hopefully a chance for many to become productive citizens and break the cycle of despair. We are Fort Wayne striving to be better!	Thank you for your input.	46835
124	This entire idea is an intentional effort to attract more sketchy and dangerous vagrants to Ft Wayne. This unconscionable idea could have only come from wealthy, evil coastal elites who deviously force insane policies on commoner communities like Ft Wayne to demoralize and destroy. When Tom Henry died, Ft Wayne died with him. I guess the revival of downtown was fun while it lasted.	Thank you for your input.	46805
125	Housing with no anti drug use requirement are not shown to help the problem, and as shown in San Francisco and other places, to make it	No one will be allowed to use drugs or consume alcohol at the Anchor Resource Center. Thank you for your comments.	46804

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	worse. Unless this has a strict policy against drug use it should be canceled		
126	The fact that anyone would object to this center is pathetic get a life people and more importantly find God 🙏🏿🙏🏿🙏🏿🙏🏿🙏🏿🙏🏿	Thank you for your input.	46818
127	Don't think the main street going thru downtown FW is the appropriate place for the homeless center. Washington Blvd looks horrible enough right as it is now with sleeping bags, blankets, trash, and grocery carts. That location will just add further negativity to one of our main downtown streets. The Center needs to be located in one of the old currently abandoned buildings that can be refurbished off the main downtown area. Should be large enough for those individuals to work within the building to earn money for food and personal needs even if it is only "putting lids on boxes".	We understand the frustration with the conditions currently visible along Washington Boulevard, and we agree that the goal is to reduce the amount of sleeping bags, carts, and unmanaged activity on the sidewalks—not add to it. The purpose of the Anchor Resource Center is to give people a place to come in off the streets so those conditions improve, not worsen. While we've explored other locations, many abandoned buildings further from the core lack the proximity to essential services that individuals rely on daily. Placing the Anchor too far outside downtown would make it harder—not easier—for people to access support and would likely increase movement through surrounding neighborhoods as they travel back for resources. Inside the Anchor, we will be partnering with Blue Jacket to provide onsite employment training and job placement, helping individuals build stability and income. In addition, the center will have staff and security present 24/7 to ensure safety and reduce unmanaged activity in the surrounding area.	46814
128	I support the shelter at this location.	Thank you for your input.	46819
129	I fully support this project; however, my concern is that it's a good addition to current services, but it doesn't go far enough. For example, St. Joe Women's Shelter is currently the only low to no barrier housing facility for women who are childless and not experiencing DV or addiction. Their capacity is extremely limited, and the waiting list is long. This is a huge issue and continues to put unhoused women (and women at risk for homelessness) in potentially dangerous positions. It's extremely disappointing to see high rise projects go up all over downtown when there are unhoused people literally roaming every inch of downtown Fort Wayne. Catering to a certain economic demographic	We agree with you — the Anchor Resource Center is only one step in addressing homelessness, not the full solution. Your points about the limited low-barrier options for women and the broader lack of affordable housing are absolutely valid. These gaps put people, especially women, in unsafe and vulnerable situations, and they are challenges the City knows must be addressed. The Resource Center was recommended after the City created a Homeless Services Manager position in 2025 to evaluate the entire system. That analysis showed the need for better coordination and more cohesive services, which is why the ARC is being proposed. It is meant to strengthen what we already have, not duplicate it.	46807

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	who can afford \$2k/mo apartments, when there's a housing crisis in this city (not just for unhoused people but for low and middle income individuals and families as well), is incredibly myopic, even callous. At some point, there will have to be real and sustainable housing solutions, not just day shelters, emergency shelters, and limited space transitional housing.	But you're right — long-term, sustainable housing solutions are essential. Emergency and day services can stabilize people in the moment, but housing is ultimately what resolves homelessness. The City recognizes this and continues to work with partners on expanding housing options across the spectrum, including supportive and affordable units.	
130	Why don't the city look into the property at the old Marriott on Washington center road and Coldwater road.	We did review sites throughout the city, but that property far exceeds the project's acquisition budget. In addition, it is located too far from the downtown-based services and supports that individuals rely on daily.	46706
131	I understand that resources have to be available to those in need- but the location of this as well as the increase in homeless activity downtown seems like an oversight on the part of city planning. I fully support this project- but the locations of this as well as the mission have led to a massive increase in dangerous activity near where I work. I've been threatened to be stabbed, had people bang on my car window, and was even assaulted by a man who wandered into my office on some sort of substances. We have also had overdoses in the lobby of our building on more than one occasion. I hate having to fear for my life when I walk to my car after work.	Thank you for sharing this. What you've experienced is serious, and no one should feel threatened, unsafe, or afraid to walk to their car after work. We want everyone who works, lives, and visits downtown to feel secure, and we recognize the impact these incidents have on your sense of safety. When situations like the ones you described occur — threats, assaults, violent behavior, or overdoses — it's critically important to contact the police immediately. No employee or resident should be left to handle dangerous situations alone. The City has also created a dedicated Downtown Police District to increase patrol presence and improve response times specifically in the core of downtown. At the same time, part of improving public safety long-term is making sure there is a place officers can take someone who is in crisis, using substances, or unable to safely be in public spaces. The Resource Center will provide exactly that — a centralized, coordinated location where people can receive services, supervision, and support instead of remaining in doorways, lobbies, or other unsafe areas. This isn't a complete solution, and we know it won't fix every issue overnight. But it is a critical step in addressing the behaviors and crises that are already occurring downtown, while giving law enforcement and outreach teams better tools to keep the community safe.	46819

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132	You need to address the ridiculous wait list at the housing authority. We don't need another shelter, we need housing for these people. Have you not heard the phrase "if you build it, they will come?" You're just going to make it worse.	Thank you for your input.	46804-3901
133	The City of Fort Wayne is trying to bring more residents, businesses and tourists to downtown and spent money on improving the waterfront and you put ANOTHER homeless location right in the middle of the city. We are over run with homeless people. Between the Salvation Army, Hope Alive, Just Neighbors, the halfway house...you are running people with actual jobs out. This is NOT how you bring people downtown!! We are becoming a haven for homelessness. These places do not encourage them to better themselves and get jobs. With all the resources we provide, you are making homelessness, very attractive and easy. We have offered them jobs and discount housing and they quit because life on the street is preferred. West Central has experienced an influx of people digging through the trash and stealing. No one wants to live in a downtown full of homeless and beggars.	Thank you for sharing your perspective. The Anchor Resource Center was created to provide many of the constructive solutions to the problems you describe. Its purpose is not to enable homelessness, it is to reduce it by helping individuals address the barriers that are preventing them from obtaining stable housing. Research consistently shows that meeting basic needs while connecting people to services improves engagement and increases the likelihood of long-term housing stability. The Resource Center is also intended to reduce the need for people to spend their days in public spaces by providing an indoor location where they can access services and work with staff on individualized housing plans. We remain committed to balancing the needs of those experiencing homelessness with the safety, vitality, and continued growth of downtown Fort Wayne.	46802
134	A major concern I have about the new location is the amount of resources it will require from the Fort Wayne Police and EMS. Please share the current statistics regarding the Rescue Mission such as: How many calls for service Police and Fire responded to in the last 6 to 18 months.	The FWPD Downtown District was created three months ago. There have been 2,865 calls for service in the district since its inception. There have been 54 calls for service to the Rescue Mission specifically (2% of all calls in the district). "Suspicious person" is the most common call for service at the Rescue Mission (35%). "Suspicious person" and "unwanted person" make up 39% of the calls for service at the Rescue Mission. The most common calls for service in the entire district are for "traffic stops" and "traffic accidents" (22%). An additional 16% of the calls for service in the district are for "suspicious person" and "unwanted person." The homeless resource center will be invaluable to the FWPD when the call for a "suspicious person" or "unwanted person" is for a person who needs the service provided at the center. The FWPD works closely with the Rescue Mission. The good relationship these organizations have demonstrates that the Rescue Mission and people in the surrounding area know the FWPD will	46805-4410

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		respond and help resolve issues. This is demonstrated by the fact that the second most common call for service to the Rescue Mission is for “community-oriented policing” (13% of calls). Last year, Mayor Tucker and the City Council collaborated on an ordinance that empowered the City to cite organizations that drop off homeless people in Fort Wayne without a plan for how the homeless people who are dropped off are going to get services. This inhumane practice leaves the homeless person in a community with no social support network and no knowledge about where services are available. The City has sent cease and desist letters to organizations in central Indiana that have paid ride-sharing services to drop homeless individuals in Fort Wayne and has issued citations to an organization that has done this twice. The cease and desist letters and the citations resulted from calls for service in the downtown district.	
135	Could you post a break down of the monthly and yearly cost on this project? Also what about hiring those we are trying to help to work at the new center? Give them a sense of purpose by working there. Will you have we the ability to let them look for jobs and have a address and email.	The current estimated annual operating budget for the Anchor Resource Center is approximately \$1.2 million, which includes staffing, security, employee benefits, supplies, building operations, utilities, and other operating expenses. As planning continues and a final site is selected, these estimates may be refined. A final detailed annual budget will be approved by the Board of Directors. Helping individuals return to the workforce is one of the Resource Center's primary goals. Anchor plans to partner with Blue Jacket to provide workforce development, job readiness training, and employment placement services. Guests will also have access to resources such as a mailing address, telephone access, and assistance obtaining identification and other documents that are often necessary to secure employment and housing. Anchor also recognizes the value of lived experience. As positions become available, the organization anticipates employing individuals with lived experience of homelessness or recovery in appropriate roles, while also encouraging guests to pursue employment opportunities	46805

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		throughout the community as they work toward self-sufficiency and permanent housing. The Anchor's purpose is not to make homelessness more comfortable; it is to make homelessness shorter. Employment, income, and housing are key components of helping individuals achieve long-term stability.	
136	The homeless population is mostly around downtown Ft Wayne, there going to be there regardless if the center is open or not. All the negative actived caused by homeless individuals is all ready in the areas where the proposed homeless center is. So the center is not going to bring anything mad that isn't all ready there. Businesses and individuals against the center need to look around and see the homeless population is all ready in there niborhood. That's where the proposed center is where the homeless is .	Thank you for your input.	46808
137	Do not purchase the building downtown and waste more taxpayer money. Utilize the building costing city owned building further south	The site proposed by Downtown Fort Wayne does not include an existing building, which means construction and development costs would far exceed those of the recommended location. In addition, the property is currently being used by other City departments, limiting its availability for a project of this scale. We also believe the site is too close to a residential area, which could create challenges for both the neighborhood and the individuals seeking services. For these reasons, it is not a viable option for the Anchor Resource Center.	46818
138	I travel through this area on foot, car, and bicycle nearly every day. I am entirely in favor of the resource center. Those who worry that the center will attract the homeless are off base. The homeless are already there, 24/7. With coordinated, centralized services available, it might actually get these people past homelessness.	Thank you for your input.	46807
139	The proposed low-barrier homeless shelter is needed BUT should not be located near any schools or high foot traffic businesses. Understood it needs to be near the downtown vicinity, but the proposed area is not acceptable.	Thank you for your input.	46825
140	The city and any other government should NOT run ANY homeless center or shelter. Private charities should handle that because they are frugal and efficient. Government is always bloated and inefficient. Government should enforce loitering and vagrancy laws and that's it.	The city and government will not be running the resource center, a separate non-profit The Anchor Resource Center will handle all operations. The city will be the landlord of the building that is purchased.	46818

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141	Why don't they help them find jobs to get them off the streets. I'm tired of coming home and finding homeless person sleeping in my yard	Helping individuals return to work is a key component of the Anchor Resource Center's approach to reducing homelessness. Many people experiencing homelessness want to work but face barriers such as lacking identification, a mailing address, a phone number, reliable transportation, appropriate clothing, or support in navigating the job market. The Anchor plans to partner with Blue Jacket to provide workforce development and job readiness programming. Individuals will also receive assistance obtaining identification and other important documents, access to mail and communication services needed for job applications, and connections to employment opportunities throughout the community. Once participants complete Blue Jacket's training program, they receive assistance with job placement. The Anchor's purpose is not to make homelessness more comfortable; it is to make homelessness shorter. Employment is one of the key pathways to helping individuals regain stability and achieve permanent housing.	46893
142	Hello! I work in a building less than a block away from the proposed shelter, and I can say that there have been problems outside our building due to a lack of resources for homeless people. I think that the resource center is much needed, and perfectly placed. It is going right where the need already is.	Thank you for your input.	46807
143	I strongly oppose this shelter as we already have one that cost 20 million! It's destroying downtown Ft Wayne and surrounding businesses. It has created risks to the community and it's outrageous that the city of Ft Wayne would consider another on downtown. I know one thing for sure Mayor Tucker won't be getting my vote and will probably lose a lot more! It's just not fair to us taxpayers period!	Thank you for your input.	46805
144	Why not use the old Allen county jail, when Allen county correctional moves to there new jail. There's plenty of room.	We understand why the old jail might seem like a possible option, but the jail building is owned by the County, and the City does not have authority over how that property is used. We also believe the proposed location on the edge of downtown is the most appropriate fit. It keeps the Anchor Resource Center close to	46804

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		essential downtown services while avoiding placement in the heart of the festival and tourism area, which would not be an ideal environment for clients or the community.	
145	Totally against the shelter! No! No! No!!!!	Thank you for your input.	46804
146	Ok now people complaining are rich people but don't let it be there many people will either be sleeping in their driveway or but taking moe room up in the jail which we have already had problems with thanks to these people so I really think this would be a GREAT PLACE TO GIVE THEM A ROOF OVER THEIR HEADS NOT A BENCH OR HARDSIDEWALK SO THEY NEED TO STOP WHINING AND GET IT DONE THERE NOW!!!!	Thank you for your input.	46816
147	Mayor Tucker and City of Ft.Wayne, Thank you for addressing the needs of people who are lacking housing and assistance. Having the Extra Help for people who choose to get help and have a chance to get in and out of the weather elements when needed is Great. Especially since it is close to the Rescue Mission where more assistance is available. I Thank You Mayor Tucker and City of Ft. Wayne for taking on this very important means of help that is so desperately needed.	Thank you for your input.	46825
148	The homeless individuals are going to be whoever resources are food, clothes, shelter if all those resources where on a country dirt road that's where the homeless population would be. Homeless individuals are in every major cities where ever the resources are. Anyone who doesn't want to see homeless individuals leve the area that provides resources for the homeless because the homeless will always be where the food is	Thank you for your input.	46808
149	I have a great idea. Why don't we use the old hotel that's on 69 and Coldwater Road I think it was a Marriott or a Ramada Inn back in the day. There's an Arby's in front of it. And it's just to the left of steak and ale steak house.	We did review sites throughout the city, but we were told Ramada far exceeds the project's acquisition budget. In addition, it is located too far from the downtown-based services and supports that individuals rely on daily.	46808
150	While community help for the downtrodden homeless is commendable, handing out free resources to these people will not reform them from their non-productive ways. Why should it? Freebies are not the answer.	Thank you for your input.	46808

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	Are these people actually from Fort Wayne? Or have they been dropped off from other cities or countries during the Biden administration, that no longer want to deal with them and the expense of trying to socialize them? Drug addicts do not want reform. They want freebies; however, freebies are NOT free. Taxpayer money has to be accountable and to be used as a resource for American Citizens. Socialism is not the American way!		
151	I am all for the center going in. Why are people afraid of the homeless living in that area? They already do, just not in a building. I find it funny that the people who don't want it have homes and money. The rescue mission is in Downtown Fort Wayne, so why can't this building also be? I'll tell you why, because the people who don't want it are the fat cats who make money and live in nice homes, so they don't care about the homeless. If they had their way, they would place the homeless in Allen County as far out of the city as possible. They believe out of sight, out of mind. Maybe the ones who don't want it should get together and buy about 10 acres of land and give it to Fort Wayne, and make a homeless city there. They can pay for the little homeless shelters like other cities have for the homeless, and the homeless can live there. I would love to be at your next meeting just to ask the one who doesn't want it if they would do what I just mentioned, see how many ask Why should I have to.	Thank you for your input.	46785
152	My hope is that this resource center will come to fruition where it is proposed or close to where it is proposed. Homelessness does not just disappear if we ignore it. Providing services to the unhoused is the best way to promote safety for ALL. Some crimes are committed (by the unhoused) because of unmet needs. The unhoused also set up camp when they have nowhere else to go. Of course, this is unsightly to most. Many of the other resources for unhoused individuals are in or around downtown. It makes complete sense to create this hub in the proposed area. Not only will this hub help create stability and shelter for the unhoused, it will truly benefit the rest of the citizens of Fort Wayne. I believe	Thank you for your input.	46835
153	I think we ought to just let the homeless people live there. There's nothing wrong with it. Plus drugs are wherever you go in Ft Wayne. They won't be hurting anybody and they'll be safe. I think.	Thank you for your input.	46807

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154	I fully support this homeless resource center at this location. The homeless population are already downtown. They need a safe space to go. My only issue is that I would hope that the City or State could allocate more dollars to the homeless shelters in the area so that they can continue to provide safe spaces for the unhoused individuals.	Thank you for your input.	46819
155	The resource center is needed now! Not later! Better to implement the plan and improve upon it over time than to endlessly discuss and hem and haw about possible solutions in the near future, when the future never comes! There's never going to be a "convenient" time, so let's get people the help they need now!	Thank you for your input.	46807
156	I don't think it's very smart to put the center close to a school, the money would be better spent on roads and sidewalks, especially in Northeast Ft Wayne.	Thank you for your input.	46835
157	I support the proposed site Downtown on E Washington. I think it makes sense and will serve the homeless/unhoused with much-needed help.	Thank you for your input.	46816
158	There needs to be this type of resource in our community and downtown is where it needs to be	Thank you for your input.	46835
159	I fully support the resource center being downtown. Lots of homeless people downtown, let's help them get the resources they need!	Thank you for your input.	46815
160	An additional homeless shelter would be detrimental to the infrastructure and security of downtown Fort Wayne. The proposal of it is absolutely comical. I implore the city of Fort Wayne to look into the data behind the homeless shelter that is already in downtown. From what I have experienced as a resident, who attempts to visit downtown regularly, the numbers of homeless people have increased astronomically since the original shelter has been built. It is heartbreaking to see people and families struggle in this way, but I also have my own safety and family. While I'm sure the number of violent incidents between homeless people and others is lower, it should also be heavily considered that it is a threat to our safety in other ways. For example, verbal altercations, altercations amongst themselves, littering (needles specifically), increased drug dealers and users in the areas. There's also the emotional side that needs to be considered with our children. The children of Fort Wayne do not need to see people strung out on the streets and in alleyways. We also need to consider the strain that the increased number of homeless people is placing on our healthcare system, which also directly impacts	Thank you for your input.	46814

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	our safety. I encourage the city of Fort Wayne to also talk to healthcare workers at the Lutheran downtown hospital and discuss with them the strain it puts on them and their resources. Please also consider the individual gains the “companies” and “businesses” have that are advocating for another shelter. How many of the companies that have spoken out publicly supporting this shelter will be profiting from building it? The city of Fort Wayne should consider a new shelter on the outskirts of town, away from where people would have to pass by regularly when walking and put their own safety at risk. This would also give them space for more expansions if necessary. The spot that is being considered at this time has little to no expansion space. What is the end goal? To have the whole city become a homeless shelter? To have us become a bigger city like Chicago and have people setting up permanent encampments? To what end will this stop?		
161	I support the original proposed location. It seems the most convenient for everyone.	Thank you for your input.	46807
162	I believe we need to try this center downtown. If not downtown, where? No one seems to want it in their neighborhood. So we must try downtown. We need to help the homeless; the riverbanks and trails are a mess with trash. Regarding the center.... I would put some sort of parameters and measures to see if it is working within 2-3 years. If it fails, so be it. But what if it succeeds? We need to try this.	Thank you for your input.	46774
163	DO NOT BUILD THIS SO-CALLED "HOMELESS CENTER!." There are many reasons for this including the following; 1. More "homeless" centers attract more vagrants, alcoholics and drug addicts. 2. After the center is built, who is going to pay all of the associated costs for housing, feeding, utilities, clean up, the increased crime, etc. THE TAXPAYERS! 3. Look at any city that fosters homelessness... Los Angeles, Seattle, New York, etc. etc. They soon become disaster areas. 4. City officials are supposedly trying to beautify the city. A place that draws vagrants and addicts is the last thing you need to foster a more beautiful downtown area. 5. Anything the government funds, grows and never solves the problem.	Thank you for your input.	46835

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	It can't, because the employees involved need to keep their jobs and that means the programs must continue and grow larger. Already you have at least two people (Kelly and Amanda) who have jobs promoting this craziness. Once this starts, it will not stop. There are more reasons, but these should suffice. I want your assurance that you will STOP this project before it goes any further. Thank you.		
164	I think this is a wonderful idea!!!!	Thank you for your input.	46805
165	I think the proposed center is ideal near services ,food and helpers, The homeless congregate downtown so better to the east of the retail, Prefer that City not own the building, and that Surak or Bean buy it and take a tax write off and keep the selfish councils nose out of it	Thank you for your input.	46806
166	We should help our homeless. Period.	Thank you for your input.	46845
167	Why is the Resource Center being misrepresented and called a Resource Center, when the ultimate goal is for it to be a shelter to house 150 unhoused individuals at any given time? Once you change the designated means of use, the definition of the Resource Center changes to Homeless Shelter. Let's be transparent and clear going forward with what is being presented to all constituents. This is not an only a resource center, it is another homeless shelter being masked by the words resource center. The perception the City is continuing to create is that we are a City that welcomes all unhoused individuals. Why don't you call the proposed center the Welcome Center for the Homeless. Upon arrival to the Welcome Center you will receive the Welcome packet which includes the location of 11 free meals every day, overnight accommodations, and you can leave your personal belongings right here at the Welcome Center while you explore the City! To the Mayor, Ms. Falls, and City Council, can we attempt to bring something better to the downtown area other than something that attracts more homeless and unhoused transient persons?	The primary function of the homeless resource center will be to connect homeless people with services and resources. This will always be the primary function of the homeless resource center regardless of future phases.	46802
168	We are very supportive of the proposed downtown homeless resource center. The proposed location near the Rescue Mission, Oak Street, current Matthew 25 building and bus lines makes perfect sense. How sad that some in this community (especially the pastor and congregation of St. Paul's Lutheran Church who profess to be Christians) slander those who are homeless instead of offering a place of refuge and hope. Jesus directly identified with the unsheltered, stating, "Foxes have holes and	Thank you for your input.	46815

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	birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head". He taught that caring for society's most vulnerable is equivalent to serving Him personally. The homeless need to be met where they are, not with a homeless resource center located miles and miles away.		
169	A low barrier resource center will cause more problems. It will attract criminals. It will not take anymore people off of the street. It will not eliminate them urinating and defecating outside. About 65% of the homeless are addicts. Their daily goal is to get their fix. They will not use a shelter until they absolutely have to do so. Fort Wayne already has a 211 number to direct people to any service that they need. The only thing a low barrier building will do is attract the criminal element. Also, if we lose our downtown businesses, we will lose money. The downtown area will become depressed and it will Not attract tourists. Fort Wayne is not the nice home town it used to be. We do not need to add more damage. We do not need low barrier anything in Fort Wayne.	Thank you for sharing your concerns. A common misconception is that "low barrier" means there are no rules or expectations. That is not the case. Low barrier is very different from zero barrier. It simply means removing unnecessary obstacles that prevent people from accessing services and beginning the process of moving toward stable housing. For example, the Resource Center will be open 24 hours a day so individuals do not have to wait outside for services, and staff will work to connect people with housing, healthcare, treatment, and other resources as soon as they seek help. At the same time, the Resource Center will operate with a clear Guest Code of Conduct, established expectations for behavior, and appropriate consequences for violations. The facility will have trained security personnel on-site 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, security cameras, controlled access, outreach staff conducting regular perimeter checks, and close coordination with the Fort Wayne Police Department when law enforcement assistance is needed. Compassion and accountability are both essential to the Anchor's success. The Anchor also recognizes that many individuals experiencing homelessness face challenges such as substance use disorders, mental illness, or chronic health conditions. Rather than simply meeting immediate needs, the Resource Center is designed to connect individuals with the treatment and services that address those underlying issues. Through partnerships with healthcare providers, behavioral health organizations, recovery programs, and workforce development agencies, individuals will be connected to the support that best meets their needs.	46815

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		Fort Wayne already has many excellent organizations providing services, and the Anchor is designed to strengthen, not duplicate, their work. By bringing housing navigation, Coordinated Entry, basic needs, and community partners together in one location that is available 24/7, the Resource Center will make it easier for individuals to access help and easier for providers to work together.	
170	Has there been any discussion or explanation provided about how the proposed resource center will feed the 150 unhoused occupants? It seems to appear that this very important piece has been overlooked or perhaps left out for a reason that should be made public. Please explain this to the constituents and why this has not been made public?	Food service has been an important part of the planning process and will ultimately depend on the final location selected for the Resource Center. If the proposed location at 333 E. Washington Boulevard is selected, the Resource Center would be within walking distance of existing community meal providers that currently serve breakfast, lunch, and dinner. In that scenario, the Anchor would provide emergency food, snacks, and beverages while coordinating with existing meal programs rather than duplicating services that are already available nearby. If a different location is selected where community meal programs are not readily accessible, the operational plan and budget would be adjusted to include the kitchen facilities, staffing, and food service necessary to meet guests' needs. The Anchor's goal is to strengthen and coordinate the existing homeless response system by filling service gaps rather than duplicating services that community partners are already providing. Food service planning is one example of that approach.	46802
171	I support the homeless center in the proposed location.	Thank you for your input.	46835
172	The city council has requested that the American Center alternate locations. I suggest and many people that I've spoken to have agreed that the current jail would be the perfect location for the homeless shelter once it is no longer being used in its current capacity.	We understand why the old jail might seem like a possible option, but the jail building is owned by the County, and the City does not have authority over how that property is used. We also believe the proposed location on the edge of downtown is the most appropriate fit. It keeps the Anchor Resource Center close to essential downtown services while avoiding placement in the heart of the festival and tourism area, which would not be an ideal environment for clients or the community.	46807

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173	Being close to mission my concern is individuals hopping from one center to the other. I was under the impression the mission does a lot of similar things already. Having worked with the homeless population I know there is a need. Has anyone asked gone and asked someone homeless what they need and how could we best serve them. Individuals who have been at the mission speak about how dangerous the mission how can we assure the same won't happen at this facility. We have an organization where homeless men and women can go do laundry and take showers ect.. Have we talked with them to get their options and what they see works and doesn't work or what the needs are. Homelessness is everywhere not just downtown. It may be best served to spread services and center in different parts of town to avoid overcrowding and to help those in all areas of Fort Wayne	Thank you for your input. Yes — we have gone out and spoken directly with individuals experiencing homelessness. In fact, one of the first steps we took was to ensure that people with lived experience had a real voice in shaping this approach. Our Homeless Services Manager conducted interviews with both men and women to understand their needs, what's missing today, and what would truly help them move toward stability. They overwhelmingly supported the idea of a Resource Center. Many described how difficult it is to meet basic needs right now. One woman shared that having a center like this “would have made a difference for her on day one.” Instead, she had no choice but to wash up in park restrooms before job interviews because there was nowhere else to go.	46805
174	How will resident safety be addressed for those staying at the shelter? What programs will be offered to support people using the facility? What community organization are you hoping to partner with?	The safety of guests, staff, volunteers, and the surrounding community is a top priority. The Anchor Resource Center will have trained security personnel on-site 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, along with security cameras monitoring both the interior and exterior of the building. Staff will also receive training in trauma-informed care, de-escalation, CPR, First Aid, and naloxone administration. The Resource Center will operate under a Guest Code of Conduct that establishes clear expectations for behavior and accountability to help maintain a safe, respectful environment. Every individual seeking housing-focused services will complete a Coordinated Entry assessment and meet with a Housing Navigator to develop a personalized Housing Action Plan. That plan identifies each person's needs and connects them with the services most appropriate to their situation, including housing, healthcare, behavioral health services, substance use treatment, employment assistance, benefits, and financial stability. The Anchor's purpose is not to make homelessness more comfortable; it is to make homelessness shorter. The Anchor is being designed as a collaborative resource center that brings together organizations with expertise in different areas of service. Current planning includes partnerships for workforce development, healthcare, behavioral health, substance use treatment,	46808

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		financial empowerment, benefits assistance, and housing navigation. Organizations currently participating in planning include Blue Jacket, Lutheran Health Network, Parkview Health, Avenues Recovery Center, Catholic Charities, Forgotten Stones, and local emergency shelters. As planning continues and a final location is selected, additional partnerships will be developed to further strengthen the community's coordinated response to homelessness.	
175	Why not find better area i will not go downtown anymore because of all the drug use,begging for money, trash.	Thank you for your input.	46835
176	Use the facility you already have!! Why have us be paying for a new place! Taxpayers shouldn't have to pay for this since u already have a place!	Thank you for your input.	46818
177	I am so tired of St. Paul's "church". Their handing out flyers against the resource center, their online hate campaign saying they think that all of the people using the resource center are suddenly all sex offenders, they are being so vile. The say that children are in danger and that's not true. They're liars, and they're disgusting to do this stuff. I don't need an answer or reaction to this paragraph. I am so disgusted that Downtown Fort Wayne and organizations like St. Paul's are trying to have this resource center moved to the most convenient, blackest, poorest neighborhood possible. This resource center needs to be where it MAKES SENSE to be located. This NIMBY stuff is such hateful nonsense. This paragraph I would like an answer to from the fool councilmen who want the resource center moved to a nonsensical location.	Thank you for your input.	46806
178	I do not understand the hate and discontent towards this project. The churches and schools are crying and saying it will be too close to them. For crying out loud just look at the picture HERE! The Rescue Mission is just kitty corner across the Lafayette Street intersection. This is a location that has been trying to help and feed the homeless. THE HOMELESS ARE HERE!!! WHAT KNUCKLEHEAD wants the facility on Wallace Street??? A 20 minute walk from the Rescue Mission. No Quick Marts/gas stations to	Thank you for your input.	46835

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	get food or any fast food joints. Why not just put all the homeless on a deserted island? Out of site, out of mind? An added facility right there on Lafayette & Washington Streets IS THE EXACT PLACE WHERE IT NEEDS TO BE. AND let's not forget the uproar from the Churches in the neighborhood. Churches are supposed to reach out and serve those in need but the ney sayers apparently haven't been doing that and they don't want anyone else helping the homeless and hungry either. BUT... Thank you St Mary's for your helping hand to those in need and your Soup Kitchen Ministry. THE MAYOR'S PROPOSED LOCATION IS EXACTLY WHERE IT NEEDS TO BE TO ADD MORE BEDS AND SUPPORT FOR THOSE IN NEED. Businesses downtown have stated that some homeless people are sleeping on their doorsteps. This would undoubtedly help remedy this problem. Also, if I understand this correctly the people will be able to get counseling there also. I encourage a positive vote on this issue and strongly suggest the knuckleheads on City Council get their said heads out of, to put it nicely, the sand and make their positive vote be part of the solution and stop being part of the problem.		
179	I support the concept as presented. My hope is that the approach differentiates between the situations that caused homelessness with appropriate support	Thank you for your input.	46807
180	I was homeless in Fort Wayne and to me there in no place for Married people who don't have kids you need someplace for them	Thank you for your input. The Center will serve people who are married, with and without children.	46803

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181	This seems like a good proposal and an ideal location.	Thank you for your input.	46805
182	I fully support this project and the proposed location. The project must be near public transportation and other local resources.	Thank you for your input.	46835
183	Not the place for a homeless center.	Thank you for your input.	46825
184	As a Fort Wayne native, the homeless population in downtown FW has visibly had a dramatic increase over the past few years and is now out of hand. There will have to be solutions to this issue and in addition to the Rescue Mission, the proposed Resource Center seems like it would be a viable aid in addressing the issues of the homeless. It has to be located somewhere and the proposed location near the Rescue Mission and near the Greyhound Bus Station seems to make the most sense. It is unfortunate for the neighboring businesses, but it will be more unfortunate for all of FW if the homeless population continues to grow and solutions aren't found. In "The City of Churches", are there religious groups/organizations stepping forward to address part of the burden of the homeless? Are there any plans for a Mental Health and Drug Rehab facility in the same area of downtown FW? Are there any suggestions being made for an alternative location for a Resource Center (esp by those that object to it)?	Thank you for your input.	46814
185	We are not in favor of this homeless facility. There has been a noticeable increase in violent homeless people (we work downtown) and this will increase even more. If we want to revitalize downtown, this is not the direction we should go.	Thank you for your input.	46804
186	How can we hold city council responsible for ignoring the vast majority of citizens to appease one private school that came without any actual proof?	As is the case with all issues, people need to reach out to their elected officials. We know City Council Members listen.	46825
187	If a location is not to be put up there, where is one to go? Everybody seems in agreement that one is necessary, but everybody proposes 'not in my backyard' which functionally means it goes nowhere and nobody is allowed help. The homeless are not a threat to public decency or children any more than any other demographic is, and some of the homeless are themselves children. The centrality and visibility of the location is the point, as it needs to be easily visible for those who need it to find it; it	Thank you for your input.	46765

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	tucked away and hidden means it cannot be easily found or, therefore, used. Homeless people are expected to follow all laws that homed people do, so opposition on the basis of public indecent are irrelevant; claims about the lack of sanitation of homeless people are rectified by the placement of such a location and would be fixed by the institution existing so as similarly invalid. Claims that this would bring in drugs to the area is similarly fixed by the implementation of the physical/mental healthcare at a location for those who need it and have been proven to decrease the drug use and presence of an area. There is nothing negative about the proposed location or existence of such a service aside from people who are opposed to seeing people who are very not well off and don't want to confront the injustices in their community.		
188	How many therapy appointments will be available every day and how many counselors will be hired? Park Center can't even provide enough counselors for their patients due to therapists leaving!	The Anchor Resource Center does not plan to operate as a mental health clinic or employ its own team of therapists. Instead, the goal is to increase access to behavioral healthcare by partnering with existing providers and bringing services closer to individuals experiencing homelessness. The Anchor is actively working with Parkview Behavioral Health Institute and other healthcare partners to determine the most effective way to provide on-site mental health services, medication management, crisis intervention, and connections to ongoing treatment. The number of clinicians, appointment availability, and service hours will be determined through those partnerships as operational planning continues. The Anchor is designed to strengthen the existing behavioral health system by connecting individuals to care more quickly and reducing barriers that often prevent people experiencing homelessness from accessing treatment.	46802
189	How many police officers will be stationed there for all 24 hours they are open? How will the facility be able to afford this security?	The Anchor Resource Center will not have Fort Wayne Police officers stationed at the facility 24 hours a day. Instead, the Resource Center will employ trained security personnel who will provide on-site security 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Security staff will work closely with the Fort Wayne Police Department and other public safety partners whenever law enforcement assistance is needed.	46802

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		The cost of providing 24/7 security is included in the Resource Center's estimated annual operating budget of approximately \$1.2 million. The Anchor is committed to opening only after sufficient operating funding has been secured, and the organization has already secured or received commitments for nearly three years of operating support. Maintaining a safe environment for guests, staff, volunteers, and the surrounding neighborhood is a core component of the Resource Center's operations.	
190	I support the City of Fort Wayne taking homelessness seriously. People living without shelter deserve real help, including access to housing, mental-health care, addiction recovery, employment services, hygiene facilities, case management, and long-term stability. At the same time, downtown businesses, residents, schools, churches, families, visitors, and taxpayers deserve a safe, clean, thriving downtown. Although I do not live downtown, I am a Fort Wayne-area resident who regularly uses downtown. Downtown Fort Wayne is where I shop, eat, attend festivals, visit parks, and spend time with family and friends. This proposal matters to me because downtown is not only for downtown residents. It is a regional destination used and supported by people from across the Fort Wayne area. My concern is not with helping people experiencing homelessness. My concern is with the proposed location and the possible impact of placing a 24/7 low-barrier homeless resource center at 333 E. Washington Boulevard in the middle of downtown. Fort Wayne has spent years rebuilding downtown into a place where people want to live, work, visit, eat, shop, attend events, use parks, and invest. The City, private developers, businesses, residents, and taxpayers have put enormous effort and money into projects such as Promenade Park, riverfront development, The Landing, Electric Works, The Pearl, new downtown housing, restaurants, entertainment venues, hotels, and public spaces. That progress is the result of intentional planning and	We agree that downtown is a vital regional destination, and that supporting people experiencing homelessness and protecting the momentum of downtown are not competing priorities — both are essential. Your concerns about location, safety, and long-term impact are understandable, and they're exactly the questions we've been working through as part of the broader Strategic Plan and the due-diligence process. We recognize that location matters. Through the City's Homelessness Strategic Plan and the evaluation led by the Homeless Services Manager, it became clear that our system desperately needs better coordination, not duplication. That is why we will be presenting the full property evaluation — including alternatives considered and the reasons they were not selected — to City Council. Community safety is a top priority. The Anchored Resource Center will have two formal oversight bodies: • A Governance Board that oversees operations, staffing, policies, and accountability • A Community Advisory Board that gives direct voice to nearby businesses, schools, churches, and residents These boards will work together to establish a security plan, perimeter expectations, engagement protocols, and operational policies. The Center will also report to City Council annually on agreed-upon	46814

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	investment, and it should be protected. A 24/7 low-barrier resource center is not a small neighborhood office. By the City's own description, it would serve many people each day and include showers, restrooms, laundry, lockers, respite space, safe parking, and access to multiple service providers. That kind of facility may be needed, but its location matters. Placing it in the middle of the downtown investment district could create added pressure on the same area the City has worked so hard to improve. The City's explanation appears to be that downtown is where many homeless individuals already are and where many services are already located. I understand that argument, but I do not believe "the problem is already downtown" is enough of a reason to permanently concentrate a major 24/7 low-barrier facility there. If anything, that should cause the City to ask whether downtown has already absorbed more than its fair share of the burden. Before moving forward with any homeless resource center, I ask the City to provide a more complete and transparent site-selection process, including: 1. A public comparison of all alternative locations considered. 2. A professional real-estate and land-use analysis of possible sites. 3. A written impact study on nearby businesses, housing, schools, churches, parks, restaurants, entertainment venues, public events, and downtown foot traffic. 4. A clear security plan that explains staffing, police coordination, loitering prevention, perimeter rules, emergency response, and enforcement. 5. A measurable Good Neighbor Agreement with real accountability. 6. A plan for sanitation, trash, needles, public restroom impacts, camping, overnight activity, and business or resident complaints. 7. A defined review period with objective performance metrics and an enforceable option to modify, relocate, or terminate the use if the center	performance metrics. This structure ensures that any concerns about loitering, safety, sanitation, or community impact are monitored continuously and addressed proactively. The lease will include language giving the City the right to terminate the agreement if we are dissatisfied with performance. This is standard language in all City leases to ensure taxpayers are protected.	

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	harms the surrounding area. 8. Consideration of a less disruptive model, such as a smaller downtown intake/navigation office combined with distributed services elsewhere in the city. Downtown Fort Wayne is not just another location on a map. It is the front door of the city. It is where families go to parks, where people attend festivals and events, where businesses are trying to survive, where new housing is being built, and where the City has asked residents, developers, and visitors to believe in Fort Wayne's future. Helping people experiencing homelessness and protecting downtown should not be treated as opposing goals. The City should pursue both. I support creating better homeless services in Fort Wayne, but I oppose placing this 24/7 low-barrier resource center at 333 E. Washington Boulevard. I urge the City to reject this location and pursue a site and operating model that helps people in crisis without putting downtown's hard-earned momentum at unnecessary risk.		
191	I am so proud of our city officials and Mayor for initiating this compassionate approach to the homeless. I am totally in favor of the location and the plan. [NAME DELETED]	Thank you for your input.	46802
192	a homeless shelter should not be down town. this is why I don't go downtown anymore is because of the homeless. I believe it should be out southwest or northwest somewhere look for a place their	We understand the desire to find a location away from businesses, schools, and churches, and we also recognize concerns about the cost of downtown real estate. However, transportation would become a significant barrier if the Anchor Resource Center were moved far from the downtown area, where most existing services and supports are already located.	46807
193	COST OF 1 policeman present 24/7 for a year! Average hourly wage for FW police is \$35. 24 hours x 7 days equals \$5,880 cost per week. \$5,880 x 52 weeks/year. \$305,760 UNSUSTAINABLE	The Anchor Resource Center is not proposing to station a Fort Wayne Police officer at the facility 24 hours a day. Instead, the Resource Center will employ trained security personnel who will provide on-site security 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Security staff will work closely with the Fort Wayne Police Department whenever law enforcement assistance is needed.	46802

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		The cost of 24/7 security is included in the Resource Center's estimated annual operating budget of approximately \$1.2 million. The Anchor's funding plan includes securing multiple years of operating support before opening, ensuring that essential services, including security, can be provided in a financially sustainable manner. Providing a safe environment for guests, staff, volunteers, neighboring businesses, and downtown residents is a core component of the Resource Center's operations.	
194	As a downtown resident, I see the struggles that our homeless population faces on a daily basis. I am in strong support of this new center at the proposed location and do not support the delay requested by city council republicans. Proximity to the Rescue mission and other services, along with being in the most transit-served area in the city is crucial.	Thank you for your input.	46802
195	This has to be one of the worst locations possible to pick. To start, I do believe that we should provide resources for our community. I also believe we should not reward bad behavior. My concern is that these individuals do not need to be sober/clean to check in. There will also be no identification verification so we will not know who we are housing. This can lead to terribly dangerous environments for those in surrounding areas.	Thank you for sharing your concerns. A common misconception is that "low barrier" means there are no rules or expectations. That is not the case. Low barrier is very different from zero barrier. It means removing unnecessary obstacles that prevent people from accessing help, while maintaining clear expectations for behavior. The Anchor Resource Center will operate with a Guest Code of Conduct, established rules, and appropriate consequences when those rules are violated. Individuals will be allowed to access services even if they have drugs or alcohol in their system; however, the use of drugs or alcohol on Resource Center property will not be permitted. Staff will engage individuals in conversations about treatment options and connect them to residential or outpatient substance use treatment, mental health services, healthcare, and other resources based on their individual needs. Often, once a person has a safe place to be and has built trust with staff, they are better able to begin addressing the challenges that contributed to their homelessness. While a government-issued ID will not be required to access services, that does not mean individuals are anonymous or unaccounted for. Every individual seeking housing-focused services will complete a Coordinated Entry assessment and work with a Housing Navigator to	46804

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		develop a personalized Housing Action Plan. Many people experiencing homelessness have lost or had their identification stolen, and obtaining replacement identification is often one of the first steps toward securing employment, housing, healthcare, and other benefits. Assisting individuals in obtaining those vital documents is an important part of the Resource Center's work. The Resource Center will also have trained security personnel on-site 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, along with indoor and outdoor security cameras, controlled access, and staff dedicated to maintaining a safe environment for guests, neighboring businesses, and the surrounding community.	
196	This is a terrible idea. A flop house doesn't address the problems of addiction and mental illness. History has shown that putting at risk people all in the same area is a disaster. Trying to feel morally superior to anyone who opposes this idea is not helpful and doesn't help this segment of our population at all. A mentally ill person with a cot is still mentally ill. Use our limited resources for mandatory treatment and counseling for this segment of our population.	The Anchor Resource Center recognizes that homelessness cannot be solved by providing a place to rest alone. Mental illness, substance use disorders, physical health conditions, and other barriers must also be addressed if individuals are to achieve long-term stability. That is why the Anchor is being designed as a resource center rather than simply a place to stay. Individuals seeking housing-focused services will complete a Coordinated Entry assessment, work with a Housing Navigator to develop a personalized Housing Action Plan, and be connected to the services most appropriate for their needs. The Anchor is working with community partners to expand access to mental health services, substance use treatment, healthcare, employment assistance, and housing. Current planning includes partnerships with Parkview Behavioral Health Institute to improve access to behavioral healthcare and medication management, as well as Avenues to connect individuals with residential substance use treatment. Additional partnerships will continue to be developed as the project moves forward. The Anchor's purpose is not to make homelessness more comfortable; it is to make homelessness shorter. By coordinating treatment, housing, employment, and supportive services, the Resource Center is designed to help individuals address the underlying causes of their	46802

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		homelessness and move toward self-sufficiency and permanent housing.	
197	I think the facility is a good idea. The city should be able to act as a safety net for people who fall on hard times.	Thank you for your input.	46845
198	I'm am completely against any type of homeless shelter, resource center, outreach, or any other type of politically correct verbage the city government wants to use to underplay the severity of the problem, in pursuit to "help" the homeless. Downtown Fort Wayne can only be, in it's current state, described as disgusting. The river greenway is no longer usable, Promenade Park is often littered with this same disgusting homeless problem. Foster Park was renovated and infrastructure updated only for Indian diaspora or homeless to over run the tennis courts and defecate on or around the walking trails and use the surrounding forest as a dumping ground. I quite literally watched a homeless person at McCulloch Park, sit over the edge of the gazebo and defecate, It was 3:00 pm. I have to frequently tell my son, while we are driving through downtown, that it never used to be this way. If you would of told me, 15 years ago, that the expansion of downtown would of lead to this, I would of moved while it was still affordable. The only reasonable solution is to forcibly remove them permanently, I no longer have why compassion for them. I know for a fact, that many surrounding cities send their homeless here. Not only am I against any shelter downtown, I'm against any type of facility that will send the signal that Fort Wayne is a "safe space" for homeless. I've never voted in any local election, but this issue and this issue alone has motivated me to vote for whoever runs against Mayor Tucker, and believe me when I say, everyone is ready to vote her out. Whoever runs, simply has to have one political talking point, "I will get rid of this homeless problem for good" and I guarantee they will win. Fort Wayne went from a city I was legitimately proud to be a part of, to a city that resembles every other progressive shit hole in this country. It's heartbreaking.	Thank you for your input.	46809
199	I think it's a great idea to provide this for the un-housed community. The city has made a strong effort to remove the encampments on our streets and in our parks so they need somewhere safe to go. The goal is to get them back to being productive members of society and we should provide the social services to help with that. The ones that need greater	Thank you for your input.	46835

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	help and medical assistance should get help with getting long term housing and care. I am really surprised to hear a pastor giving the "not in my backyard " argument. That is clearly not a true follower of Jesus. We are only as strong as our weakest link.		
200	Where is this center supposed to be located? In my opinion as close to downtown fort wayne or in downtown ft wayne, close to where the homeless folks are located. How about use some of the vacant buildings in downtown? Lincoln life?	We agree that the Anchor Resource Center should be located downtown, close to where individuals already access most services. Using an underutilized or vacant building is ideal, and we explored several possibilities. However, some properties—such as the former Lincoln Life building—are far beyond our acquisition and renovation budget, even though they may appear vacant or underused. For this project to remain financially feasible and accessible to the population it serves, we must focus on sites that meet both our budget constraints and our service needs.	46815
201	The Downtown Improvement District's recommendations were thoroughly researched and well thought out. The site that they identified as a better alternative for the homeless shelter was already owned by the city of Fort Wayne, was already zoned industrial, and was not directly adjacent to any retail operations or commercial office space that could be negatively affected by the inevitable external consequences of homeless population being adjacent to such businesses. Moving the homeless shelter to the Downtown Improvement District's suggested location makes the most sense. It accomplishes the goals of providing services to those in need without penalizing or harming the adjacent property owners at the Washington Boulevard location. The adjacent property owners around the Downtown Improvement District's suggested location include government public housing and very heavily fortified City of Fort Wayne building planning services and other operations, and a handful of other tenants that are already equipped to deal with the externalities that a large homeless population could bring. Furthermore, there's virtually no retail or commercial office space around this location.	The site proposed by Downtown Fort Wayne does not include an existing building, which means construction and development costs would far exceed those of the recommended location. In addition, the property is currently being used by other City departments, limiting its availability for a project of this scale. We also believe the site is too close to a residential area, which could create challenges for both the neighborhood and the individuals seeking services. For these reasons, it is not a viable option for the Anchor Resource Center.	46835

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	No zoning variances would be required. Some of the existing buildings could be repurposed at a low cost to serve the homeless. It's very unlikely that there will be a prolonged dispute with neighboring property owners about zoning changes or impact studies on real estate values. Sometimes City leaders need to accept the economic and practical realities when someone else offers us a better solution. Sometimes it makes sense to pivot and move on from an initial plan to a better plan when one becomes available. Clearly, this is one of those times.		
202	Who is going to be patrolling the area where people can shelter in their cars, etc. FWPD? Who will be keeping the peace in the areas surrounding the facility. The city already moved the benches out of the Barr St Market due to homeless people gathering there.	The Anchor Resource Center will employ trained security personnel on-site 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. In addition, the draft operations plan includes having trained outreach staff to conduct regular perimeter checks, engage with individuals outside the facility, encourage guests to utilize the Resource Center rather than congregate nearby, and help maintain the cleanliness and safety of the surrounding area. Security cameras will monitor both the interior and exterior of the building. The Anchor is committed to being a good neighbor. A dedicated phone number will be available for nearby businesses and residents to report concerns, and a Community Advisory Group will provide an ongoing forum to help resolve neighborhood issues and identify opportunities for improvement. The Fort Wayne Police Department will continue to provide law enforcement services throughout the downtown area, just as it does today. When law enforcement assistance is needed, Anchor staff and security personnel will work closely with public safety partners to help maintain a safe environment for guests, neighboring businesses, residents, and visitors.	46804

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203	This is a badly-needed resource and the proposed location seems ideal. Obstructionist business owners and politicians have not proposed a better alternative, or any that I've seen. Move forward with this please.	Thank you for your input.	46802
204	How will you work with/partner with the current Fort Wayne Rescue Mission to provide the best services you can for the homeless individuals? It will be right across the street so there will need to be some form of partnership I would think.	The Anchor Resource Center is designed to complement and strengthen the services already provided by the Fort Wayne Rescue Mission and other community partners, not duplicate them. The leadership team of the Rescue Mission has been involved in planning discussions for more than a year to help ensure close collaboration between the organizations. The Anchor and the Rescue Mission will work together to coordinate services, streamline referrals, and help individuals access the most appropriate resources as quickly as possible. For example, the Anchor's Housing Navigators will work with individuals to complete Coordinated Entry assessments, develop Housing Action Plans, and connect guests to the most appropriate shelter or housing option, including the Rescue Mission when appropriate. By working together, the Anchor and the Rescue Mission can better meet the needs of individuals experiencing homelessness while reducing duplication of services and strengthening the community's overall response to homelessness.	46803
205	I am not necessarily opposed to the current location in mind as a service center, gathering spot (similar to a library) and even emergency shelter for those who are behaving and without violent/predatory histories. But there needs to be a more appropriate secondary location for others who have behavioral issues caused by severe mental issues/drugs/alcohol. And, I don't think this location is appropriate to be having people living out of their cars. There was mention of another larger location further south next to the railroad tracks on property already owned by the city. In my opinion, that would be a much better location to be considering for a full low-barrier shelter. It would still be within walking distance to free services.	The site proposed by Downtown Fort Wayne does not include an existing building, which means construction and development costs would far exceed those of the recommended location. In addition, the property is currently being used by other City departments, limiting its availability for a project of this scale. We also believe the site is too close to a residential area, which could create challenges for both the neighborhood and the individuals seeking services. For these reasons, it is not a viable option for the Anchor Resource Center.	46805

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206	I am not against helping people. I am against pretending that we know what help means when the whole system is built around making survival conditional. A lot of society treats homelessness as failed labor participation. The message is basically that if you become useful again, employable again, clean enough, compliant enough, and grateful enough, then maybe you can live. That is a brutal worldview. It does not restore autonomy. It does not restore privacy. It does not restore dignity, the nervous system, relationships, or selfhood. It just asks whether a damaged person can be made acceptable to the system again. So what is this center actually for? Is it meant to lower scarcity, or is it meant to manage the people who have already been crushed by it? Is it meant to give people room to become human again, or is it another place where desperate people are watched, sorted, corrected, and pushed through another set of gates? People are captured by all kinds of things. Rent. Addiction. Trauma. Criminal records. Family systems. Employers. Medical debt. Transportation. Status. Institutions that offer help only after someone has already been broken down enough to qualify for it. A bad resource center can become one more capture system. One more place where a person has to surrender dignity in exchange for access. The deeper problem is that modern life has made basic survival conditional on passing through too many systems at once. Housing. Labor. Credentials. Social networks. Legal records. Credit. Healthcare. Transportation. Family support. If you fail too many of those at the same time, you are not just poor. You become socially disqualified. Your identity starts getting scattered across every office, every file, every judgment, every rejection, every person who thinks they know what happened to you.	Thank you for taking the time to share your perspective. At its core, your question asks whether the Anchor Resource Center is designed to support people as individuals or simply manage homelessness. The Anchor was created because we believe every person deserves to be treated with dignity, respect, and compassion, regardless of where they are in their life. The Resource Center is intended to provide a safe place where individuals can meet their immediate needs, build trusting relationships with staff, and access the resources they choose to pursue. The Anchor is not designed to sort people into "deserving" and "undeserving" categories. It is designed to reduce the barriers that often prevent people from accessing housing, healthcare, behavioral health services, recovery support, employment assistance, identification documents, benefits, and other community resources. Every individual's circumstances are different, and the support they receive should reflect their unique needs and goals. Housing Navigators will work alongside individuals, not to dictate their future, but to help them identify opportunities, overcome barriers, and connect with the services that best support their path toward stability. The Resource Center also recognizes that accountability and dignity are not mutually exclusive. Maintaining a safe, respectful environment for guests, staff, volunteers, and neighbors is essential to the success of the Resource Center, while ensuring that every person is treated with humanity and respect throughout their experience.	46802

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	And that is why homelessness is so terrifying to people. It is not only about not having shelter. It is the status warning at the edge of the community. It is the image people use to scare everyone else into obedience. Keep working. Keep complying. Stay respectable. Stay useful. Stay grateful. Do not fall too far, or you could become one of them. But what happens if that story breaks? What happens if the homeless person is not just some failed person who lived badly? What happens if people realize that many of us are much closer to losing access than we want to admit? What happens if the community can no longer point at homelessness as proof that the hierarchy is fair? That is what I want answered. Is this center trying to reduce suffering, or is it trying to preserve the story that the system works? Is it trying to give people food, shelter, privacy, safety, treatment, and a way back into their own lives? Or is it trying to make people more compliant, more employable, less visible, and easier to manage? If people had enough food, shelter, privacy, healthcare, and time to think, they would be harder to control. They might refuse bad work. They might leave abusive families. They might stop performing gratitude. They might question landlords, bosses, churches, police, nonprofits, schools, and local elites. They might stop begging for inclusion. They might choose solitude. They might form opinions outside the approved channels. Maybe that is what people are really afraid of. Not homelessness itself, but what would happen if fewer people were desperate enough to be controlled. So no, I do not want a resource center that becomes another compliance center. I do not want another gatekeeping machine where people are sorted into deserving and undeserving categories while everyone pretends the deeper system is fine. If this center is going to exist, it should reduce scarcity and reduce domination. It should protect people		

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	from violence without turning survival into punishment. It should help people recover access without forcing them to erase themselves to receive it.		
207	I believe that the center is needed, however the proposed location isn't the right place to have it.	Thank you for sharing your thoughts. We understand the desire to find a location that feels like the best possible fit for everyone. The reality is that there is no truly ideal location for a service like this — every option comes with tradeoffs. One of our key considerations is avoiding residential areas, but at the same time, we also have to recognize how our homeless population currently moves through the city. Most individuals experiencing homelessness are already centered downtown because that is where the existing amenities, supports, and community resources are located. If we were to place the facility too far from downtown, we would risk creating a situation where people have to travel back and forth through residential neighborhoods just to reach the services they need. For these reasons, a downtown location — while not perfect — is the one most likely to support the program's success and reduce unintended impacts on other parts of the community.	46805
208	who will be monitoring the 24/7 facilities? How will the safety of the individuals using these facilities be guaranteed?	The Anchor Resource Center will be staffed 24 hours a day, 7 days a week by trained employees, including Housing Navigators, support staff, and on-site security personnel. Security staff will be present at all times, and security cameras will monitor both the interior and exterior of the building. Safety will be supported through multiple layers, including a Guest Code of Conduct, controlled building access, trauma-informed staff training, de-escalation techniques, regular security and perimeter checks, and close coordination with the Fort Wayne Police Department and emergency responders when needed. Staff will also be trained in CPR, First Aid, and naloxone administration to respond to medical emergencies until emergency personnel arrive.	46807

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		The safety of guests, staff, volunteers, neighboring businesses, and the surrounding community is a top priority. The Resource Center is being intentionally designed and operated to provide a safe, respectful, and well-managed environment while helping individuals move toward stable housing.	
209	There are already resources for the unhoused in the downtown area, so we are not ignorant or blind to what is being proposed. We have living data to what that looks like. In total agreement to not adding barriers to people getting what they need, but also vehemently opposed to adding a barrier to the revenue stream that our debt saturated city NEEDS. Frankly, increased presence of the unhoused in our downtown area (which we know will happen due to the data we already have) seems very much like it will deter the further growth in revenue potential. Why not use one of the many closed hotels in our city instead? Fort Wayne has no shortage of buildings that can be used or solutions for transportation if the city were committed. There are other places in the city with the ability to serve our unhoused population with dignity for all, buildings just waiting to be used so they won't get torn down, and citizens who want to walk around a beautiful downtown area and engage in commerce. Safety for all including the unhoused, and downtown employees and those wanting to really engage with our beautiful city, and maybe an easier time filling leases for all of the posh new apartment buildings that are being built.	The concerns you're raising are exactly why the City created the Homeless Services Manager position in 2025: to evaluate the entire service network, identify gaps, and make recommendations based on data rather than assumptions. That analysis showed that what we need most is better coordination, not duplication — and the Anchor Resource Center is designed specifically to bring providers together, reduce strain on public spaces, and create a more effective, cohesive system. We also understand the interest in using vacant hotels or other buildings. A full evaluation of available properties was part of the process. The Anchor site was recommended because it allows for coordinated services, accessibility, and the ability to operate effectively in a way that other buildings couldn't support without major cost or redevelopment barriers. We agree that downtown must remain safe and welcoming, and that supporting businesses, residents, and visitors is essential. At the same time, improving coordination of services is one of the most effective ways to reduce unmanaged behavior, increase safety, and lessen impacts on public spaces — which ultimately supports the economic health of the city. The ARC isn't the final answer to homelessness, but it is a critical step in strengthening what's already here and addressing the challenges you've seen firsthand.	46807
210	Who will be monitoring the effectiveness of this idea and will changes be made if problems arise in the facility itself? Will changes be made if the surrounding businesses, churches, schools, private dwellings experience problems arising from this facility being there?	The facility will have two oversight structures designed specifically to evaluate operations, address concerns, and make changes when needed: The Governance Board oversees the overall management of the facility. It will regularly review data, operations, safety protocols, and service outcomes. If problems arise inside the facility, the Governance	46807

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		Board has the authority to make adjustments to policies, staffing, or procedures to ensure the center is operating effectively and safely. If surrounding properties experience problems that appear connected to the facility, the Community Advisory Board will be the key avenue for raising those concerns and working toward solutions. This board serves as the direct link between the facility and the surrounding neighborhood, including residents, businesses, churches, schools, and other stakeholders. Its role is to: • Monitor community impact • Hear concerns from those who live and work nearby • Recommend changes when issues arise to the governing board • Ensure transparency and ongoing communication.	
211	Land to the West of Community Corrections on Superior Street towards the round a bout could be a spot to build a new shelter. Right across from.Novak Supply. I think there is a vacant brick building there now.	We do not feel it is an appropriate site due to its close proximity to key visitor destinations and recreation areas downtown. Our goal is to select a location that best supports both the individuals who need services and the overall experience of residents, families, and visitors in the downtown district.	46808
212	Providing resources to the unhoused is the best way to help those in need at this time. Christianity speaks to this and moral integrity speaks to this. There are no negatives to doing the right thing.	Thank you for your input.	46814
213	I believe the homeless center should be located outside of town.	Thank you for your input.	46804
214	I am completely in favor of this site being used for the center. I have lived downtown 8 years now and believe that when people have resources close by, they are less likely to bother businesses and people walking. Having a place to use the bathroom and shower are basic human needs that should be addressed immediately and that location, in my opinion, is a perfect spot for it.	Thank you for your input.	46802
215	I think this is a good location, near the Rescue Mission, providing easy access to services to those that need them. Maybe the nearby school could take homelessness on as a project, collecting necessities and such, to teach the students empathy and Christ-like values.	Thank you for your input.	46825
216	I feel it's a perfect location. Homeless are already in this area with the Rescue Mission "catty corner", Matthew 25, St. Mary's Soup Kitchen, Ave	Thank you for your input.	46845

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	Maria house... A much needed service.		
217	Our mayor has thrown down the NIMBY gauntlet. She is trying to shame opponents of her plan to build a \$3.8 million “homeless services” center downtown, a couple of blocks from the art museum. She says they selfishly don’t want the center in their backyard but cannot offer an alternative plan. I am here to help, but first some background. Our foundation once had offices near a rescue mission and not far from the site of the proposed center. I don’t want to detail the nasty stuff we found in our alcove every morning but we eventually had to lock the front door to keep out “the unhoused,” to use the mayor’s term of art. Who, exactly, wants that in their neighborhood? At least one councilman recognizes these realities and is questioning why the city would purposely foul a downtown area that it has spent millions renovating. I quote from his statement yesterday, a statement pointed at the do-gooder elite of our business community. “I’m just an idiot councilman so I’ve gone and asked the experts who have the responsibility — the Downtown Improvement District — what will this do? Will it have any negative impacts? That’s a fair question because they have the responsibility to be an honest player in that question, and I can’t figure out why they would sit this one out. I guess they’re too busy planning big parties.” While the councilman awaits an answer, we have a solution. It is to cut off the money. We should vigorously encourage the good work of private charities, of course, but not support vagrancy with a broad range of services funded directly or indirectly with municipal dollars. The role of the city should be a narrow one — public safety and law	Thank you for your input.	46845

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	enforcement, no million-dollar buildings required. It is difficult and inexact work, but an attempt must be made by officers on the street to differentiate those homeless in need of medical help from those who are making miserable life choices. Money helping the former is well spent and necessary. Members of the latter group, however, can be given bus tickets out of town. If that is too harsh, you might recall that counties once managed “poor farms,” an alternative to jail time, where those convicted of repeated vagrancy were sent to do light chores to help pay their upkeep — until they could put their lives together, or so it was hoped.		
218	Thank you for collecting the numbers of homeless. The next most important information is knowing the cause of homelessness. I suspect many have mental health conditions, but I am only assuming. The video claims the numbers are growing, but does not state why. We have a better chance of solving a problem if we know the cause. One of my concerns is that we attract more homeless to Fort Wayne by making it more comfortable to be homeless here. Has this been the case in those CA and TN facilities we visited?	Understanding the causes of homelessness is absolutely essential to addressing it effectively. Mental health challenges, substance use disorders, high housing costs and economic instability all contribute to homelessness, and we agree that identifying these root causes helps shape the right solutions. Earlier this year, the Mayor’s Office introduced an ordinance — which City Council approved in late March — specifically addressing the relocation of transient individuals to Fort Wayne. Under this law, it is illegal to intentionally transport unhoused individuals from another community into our city. Since its adoption, we have already issued several cease-and-desist letters and two citations for violations. This helps ensure that our services support Fort Wayne residents, not people being brought here from other cities.	46845
219	I support the creation of the Anchor Resource Center because I believe strong communities are measured by how they respond to their most vulnerable neighbors. Homelessness is a complex challenge that no single organization or individual can solve alone. A centralized resource center that coordinates housing assistance, healthcare, employment services, and other support offers a thoughtful, practical approach that benefits both those experiencing homelessness and the broader community.	Thank you for your input.	46807

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	I also support the proposed location. Effective services should be located where the people they are designed to serve can actually access them. Placing the resource center near existing populations experiencing homelessness makes it more likely that people will receive the support they need and less likely that barriers such as transportation or distance will prevent them from getting help. Good planning means meeting people where they are while helping them move toward greater stability. Every person deserves to be treated with dignity and given a genuine opportunity to rebuild their life. Investing in coordinated services is not simply an act of compassion; it is a responsible, evidence-based approach that can improve public health, enhance neighborhood stability, and make more effective use of community resources. I hope our community will approach this proposal with empathy, facts, and a shared commitment to finding solutions that reflect our best values. Supporting people as they work toward stable housing and self-sufficiency strengthens all of us.		
220	Firstly, thank you for creating this online space to leave comments and ask questions. I am a Licensed Mental Health Counselor. I work in the field of trauma-informed mental health care. Before becoming a therapist, I spent seven years working in a local low-barrier transitional housing program —first as a Direct Care Staff member and later as a Case Manager—supporting individuals experiencing mental health challenges, substance use disorders, and housing instability. The transitional housing facility is located on the same street as at least 4 other housing programs that address homelessness, and addiction, and they are all within feet of the Boys and Girls Club, an elementary school and daycare. Not once, during my seven years serving there, did we have any complaints about our residents, infringing on the safety or causing disturbances to our neighbors. In fact, our facility was often the location for monthly and quarterly neighborhood association meetings. This was a	Thank you for your input.	46818

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	two-way relationship. It fostered dignity and a deeper sense of community for our residents, and it demystified what homelessness looks like and built bridges of understanding for our neighbors. Over those seven years, I watched people obtain housing, maintain employment, reunify with family, and enter recovery—not because services were withheld until they were perfect, but because support was available while they were struggling. Low-barrier does not mean no expectations. It does not mean enabling harmful behavior. It means meeting people exactly where they are and recognizing that, as Maslow’s Hierarchy of Needs explains, basic human needs must be addressed before long-term stability can occur. As both a former housing professional and presently a licensed mental health clinician, I have seen firsthand that people struggle to maintain employment, engage in treatment, or make progress toward recovery when they do not know where they will sleep at night. We can offer job readiness programs, but it is difficult to keep a job without stable housing. We can offer addiction treatment, but recovery depends on self-determination and readiness. A person may not be ready for treatment today, but they still need shelter tonight. The question before you is whether people experiencing homelessness will remain disconnected from services or have access to a centralized location where they can connect with housing, healthcare, mental health support, case management, and other resources. As you consider this proposal, I ask you to reflect on a few questions: If not this solution, then what solution do you support? How do we reduce homelessness without investing in evidence-based services that address homelessness?		

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	Where should people go tonight while they wait to become employable, sober, or permanently housed? And perhaps most importantly, what would we want for ourselves, our children, or our loved ones if we found ourselves in the same situation? As a clinician, I know that homelessness is not an identity—it is a circumstance. The people we are discussing are not problems to be managed. They are our neighbors. They are veterans, survivors of domestic violence, people living with disabilities, people experiencing mental illness, people in recovery, and people who have fallen on difficult times. I encourage this council to make decisions based on evidence, professional expertise, and our shared humanity. Every person deserves dignity, safety, and a genuine opportunity to rebuild their life. Thank you for your time.		
221	Will there be overnight sleeping places indoors? Will food be distributed there? How much ongoing salaries for employees is anticipated?	The Draft Operations Plan includes limited stabilization cots for individuals who need a safe place to rest while awaiting placement in an emergency shelter or another appropriate housing option. These accommodations are intended to be temporary and housing-focused. Individuals utilizing these services will complete a Coordinated Entry assessment and work with a Housing Navigator to develop a Housing Action Plan and connect to longer-term housing solutions. Food service will depend on the final location selected for the Resource Center. If the proposed location at 333 E. Washington Boulevard is selected, guests would be within walking distance of existing community meal providers that currently serve three meals each day. In that scenario, the Anchor would provide emergency food, snacks, and beverages while coordinating with existing meal programs rather than duplicating services. If a different location is selected, the operational plan and budget would be adjusted to include additional food service as needed.	46835

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		The Resource Center's estimated annual operating budget is approximately \$1.2 million, which includes salaries, employee benefits, security, building operations, supplies, utilities, and other operating expenses. Staff compensation has been developed by comparing similar positions at organizations providing comparable services and is intended to attract and retain qualified professionals while remaining fiscally responsible.	
222	Please look at property in the country, this way they are not sleeping on streets and like our downtown business we have to call the police cause they stop drop and sleep in our doorway during the day and our employees are afraid to go in and out. A gated community would bring safety and give them cots much run like a jail. Bus them out of downtown and NO more hanging around downtown for any of them. Mental health and drugs are really the problem and downtown businesses cannot thrive with this problem.	Thank you for your input.	46845
223	I strongly believe that the shelter should be located at the location proposed by Mayor Tucker.	Thank you for your input.	46807
224	Will police protection be available at the homeless shelter 24/7?	The Anchor Resource Center will not have Fort Wayne Police officers stationed at the facility 24 hours a day. Instead, the Resource Center will employ trained security personnel who will provide on-site security 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Security staff will work closely with the Fort Wayne Police Department whenever law enforcement assistance is needed. Providing a safe environment for guests, staff, volunteers, neighboring businesses, and the surrounding community is a core component of the Resource Center's operations.	46804
225	Why not just wait until the new jail is open and use the old jail for this resource center!	We understand why the old jail might seem like a possible option, but the jail building is owned by the County, and the City does not have authority over how that property is used. We also believe the proposed location on the edge of downtown is the most appropriate fit. It keeps the Anchor Resource Center close to essential downtown services while avoiding placement in the heart of	46805-3030

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		the festival and tourism area, which would not be an ideal environment for clients or the community.	
226	Council members have previously expressed concern about the lack of adequate resources to support individuals experiencing homelessness. While those concerns are valid, it is equally important that we move beyond identifying the problem and focus on implementing meaningful solutions. In contrast, the Mayor, working in partnership with Ms. Fall, has taken a proactive approach by developing a cost-effective, low-barrier plan that brings together the currently fragmented resources needed to support our community. This approach recognizes that those experiencing homelessness are part of our broader community and deserve access to coordinated, effective services. At this stage, it is critical that we prioritize progress. While continued discussion is important, the absence of viable alternative solutions makes it even more important to give serious consideration to the well-developed plan that is already in place. Fort Wayne has an opportunity to take a meaningful step forward by supporting a structured, thoughtful approach to addressing homelessness—one that benefits not only those in need, but the community as a whole.	Thank you for your input.	46804
227	Partisan issues notwithstanding, I feel the Low Barrier homeless shelter is something our community needs. the current location chosen by the Mayor, backed by research and driven by cost savings, is a perfectly suitable location for this much-needed organization. The minor inconveniences proposed by some seem quite trivial if you work with unhoused or volunteer with those struggling with substance use issues. As a citizen of this wonderfully welcoming community, who is proud of the services we offer as 'welcome to all' I say press forward as proposed with the shelter. Perhaps this will spurr others to volunteer more and step into compassionate work with those who need it most.	Thank you for your input.	46805
228	My husband and I stand in firm support for the Anchor Resource Center at this proposed site. It makes sense for all the reasons outlined. My questions are: 1. Will people be housed overnight? If not, where will they go? 2. If people with cars are permitted to stay in their cars in the parking lot,	Thank you for your support of the Anchor Resource Center and for your thoughtful questions. 1. The Draft Operations Plan includes limited stabilization cots for individuals who need a safe place to rest while awaiting placement in	46845

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	will others be allowed to sleep safely outdoors in the lot? 3. In As Much Ministries, a true treasure, has had success in securing some beds in hotels around Coliseum Blvd/Goshen Rd. and close by S. Coliseum Blvd. Can the city wield influence to secure additional beds in any of these businesses?	an emergency shelter or another appropriate housing option. These accommodations are intended to be temporary and housing-focused. Housing Navigators will work with each individual to identify the most appropriate shelter or housing option and help connect them to those resources as quickly as possible. 2. No. The parking lot will not be available for outdoor camping or sleeping. Individuals participating in the Safe Parking Program must have a working vehicle and comply with the program's rules and expectations. The program is designed to provide a safe overnight option for people who are already living in their vehicles while they work toward permanent housing. 3. Yes. Expanding temporary housing options through partnerships is an important part of the community's overall response to homelessness. The Anchor intends to work collaboratively with shelters, nonprofit organizations, faith-based partners, and other community providers to identify additional housing resources whenever possible. Organizations such as Forgotten Stones/InAsMuch and others will play an important role in connecting individuals to housing and supportive services, and the Anchor will continue exploring partnerships that increase access to safe, appropriate housing throughout the community.	
229	The idea of the resource center is brilliant and welcome and admirable. The proposed location is not. Fort Wayne has spent decades trying to convince people that downtown is safe and welcoming. The center undermines all this effort. The proposed location is far too close to arts campus and the farmer's market. I understand that the center is a "not in my neighborhood" project, so the lack of housing near the proposed location means that opposition is limited to businesses and the school. No angry residential neighbors worried about safety and property values. The center should be closer to affordable housing, so it can be a resource when homeless people are able to transition to housing. The price of the building is far too high. The money proposed to buy the building would go much further in a less expensive neighborhood, where	As part of the evaluation process, the City looked at several potential locations. Many of the properties considered had significant challenges: some were too close to residential neighborhoods, raising understandable concerns about impact; others were too far from downtown and would create major transportation barriers for the people who rely on these services; and several buildings were simply too costly to acquire and renovate to meet the facility's needs. After reviewing all available options, it became clear that there is no perfect location. The proposed site was recommended because it best met the requirements for accessibility, operational feasibility, and long-term sustainability.	46805

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	acquiring property/facility would be far less expensive. When I drive by the Rescue mission, there are usually people who are obviously intoxicated and looking so in need of help, just wandering around. They often walk out in to the street --- often towards the liquor store -- in the middle of the block with no regard for the traffic. It is a terrible look for the city. Another facility so close to a liquor store just makes us look stupid. Why on earth does it make sense to have a liquor store across the street from an organization that serves people with substance abuse issues? Can't we avoid making that mistake again and not place the center easy walking distance to a liquor store?		
230	Will the center have sleeping quarters? How many beds will it have?	Yes. The Anchor will include a limited number of overnight stabilization cots for individuals with no safe alternative while they are connected to shelter or housing resources. The exact number has not yet been finalized and will be determined during final operational planning and is dependent on the location chosen. Future expansion of overnight accommodations will depend on additional funding.	46814
231	Thank you for taking input and for focusing on helping. I support the building as planned. It is near services needed and is visible. The issue with the church is irrelevant. The Mission serves the same or similar people. I have visited other communities with similar services and they are as successful as the effort put into them. I hope the people who are protesting put as much energy in helping the center be successful as they have arguing.	Thank you for your input.	46835
232	It is imperative that we give people that are struggling a decent place to stay and get assistance. Any one of us could be that person at any time. The community needs this center. From what I've read, all the necessary steps have been taken to assure public safety.	Thank you for your input.	46835
233	First off, I am not against the homeless resource center as a whole. I believe we need to help and are directed by God to do so. I do have a few comments and questions. Questions: 1. Why do we need a stand alone homeless resource center? Could we not strengthen our nonprofits here in town that have been doing the work for years? Lutheran Social services, Catholic Charities, Iris, and InAsMuch, Associated Churches, Brightpoint, many churches are all downtown already. What happened to Allen County Connect where	Thank you for your thoughtful questions and for sharing your perspective. We appreciate your experience working in social services and understand the concerns you have raised about both helping individuals experiencing homelessness and maintaining a safe downtown environment. 1. Fort Wayne is fortunate to have many outstanding nonprofit organizations serving individuals experiencing homelessness, and the Anchor is being designed to strengthen, not replace or duplicate, their	46805

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	resources/agencies were in the same office? 2. There is unused space at the Rescue Mission. Could the services be provided there? It appears since their new leadership, there has been a steep decline in the area around the mission. 3. If we do not have an increase in available employment, that is able to cover reasonable living expenses or housing for individuals, what is the real help we are able to give? 4. What is the plan not to have people congregate outside the near businesses? That is already a problem here in downtown. The videos from the place in Lafayette shows the same issue and their businesses complained about the same things that our businesses are saying here. Is it possible to have a 24/7 police perimeter around the surrounding blocks to keep people from using the bathroom on businesses, stop the congregating in groups, stop the begging, ensure safety for workers/students, curb the blocking of traffic (Clay St is awful near the ally for the Rescue Mission), having shopping carts and belongings left outside (example of this is in front of InAsMuch ministries)? Comments I believe that a location was suggested near the corner of Hanna and Wallace. I agree that seems like a much better location based on all of the work to bring downtown back to life for all of our residents not just for the homeless population. This location is not as close to a concentration of businesses. I work downtown. I have been in social services and worked in nonprofits my whole adult life. This last year has been the 1st year that I have been concerned for my safety at work, my co workers safety and for businesses downtown. There have been 3 incidents in a matter of weeks at our building. We have started to carry mace/weapons when walking from our cars. There have been homeless people sleeping in a downtown parking garage, blocking the stairs to the businesses. I witnessed an assault with a knife outside my office window. Another time, I went to pick up lunch and Jimmy John's was not accessible based on a homeless man harassing customers to the point that violence broke out. Yes, the police have come to many of these incidents, quickly but often that is after something bad has happened. We need proactive safety!	work. One of the largest gaps in our current system is the lack of a single location that is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, where individuals can access basic needs and be connected to the appropriate services. The Anchor will partner with organizations such as Catholic Charities, Blue Jacket, Forgotten Stones, healthcare providers, shelters, and many others to bring services together in one location. Allen County Connect continues to play an important role in connecting people to community resources, but it serves the broader community during business hours. The Anchor will provide a specialized, housing-focused response for individuals experiencing homelessness at any time of day or night. 2. The Rescue Mission is an essential partner in Fort Wayne's homelessness response system and has been involved in planning for the Anchor Resource Center for more than a year. The organizations serve different, but complementary, roles. The Rescue Mission's primary purpose is emergency shelter and related services, while the Anchor will focus on Coordinated Entry, housing navigation, access to basic needs, and connecting individuals to the services that best meet their needs. The Rescue Mission has also announced plans to expand its shelter capacity, further strengthening the community's overall response. 3. Employment is only one part of helping someone move out of homelessness. Many individuals also need assistance obtaining identification and other vital documents, accessing healthcare or behavioral health services, applying for benefits, connecting to substance use treatment, resolving transportation barriers, and securing stable housing. Every individual seeking housing-focused services will complete a Coordinated Entry assessment and work with a Housing Navigator to develop a personalized Housing Action Plan. The Anchor's purpose is not to make homelessness more comfortable; it is to make homelessness shorter by helping people overcome the barriers preventing them from achieving stability.	

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		4. This has been a major focus throughout the planning process. The Resource Center will have trained security personnel on-site 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, along with outreach staff who will conduct regular perimeter checks, engage with individuals outside the facility, and encourage guests to remain inside the Resource Center rather than congregate nearby. Security cameras will monitor both the interior and exterior of the building, and guests will have access to lockers so they do not need to carry their belongings throughout downtown. Because the Resource Center will operate 24 hours a day, people will not need to wait outside for services to begin. The facility also includes a secure outdoor courtyard that is accessible only through the building, providing outdoor space without encouraging activity on surrounding sidewalks. In addition, the Anchor will maintain a dedicated phone line for neighboring businesses and residents to report concerns and will work closely with public safety partners to address issues as they arise. The goal is to be a good neighbor while helping individuals access services in a safe, well-managed environment. 5. A number of potential locations have been explored throughout the planning process. The site referenced in your comments is not currently available. Site selection has considered many factors, including accessibility, proximity to existing services, operational needs, cost, and the ability to effectively serve individuals experiencing homelessness while minimizing impacts on the surrounding community.	
234	More resources for homeless persons are needed, but do not put a single resource center downtown. FW needs to research and focus on decentralized shelter initiatives. Our downtown is finally a safe family-friendly place. I will not bring my young children or out-of-town guests downtown if city government chooses to make downtown a hub for the unhoused. Fort Wayne should use "scattered-site" models that disperse smaller resource centers	While decentralized or scattered-site models sound appealing, they typically don't work well in practice because transportation becomes a major barrier. The majority of our homeless population is already downtown and lacks reliable access to transportation, so spreading services across multiple areas would make it much harder for people to reach the support they need. A decentralized model would also require purchasing and renovating multiple buildings, along with	46805

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	across various neighborhoods. Sites should be near hospitals and must have transit access.	staffing and operating each site. Those added acquisition, renovation, and ongoing operational costs would far exceed what is needed for a single coordinated center.	
235	I support the proposed location of the Anchor Resource Center in downtown Fort Wayne.	Thank you for your input.	46805
236	Have you gone out to the street to talk and ask them what they want? They might only want a hot meal and a shower. Hate to see you all waste our tax payers money. We would love to make sure they are safe, But What Do They Want !	Yes — we have gone out and spoken directly with individuals experiencing homelessness. In fact, one of the first steps we took was to ensure that people with lived experience had a real voice in shaping this approach. Our Homeless Services Manager conducted interviews with both men and women to understand their needs, what’s missing today, and what would truly help them move toward stability. They overwhelmingly supported the idea of a Resource Center. Many described how difficult it is to meet basic needs right now. One woman shared that having a center like this “would have made a difference for her on day one.” Instead, she had no choice but to wash up in park restrooms before job interviews because there was nowhere else to go. The Resource Center is designed specifically to meet the needs they told us about: access to hygiene, services, stability, and a safe place to connect with support — not assumptions made without their input. We share your commitment to ensuring taxpayer dollars are used responsibly. That’s why we grounded this project in direct feedback from the people it’s meant to serve, along with data and system-wide evaluation. Their voices were critical in shaping this proposal — and they will continue to be part of the ongoing process.	46825-6459
237	No one or no city ever wants to have to plan a homeless shelter but reality is as it is. I have no issues what so ever about this location and I am so greatful for the city doing this. I always hate in the winter when we have "warming" stations set up but only from 9-5. It gets so much warmer at night in the winter here so no need to help anyone after business hours I guess?! The people that are complaining the loudest....did you fight the Shelter directly caddy corner from the proposed new shelter? And those that say they will not feel safe walking their grandkids down this street anymore....when was the last time you actually walked past this building with them? For council members that want to put a "hold" on this project	Thank you for your input.	46802

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	I disagree....how do you put a hold on homelessness? Or does having to work on such a big project interfere with your summer plans? This is what you got hired to do so get on with it. A special thanks to Mayor Sharon...I love that you want to do this.		
238	It is very disheartening when the first thing you see when coming into Fort Wayne are homeless people sitting around, smoking, drinking, on there phones and leaving a mess. Trying to make downtown a nice place to enjoy only to have homeless everywhere and begging.	We understand the concerns about the impact on downtown. Many of us at the City have invested heavily in downtown's growth and safety, and this decision was made only after extensive research and consultation with experts. A few key points may help. Low-barrier does not mean low accountability—the center will have clear rules, trained staff, security cameras, 24/7 supervision, and it will serve as a valuable resource for the Police Department by providing a safe, structured place to bring individuals who need support rather than leaving issues on the streets. The downtown edge location is intentional because this is where most of our homeless population already is and where they can access services and transportation. Moving the center farther away would significantly reduce its effectiveness due to transportation barriers. Our shared goal is a safe, welcoming downtown. A well-managed, accessible center is meant to improve current conditions by bringing people indoors and reducing unmanaged street-level activity.	46845
239	"I feel Fort Wayne has been going in the right direction since the Tin Caps stadium was built, with lots of new development. Now, everything is starting to go in the wrong direction; property is starting to go on the market, and it's not moving like it was. I can see it every day while working on the east side of downtown. The streets look like the walking dead, the trash in front of the businesses is terrible, and more people are getting dropped off in Fort Wayne daily. If you go to the Allen County arrest warrant websites and look up the arrested individuals, they are not from Fort Wayne. This has gotten worse since 2020, and we need to ask ourselves why this has happened. If this facility needs to be built, it needs to be built on Meyer Road in the more industrial part of Fort Wayne. They can't make money if they can't hit people up on the streets. https://www.themostwanted.net/Indiana/Allen/ or https://www.allencountysheriff.org/inmate-search/	Thank you for your input.	46803

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240	Does Anchor Resource Center have a current location where two handcrafted sleeping bags can be donated? Also, what main thing can the public do to help make this center a reality?	Thank you for your input. We currently are not accepting donations but encourage you to seek out other providers who may be, such as InAsMuch Ministries. You can support the Center by continuing to express your support publicly.	46807
241	Will the resource center allow families to stay together rather than being separated based on gender? What advantages are there to renovation of an old build rather building something new? How does this project correspond with Fort Wayne's status as one of the fastest growing metros in the Midwest?	One of our goals with the Anchor Resource Center is to allow couples and families to stay together when they seek help. Right now, Fort Wayne has no shelter option where couples without children can remain together, and there is also a significant shortage of emergency shelter beds for women. The Resource Center helps fill part of this gap, though we recognize it is only one piece of a larger solution. Regarding renovation: using an existing building allows us to move more quickly and cost-effectively than building new, which would require additional time, land acquisition, design, and construction costs. Renovating also supports sustainability by reusing existing infrastructure while still meeting the operational needs of the center. This project also aligns with Fort Wayne's status as one of the fastest-growing metros in the Midwest. Growth brings opportunity, but it also increases pressure on housing, services, and public spaces. Addressing homelessness proactively — with coordinated services and support — helps ensure downtown and surrounding neighborhoods remain safe, vibrant, and accessible as the community expands. The Resource Center is not the final answer, but it is an important step toward a more complete and coordinated system that meets the needs of individuals and families while supporting the health and growth of the entire city.	46774
242	Why not partner with the mission down the street and see what solutions you can come up with together. This project we fear will only make things worse! Have you visited Lafayette, Indiana and see what a mess it has become for the citizens living and working next to that 24-hour shelter?	The Anchor Resource Center is designed to complement and strengthen the important work already being done by the Fort Wayne Rescue Mission, not duplicate it. City staff and the Anchor's leadership have been working closely with the Rescue Mission for more than a year to identify opportunities to coordinate services, share expertise,	46807

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		and ensure individuals are connected to the most appropriate resources. Yes. City staff and members of the Anchor Board have visited the resource center in Lafayette multiple times and have remained in communication with its leadership throughout the planning process. Those visits have been valuable in understanding both the successes of the model and the challenges they have experienced. As a result, several lessons have been incorporated into the Anchor's planning, including: • Designing secure outdoor space that is accessible only from within the building to reduce activity on surrounding sidewalks. • Providing 24/7 operations so individuals are not waiting outside for services to begin. • Employing trained security personnel and outreach staff to conduct regular perimeter checks and respond proactively to concerns. • Establishing strong partnerships with the Fort Wayne Police Department, neighboring businesses, and community organizations. • Creating a clear Guest Code of Conduct with defined expectations and consequences for violations. • Ensuring every individual seeking housing-focused services completes a Coordinated Entry assessment and works with a Housing Navigator to develop a personalized Housing Action Plan.	
243	I worked in downtown Fort Wayne for 42 years until 2024. This is not a new issue. Over those years we have consistently had homeless and transients. It allows them to be in walking distance to resources and amenities. Let's use this opportunity to better connect with them and steer them to legitimate services and shelter.	Thank you for your input.	46845
244	I fully support Mayor Tucker's plan for the building downtown! I'm appalled at the churches around that location who are not showing their support! I get that there are school children close by, but that school yard is fenced in, and those children shouldn't and most likely wouldn't be allowed on that school yard without a chaperone present! Instead of	Thank you for your input.	46807

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	throwing up road blocks, why not help the city deal with the ever growing homeless population? Again...I fully support the Mayor's plan! Give her credit for trying!		
245	I support this in its current downtown location.	Thank you for your input.	46815
246	There are homeless people in various parts of Fort Wayne. How will all be served if they don't have means to get to the current proposed location? How will the proposed location coordinate with the Rescue Mission and other resources? I'm in favor of the current proposed location, particularly after reading about the services that will be available through AnchorResourceCenter.org	Thank you for your input.	46818
247	I am completely confused by the opposition to the development of the Homeless Resource Center downtown literally across the street from the Rescue Mission. Why would the community not support a proactive, initiative-taking action intended to address homelessness by providing a place to sleep, safe parking for those living in their cars, showers, secure storage for their person belongings, and access to resources for work, housing, and support services. I work downtown and it appears the number of homeless has increased. Yes, my company experienced homeless people gathering on our property to rest, recharge phones, and take shelter in inclement weather. We were able to redirect them away from the business by having civil conversations, asking police for assistance, disabling our outside outlets, and posting no public restrooms. The homeless community complied. Poverty is not a crime. There are two types of poverty: situational and generational. As a child I heard disparaging comments from adults who insisted that the generational poor, those without jobs or visible signs of income, were simply lazy and unwilling to work; recipients were referred to as "welfare mothers", assuming these mothers preferred to take advantage of available social services for their food and shelter rather than work. The generational poor are perceived as "ne'er do wells" who contribute to the crime rate. We need to understand that some struggle with long-term medical issues/disabilities, some lack a skill set, while others work in minimum wage jobs that do not provide a livable income.	Thank you for your input.	46805

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	Situational poverty means just that; an unplanned catastrophic situation/event or illness causing a working person or family to deplete their funds while attempting to maintain their home and put food on the table. Situational poverty regularly forces working people to live paycheck-to-paycheck, depleting financial safety nets, frequently falling short of funds prior to the next payday. Rent and mortgage payments become difficult to maintain resulting in eviction or foreclosure. Both kinds of poverty can lead to homelessness. Homelessness may be a choice for some people. Mental illness and addiction are two conditions that often provoke people to choose homelessness because they are unemployable, unable to support themselves, and unable to conform to shelter rules. Social services and support groups are difficult to access if they choose to improve their condition. Dependence on community outreach for food, clothing, and shelter during inclement weather is common. Fort Wayne has addressed their needs by way of food pantries, neighborhood food cupboards, clothing banks, and community outreach for meals, clothing, and hygiene necessities by individuals and organizations. There is more to be done to improve the City of Fort Wayne and the plight of those less fortunate. That is why I support the location and proposals for the Homeless Resource Center. The opposition is concerned about the safety and welfare of their businesses, churches, and schools. I have observed that the violence caused by the homeless community is not random violence against the public but more often it is among their own community. When was the last time these concerned citizens had to call 911 to deal with violent, threatening, or disruptive situations caused by an unhoused person? Why is the location of the Resource Center more objectionable than the location of the Rescue Mission that sits just across the street, or Mathew 25, or St. Mary's Soup Kitchen; all three are in the same proximity? The location of the Rescue Mission makes the location of the Resource Center perfect. Those that need assistance congregate in the downtown area. The community must meet them where they are logistically to meet their needs. Why not provide a hand up rather than a handout to those who struggle to improve their condition? I urge City Council, downtown businesses, and churches to look at the		

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	big picture as a method to positively impact homelessness and enhance our community. [NAME, ADDRESS, AND PHONE NUMBER DELETED]		
248	I am 100% in support of a homeless resource center downtown. It is the perfect location —much of the unhoused population already flocks there, as they depend on other downtown organizations/ministries for resources. It is also the most easily accessible location via public transit. It is wild to me that people are so concerned about the unhoused people that ALREADY congregate downtown, but don't understand the benefit of giving them a place to go and get help.	Thank you for your input.	46816
249	I understand there are fears related to the proposed location for the homeless center, but pushing this away- literally and figuratively- is missing an opportunity to embrace challenge and compassion for those less fortunate than many of us. Threats to our children or any other person exist anywhere in our city/ neighborhoods...let's concentrate on security measures, common sense measures for staying safe and a better understanding of mental illness instead of saying " not here ". fear generates a " fight or flight " response~ lets fight together to address this issue of homelessness and make things better for all of us.	Thank you for your input.	46802
250	I fully support placing the homeless resource center on the Washington Street property. Its proximity to Matthew 25 and the Rescue Mission is a bonus. The homeless do not have the resources to take a bus to a location on the outskirts of Ft. Wayne. They need to be centrally located. The opposition of St. Paul's Lutheran church is shameful. The kids would be in school and are usually transported by possibly their parents or a school bus. Their worry about sex offenders is baseless as the children would be home at night with their parents. My church, St. John's Lutheran on Washington St. feeds the homeless every Wednesday night with any problems. The complaint from Cottage Flowers and some coffee shop is ridiculous as their business has not been all that profitable for years. As I attend the market I have gone into Cottage lowers and their business is almost non existent. This is the right property. This business of "not in my backyard" is ludicrous and disgraceful .	Thank you for your input.	46814

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	I would even be willing to make a donation to this center because it is desperately needed		
251	I am in support of the homeless resource center. To many resources are being taken away from the homeless and I absolutely would love to see a safe place for a laundry facility and showering and other resources in one easy location. I support Mayor Tucker on this and my hope is Fort Wayne will also.	Thank you for your input.	46818
252	It seems to me that, as a city, we'd want to put our best foot forward when it comes to visitors of our city. The proposed location and also the location of the Rescue Mission do the exact opposite of what seems best. These facilities, while needed should be located away from the city center. Additionally, cities should put our tax dollars where the city does the best work. What Fort Wayne should do instead is put its money into it's miserable roadways and *curbs*. Drive along the city's main thoroughfares. Look at the abysmal care of it's curbs and roads. Terribly cracked roads. Curbs that are absent, or, if present, have been buried under vegetation with no care taken of them. Services like homeless shelters and rehab locations should be governed by charitable organizations. They are much better equipped to do works like this. I'll not elaborate on the efficiency of socialized governments which depend on the backs of taxpayers. Oh. I guess that I did anyway. Thank you.	We agree that nonprofits are often the best equipped to operate facilities like this, which is exactly why the structure of the Anchor Resource Center was designed the way it was. A new Anchor Resource Center Board has been established to run the facility. This nonprofit board — not the City — will be responsible for day-to-day operations, including fundraising, hiring staff, and setting policies and procedures. The City will maintain ownership of the building and lease it to the nonprofit, ensuring long-term stability while allowing the work to be led by experienced community partners. The Mayor will appoint one board member to ensure coordination and accountability. We also recognize your concerns about how the city invests taxpayer dollars. The Resource Center is intended to strengthen coordination across existing services so that downtown remains safe, welcoming, and vibrant — which is important not just for residents and visitors, but for Fort Wayne's continued economic growth.	46807-3108
253	It makes perfect sense for it to be at its proposed location. Keep it there.	Thank you for your input.	46814
254	I think we definitely need a low barrier shelter/resource center for our homeless issue. While I may personally disagree with the economic concerns of business owners on a philosophical level, I do understand the general concern. HOWEVER, I think its pretty clear that 1. we already have a homeless population that revolves around downtown. 2. building another shelter somewhere else could end up being less effective because of this or simply create another area in Fort Wayne that becomes home to a regular homeless population. As a citizen of this area	Thank you for your input.	46815

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	I would rather see a place like this be around businesses, and downtown helps with that. You put it most other places and you are probably likely to be much closer to housing additions etc. The business owners downtown need to understand that without gross efforts they are not going to just get rid of the homeless population downtown and another shelter in that area will help keep them off the streets and be less visible.		
255	I'm in support of the homeless center downtown at the site mentioned in the paper. It is close to other help that people may need.	Thank you for your input.	46807
256	The homeless resource center is a service that has been needed for a long time. It will help people in distress, and at the same time solve the problem of having homeless people on the streets of Fort Wayne. Perhaps there would be less opposition to the center if concrete plans could be made to provide security people in front of the center at all times, who are trained in helping homeless people gain admission, and also in preventing any trouble from happening due to those outside. This might ease the minds of nearby business owners, parents of schoolchildren, shoppers, etc.	There will be security staff at the Anchor Resource Center 24/7 as well as outreach staff. There has been a commitment from the Anchor to not only ensure safety inside the building but to routinely monitor the perimeter, to address loitering or cleanliness issues outside, to work alongside neighbors to resolve issues and to be a benefit to the surrounding neighborhood and the community as a whole.	46835
257	Why is there such a hurry in getting this site chosen? It really doesn't fit being right downtown and close to a school. It seems you are inviting problems for the businesses as well. There are too many problems associated with trying to give everything freely without restrictions. I think Sweeney Park would be a much better location.	One of the key reasons this process is moving forward now is because our community desperately needs this service, and every month we delay adds strain — both on the homeless population and on the neighborhoods, businesses, and public spaces already feeling the impact. The need is immediate, and time lost means people continue without safe access to basic services. We also looked at multiple alternative locations. Many were too close to residential areas, others were too far away and would create major transportation barriers for the people who rely on these services, and several were too expensive to acquire and renovate. Unfortunately, there is no perfect location, but the proposed site best balances accessibility, feasibility, and long-term sustainability. It's also important to emphasize that the Resource Center is designed to reduce unmanaged activity downtown — not increase it — by offering a coordinated place for people to go during the day and connect with services instead of remaining in public spaces.	46835

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258	I have seen the figure of 1200 visits expected annually. Is this the correct number? For an annual estimated operating budget of \$1.2 million, that comes out to \$1000 per visit. Also, that's only an estimated 4 visits per day? I think it would be more like 50-80 visits per day. I think someone needs to take another look at the numbers.	Thank you for pointing this out. The figure of approximately 1,200 refers to the estimated number of unduplicated individuals who may be served by the Resource Center each year, not the total number of visits. Because many individuals will access the Resource Center multiple times while working toward stable housing, the total number of annual visits is expected to be significantly higher. Based on planning assumptions and experience from comparable programs, the Resource Center is expected to serve approximately 50–80 visits per day, with some individuals returning regularly to meet with Housing Navigators, access basic services, or connect with partner organizations. The estimated annual operating budget of approximately \$1.2 million supports 24/7 operations, including staffing, security, utilities, building operations, and partnerships that benefit all individuals utilizing the Resource Center throughout the year. It is not calculated on a "cost per visit" basis.	46774
259	I fully support housing, feeding and caring for homeless in Fort Wayne.	Thank you for your input.	46835
260	I hope that a better location can be found for this, rather than so close to a school and the Farmers Market.	Thank you for your input.	46835
261	I am in favor of the Anchor Resource Center occupying the 333 Washington Blvd location. There didn't seem to be this much disagreement when the Rescue Mission moved from Superior to Washington Blvd. I think this location is needed, and it is downtown, where the people that need these resources are found. Is there a lot of problem with those that use the Rescue Mission, as the nearby businesses claim there will be with the Resource Center?	Thank you for your input.	46808
262	I have stopped use the river greenway trails around the city, and now drive SW to use the trails because I do not feel safe with the amount of homeless, and the camps around the area downtown. What is the cities plan to discourage FW as a homeless destination. Adding services will not do this. I have to be honest I am kind of pissed I am paying a lot to live downtown to not feel safe going for a run along the river is not acceptable.	Earlier this year, the Mayor's Office introduced an ordinance — which City Council approved in late March — specifically addressing the relocation of transient individuals to Fort Wayne. Under this law, it is illegal to intentionally transport unhoused individuals from another community into our city. Since its adoption, we have already issued several cease-and-desist letters and two citations for violations. This	46802

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		helps ensure that our services support Fort Wayne residents, not people being brought here from other cities.	
263	The selection of the location of homeless shelters must consider the unfortunate but true impact these shelters have on safety and economic impact they demonstrate historically. Finding the appropriate location is key for all involved with ignoring facts.	Thank you for your input.	46835
264	I think the city needs to locate a suitable cite in Aboite Township and provide free bus transportation to the location. This will get the people out of downtown, and additionally they will have access to more people with money from whom they can beg. They will have cleaner air to breath and some of them may even find that working isn't such a bad idea, and with some money they might find housing on their own. I feel that too often we tend to think of the homeless people as being uneducated and borderline retarded, but that isn't necessarily true. If they are given a chance to see how the working class lives they might choose to join.	Thank you for your input.	46819-1411
265	I am 100% in support of the new shelter. There will never be a location that will avoid the, "not in my neighborhood," mentality. Homeless individuals are already in our neighborhoods for those of us who live and work in the downtown. Due to limited transportation, moving homeless services out of the downtown area would be an exercise in futility and likely require additional funds to provide bus vouchers or other forms of transportation for folks to be able to access services. If anything, I would hope this shelter would decrease the number of folks on the streets during the day. It seems like some of our city council members are either underexposed to the practical concerns people who are homeless face or are dehumanizing a group of their constituents regardless of their income and housing status.	Thank you for your input.	46808
266	What lessons have you learned from the issues with the shelter in Lafayette, what would you duplicate and what would you do differently?	City staff and members of the Anchor Resource Center Board have visited the resource center in Lafayette multiple times and have remained in communication with its leadership throughout the planning process. Those visits have provided valuable insight into both the successes of their model and the challenges they have experienced. Some of the key lessons that have shaped the Anchor's planning include:	46805

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		• The importance of designing spaces that meet the unique needs of different populations, including designated areas for families and individuals with children. • The value of strong, ongoing partnerships with law enforcement, including clear communication regarding roles, expectations, resources, and response protocols. • The need for secure outdoor space that is accessible only from within the building. The proposed design for 333 E. Washington Boulevard includes a walled courtyard to provide guests with outdoor access while minimizing impacts on neighboring properties. • The importance of being a good neighbor by maintaining open communication with nearby businesses and residents, providing a dedicated phone line for concerns, and responding quickly to issues that arise. • The need for proactive security measures, including 24/7 staffing, trained security personnel, regular perimeter checks, and a clear Guest Code of Conduct with defined expectations and consequences. The Anchor also plans to incorporate many of the successful elements of Lafayette's model, including trauma-informed training for all staff and volunteers, Coordinated Entry assessments, individualized Housing Action Plans, strong partnerships with community organizations, and an intentional focus on helping individuals move as quickly as possible toward self-sufficiency and permanent housing. The Anchor's purpose is not to make homelessness more comfortable; it is to make homelessness shorter. By learning from other communities and adapting proven practices to Fort Wayne's unique needs, the Resource Center is designed to strengthen the community's response to homelessness while being a safe, responsible, and accountable neighbor.	
267	The proposed homeless center is a great location for the homeless to live. Their services are within walking distance. Don't listen to the naysayers. If they are so concerned about the location, where were they when the nearby Rescue Mission was being built?	Thank you for your input.	46815

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268	Why would the government have to build this center? There are so many programs, such as The Rescue Mission and churches, addressing the homeless in many ways. Allowing a liquor store to be built across from The Rescued Mission certainly didn't serve the homeless.	First, we completely agree that nonprofits, faith-based groups, and organizations like The Rescue Mission are essential. They have been doing this work for decades, and our community depends on them. That's exactly why the new Anchor Resource Center Board, a nonprofit entity, has been created to operate the center. They will handle fundraising, staffing, and policy-setting. The City will simply own the building and lease it to the nonprofit, ensuring stability while allowing the work to be led by those most experienced in serving this population. The Mayor will appoint one board member to support coordination. As for why the City is involved at all: despite the strength of our nonprofits, the needs in our community have outgrown the capacity of the existing system. We are seeing more people experiencing homelessness, more complex needs, and more strain on public spaces and emergency services. We desperately need a coordinated resource hub — something we do not currently have — and the nonprofits cannot create this kind of infrastructure alone. Regarding the liquor store near The Rescue Mission: that decision was made years before this project, and we understand the concern. It's also one of the reasons we are being intentional about ensuring the new Resource Center has strong governance, oversight, and coordination to reduce unmanaged behavior in the surrounding areas. The goal of the Anchor Resource Center is not to replace or overshadow the work of nonprofits — it is to strengthen the entire system, reduce gaps, and give both service providers and the community better tools to address homelessness humanely and effectively.	46807
269	What statistical data do we have to support the need for a resource center? I understand that there are over 2,000 homeless around the area, have they been polled to determine how many want (or are willing) to receive help?	The need for the center is supported by multiple sources of local data as well as extensive community engagement. As part of the City's Homelessness Strategic Plan, we gathered direct input from: • People with lived experience of homelessness, • Service and shelter providers, and	46748

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		• Community partners across the system These conversations helped identify clear gaps in our current approach — especially in coordinated daytime services, hygiene access, support for women and couples, and the overall need for better system alignment. Individuals experiencing homelessness were also asked about what would help them most, and many expressed strong support for a centralized resource hub. This work also highlighted the need to expand emergency response services, as fire/EMS and police are currently responding to a growing number of calls involving individuals who lack access to appropriate daytime support. The Resource Center will help relieve that strain by giving responders a designated place to take people who need services rather than leaving them in unsafe or unmanaged situations. While the number of people experiencing homelessness shifts over time, the Strategic Plan, local data, and direct interviews all point to the same conclusion: our community urgently needs a coordinated resource center to strengthen services and reduce strain on public systems.	
270	Please. Can't this type of resource center be located away from a school and the city's thriving downtown business district? Yes. Homeless individuals need resources. But, children and businesses need protections as well. Public safety matters!!!	The reality is that the unhoused population is already present downtown, and without a centralized place for them to go, many end up spending their days on sidewalks, near storefronts, and close to schools. Our goal with this resource center is to reduce those issues by providing a safe, structured environment where individuals can access services, get off the streets, and connect with the support they need. This isn't about bringing more people downtown — it's about responsibly addressing the population that is already there and improving the overall safety and experience for everyone.	46825
271	We dont need another homeless shelter downtown !!! I live in the area, i walk the downtown trail every day! i walk under most bridgers, i have to dodge trash, clother , sleeping boxes feces,needles ,homeless people sleeping on parks benches and much more . this location is less than	Thank you for your input.	46805

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	500 feet from grades schools i cant imagine what they see, you will have other city and counties dropping people all hours of the night. Fort Wayne has spent Millions of dollars improving downtown all wasted money !!!!!!!!!!! vote NOOOOOOOOOO		
272	I no longer live in Fort Wayne, but I do work downtown. A lot of the argument against this center has been that people don't want the homeless close to their businesses or churches, but this location is only a block away from the mission, which means the homeless are already in their area. I see this as an extension of the services already offered by the mission to further the help we can provide the homeless, and I am 100% in support of this center being located where it is being proposed downtown. There is no other logical location for this project, as many homeless people also do not have a vehicle, so the services need to be accessible near where the homeless population is already accessing these services.	Thank you for your input.	46773
273	I support the concept and the location. I'm downtown multiple times each week and dint buy into the stereotypes used to describe our homeless population. We have to try something to help those less fortunate. I'm shocked that, so called, Christians are opposing this attempt to help those less fortunate. The location is near the Tescue Mission, Mathew 25 and other services serving the homeless. Stop looking away from the issue and support those trying to do something to help. It us the Christian way.	Thank you for your input.	46814
274	Please say yes to this project as it was presented to city council. It's a great resource for those who need help and the location is exactly where it needs to be. Totally in favor of this center!	Thank you for your input.	46774
275	I believe we have a definite issue with helping the homeless. I do not believe it is the proper location.	Thank you for your input.	46825
276	Good afternoon, In response to the proposed "Homeless Resource Center" for downtown Fort Wayne. While I'm sensitive to homeless individuals that are truly homeless to circumstance's beyond their control and have no other choice, I am less sensitive for a "chosen lifestyle" that some have taken to be homeless purposely without acquiring a job which there are many to start being self supportive and not standing on a street corner holding a sign. I am totally against this proposal and think it is not in the best	Thank you for your input.	46818

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	interest of Fort Wayne to have this resource building. Please let me clarify myself for my reasoning, there is no doubt this will add to additional homeless individuals coming to Fort Wayne when other homeless find this available to them. Thus creating more than just supporting the one's currently here or "trickling" into our area, it would mirror an "open border" to a much smaller degree but still add more headaches than is happening currently. This will lead to an "addition" added on to the proposed building or an additional building purchase will be needed, this will in fact happen if the City of Fort Wayne approves this to move forward, guaranteed to happen in time. Thank you for allowing me to forward my thoughts on this issue, have a blessed day!		
277	Having lived through the Homestead Quarry nightmare, I have a deeper understanding of the expression "Not in my backyard!". Those that are against the location of the proposed homeless center are not heartless, uncaring people. Many have spent generations building businesses in downtown Fort Wayne. They have been kind, generous, hard working people. Fort Wayne has other options. Please explore them and make a wise decision. Don't punish the businesses and the schools that have done nothing wrong.	Thank you for your input.	46804
278	This resource center is direly needed in the downtown area to provide valuable resources to some of our most vulnerable populations. You folks are doing amazing work, and this momentum needs to continue without additional hurdles.	Thank you for your input.	46807
279	Our family of four voters believe the proposed resource center at 333 East Washigton Blvd. is in the most practical and effective location to help service the needs of our homeless fellow human beings. There but for grace could we be in a homeless situation!	Thank you for your input.	46805
280	It seems like housing capacity/pipeline would be a big component of keeping a centralized location for the resource center from having too many adverse effects. What is the projected plan for housing transition? Will that be established before the Resource Center is open?	Thank you for your thoughtful questions and for your willingness to be engaged as a neighboring church.	46748

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	What will be the projected housing placement capacity? What will the security model be? What hours will there be security in place? Private personnel or police? I attend the church next to this site, so we will be involved. We already have homeless persons entering our building every Sunday looking for resources. What would you recommend we do for security? Thanks for your work on this important part of our community!	Housing navigation is one of the primary purposes of the Anchor Resource Center and will be in place before the Resource Center opens. Every individual seeking housing-focused services will complete a Coordinated Entry assessment and work with a Housing Navigator to develop a personalized Housing Action Plan. The plan will identify the individual's needs and connect them to the most appropriate emergency shelter, transitional housing, permanent supportive housing, permanent housing, treatment program, or other community resource. The Anchor is designed to strengthen and coordinate the existing housing system by helping individuals move as quickly as possible to the appropriate next step. The Anchor Resource Center itself is not intended to be a long-term housing provider. Rather, it serves as a centralized access point that connects individuals to housing opportunities throughout the community. Because housing placements depend on the availability of shelter, transitional housing, rapid rehousing, permanent supportive housing, and market-rate housing, it is not possible to project a fixed number of placements. One of the Resource Center's key goals is to improve coordination across the system so available housing opportunities are identified and filled more quickly. The current Operations Plan includes limited stabilization cots for individuals who need a safe place to rest while awaiting placement in an emergency shelter or another appropriate housing option. The number of stabilization cots will be determined once the final building design is complete. Future expansion opportunities, if pursued and funded, would be considered separately. The Anchor Resource Center will employ trained security personnel on-site 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Security staff will be employed by or under contract with the Anchor and will work closely with the Fort Wayne Police Department whenever law enforcement assistance is needed. Security cameras will monitor both the interior and exterior of the building, and outreach staff will conduct regular perimeter checks	

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		to help maintain a safe environment for guests, neighboring businesses, residents, and visitors. The Anchor looks forward to working closely with neighboring churches, businesses, and organizations. As with any public-facing ministry or organization, having clear procedures for welcoming visitors, responding to individuals in crisis, and contacting assistance when needed is important. The Anchor plans to maintain open communication with neighboring organizations, provide a dedicated phone number for concerns, and work collaboratively to address issues quickly. The goal is to be a resource not only for individuals experiencing homelessness, but also a responsive and accountable neighbor to the surrounding community.	
281	I think this is the bare minimum for a growing city of this size. Let's give our unhoused population something to be hopeful for. How about more corporate or business interests coming on board too. And some volunteers. This is not something to be afraid of, but an opportunity for a prosperous and growing city that is all inclusive and has an empathetic core.	Thank you for your input.	46825
282	Only a comment: I fully support the proposed homeless resource center in downtown Fort Wayne. This issue needs to be addressed responsibly, with compassion, professionalism and soon. Our unhoused, homeless community, citizens of our community, deserve the help to survive and ultimately, thrive. Let's continue to be the city that saved itself...let's save those children, women and men who desperately need us to "save" them. Take the necessary precautions to ensure safety for the folks utilizing the facility , as well as those living near, or utilizing nearby businesses. We need to move forward with this plan.	Thank you for your input.	46815
283	I understand that homelessness is a serious issue and I do believe our community needs real solutions. But I do not support adding another homeless shelter downtown especially in an area that is already struggling with safety concerns and business impact. My teenage daughter enjoys walking around and exploring and on her very first trip downtown she was attacked. That experience changed the way I look at this issue. Families should feel safe coming downtown. Teenagers customers employees and businesses owners should not feel like they're	Thank you for sharing your experience. We are truly sorry to hear about what happened to your daughter. No one should have to experience that, and we understand why it has shaped your concerns about safety downtown. We also agree that families, employees, visitors, and business owners should feel safe in our downtown. Creating a safer community is one of the primary reasons this project is being developed. The Anchor	46805

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	taking a risk by just being there. I also worry about the effects this has on local businesses. Downtown businesses are trying to bring people in create jobs and keep the area active. If people feel unsafe they stop coming. That hurts everyone. Taxpayers should not be expected to keep funding plans that do not seem to solve the deeper problem. I do not claim to have the perfect answer but I do think the city needs to look at a broader plan. We need solutions that help people experiencing homelessness without putting families businesses and taxpayers in a worse position.	Resource Center is intended to provide a place for people experiencing homelessness to access basic services, connect with housing and treatment resources, and work toward long-term stability rather than remaining on the streets. We believe that supporting people experiencing homelessness and maintaining a safe, vibrant downtown are not competing goals—they are goals that must be pursued together. The Resource Center has been designed with security, staffing, and partnerships with service providers and public safety agencies to help address both the needs of those experiencing homelessness and the concerns of the surrounding community. Thank you for taking the time to share your perspective. Feedback like yours is an important part of ensuring we continue to improve the project and remain accountable to the entire community.	
284	There are already plenty of homeless congregating at that intersection due to the Rescue Center and so giving visitors to the city an unfavorable impression. Its hard to imagine there isn't a better location to install a similar activity.	The design of the facility will take that visibility into account, and our goal is to keep the site out of the tourist and recreational districts where large events and festivals occur. There is no perfect location for a service like this — every option has tradeoffs. We want to avoid residential areas, but we also have to recognize that most individuals experiencing homelessness are already centered downtown because that's where existing amenities, supports, and community resources are located. If the facility is placed too far from downtown, people will still travel back and forth to access those services, increasing movement through neighborhoods and creating additional challenges. For these reasons, a location on the edge of downtown — while not ideal in every respect — is the most effective option for meeting people where they are while minimizing impacts on residential areas and the core visitor-focused parts of downtown.	46805
285	I support the mayor 100% in her selection and renovation of the building at 333 East Washington blvd, for a homeless shelter.	Thank you for your input.	46809
286	This project should 10000x be approved. There is a huge homeless community in Fort Wayne and they deserve resources. This location	Thank you for your input.	46805

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	makes the most sense as it is already near existing resources. I worked 2 blocks away from the Rescue Mission for 3 years and I have seen this first hand. It breaks my heart to see them forced to roam the city and be shoos out of parks and businesses instead of having a safe place to stay 24/7. They deserve help, and we should absolutely provide it, and provide it WHERE they can ACCESS it.		
287	Will the facility have on site police presence 24/7 ? Has anyone considered alternate facilities: One Canal Place and EarlyChildhood Alliance building?	The facility will have 24/7 security in addition to cameras both indoors and outdoors. Many other locations were considered, and both locations you named were toured by the staff of the city as a potential location. One Canal Place was challenging due to being spread over three floors, the design for the resource center demands one floor with open space and visibility. The Early Childhood Alliance building was also considered, but was purchased and is no longer available.	46802
288	The following comments are concerning: *The location is too close to St Paul's church and school. My neighbor attends St Paul's and has indicated to me that the homeless have approached the fence that the church installed around the perimeter of the yard. *When Belmont Liquors wanted permits to build their liquor store on the corner of E Washington Blvd and Lafayette across from the Rescue Mission, First Wayne United Methodist Church, located a block north on the corner of Wayne and Lafayette, proposed valid objections to locating a liquor store close to the Rescue Mission. They lost. Those objections are still valid for obvious reasons. *The proposed location is not a good idea. *The Northside Neighborhood Association held a panel discussion at their February general meeting. Those who spoke were: Amanda Fall from the City, Maryann Mings with Inasmuch Ministries and Abby Scoval with Harts. Other than the fact that these agencies assist homeless to locate housing and other resources, they mentioned that some of the homeless do have some money. Would it therefore be unreasonable to ask them to pay a little something for the assistance being provided. *TRANSPARENCY: How many will be employed by Anchor Resource Center? The mayor said 12 cots the first year and then adding beds the 2nd and	Regarding proximity to St. Paul's and past challenges near the Rescue Mission: we understand those concerns. The unhoused population is already present in this part of downtown, and the goal of the Anchor Resource Center (ARC) is to reduce unsheltered activity near schools, churches, and businesses by bringing people indoors into a supervised and structured environment. Whether individuals should pay for services: we prefer that people use any income they have to support permanent housing rather than paying for services at the Resource Center. ARC's mission is to help people stabilize and move toward long-term solutions, and directing limited resources toward housing is a key part of that process. Regarding transparency: • We anticipate approximately 32 employees at the Resource Center, though the governing board still needs to finalize the staffing structure. • Phase 1 will include respite cots. The governing board is still finalizing the operating plan, which will determine the exact number. • Partner agencies will not receive payments from ARC; they will simply provide services on-site. • The current property owner is Hanning & Bean.	46805

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	3rd years? What is the plan? How much will the agencies be paid to provide their services (naturally they are interested in the project?) Who is the current owner of the property and how much do they stand to gain from the sale? What is the appraised value of the property? Is the City paying too much? *Fort Wayne a search shows 14 homeless shelters and 9 homeless housing programs. The proposed project appears to be a duplication of effort. No one I know objects to helping someone who needs a helping hand. The issue is two fold: 1. The proposed location is not desirable for all the valid reasons already made. 2. Should the taxpayer be on the hook to pay for an Anchor Resource Center. Think about the unintended consequences. If so, will he then donate less to the agencies that already provide resources.	• As required by state statute, appraisals were conducted to ensure the City is not overpaying. The appraised values are above the agreed-upon sale price. While the appraisals will not be made public, they do confirm that the purchase price is appropriate. Finally, regarding duplication of efforts: although Fort Wayne has multiple shelters and housing programs, none provides the specific combination of daytime services, stabilization support, coordinated care, and respite beds envisioned for ARC. This facility is intended to fill a gap in the system — not duplicate what already exists.	
289	Big mistake to locate a homeless resource center on a main thoroughfare such a Washington Blvd. What a bad impression for visitors who would see people hanging around with no place to go. Homeless leave trash behind & often exhibit poor judgement as a result of various addictions. No doubt it would be nice to help homeless & provide a resource center but NOT in the building & area currently proposed!!	Thank you for your input.	46835
290	More resources are needed for the ongoing problem of homelessness in our community. Having a resource center where people can go to find solutions to the barriers to housing is essential. Without the center, the problems will persist. Homelessness effects the total health, physical and mental, of our community. We are all only a couple setbacks away from needing resources such as this center can offer.	Thank you for your input.	46805
291	My husband and I are in favor of this facility. It is needed badly for our homeless neighbors. We take food, water, clothing, and health supplies every week to Ave Maria House, near St. Mary Mother of God church. Weekly we see the number of people who are homeless in our community and they are so appreciative of any items brought for their	Thank you for your input.	46835

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	use. We feel that many of them are homeless due to circumstances beyond their control. If you lose your job, for whatever reason, it doesn't take long to lose your home. If you don't have a permanent home, it is very hard to get another job. These people need resources to get help and this center will provide that. And it needs to be downtown where most of the homeless live on the streets.		
292	I passed a large Methodist church that was for sale on Putnam and reviewed their listing with a gym, kitchen, many classrooms, bathroom facilities and elevator and a very nice playground for children..a place like this seems to be close to downtown, parks, bus route and appears to be ready for families without a ton of \$ spent in remodeling..couldn't sites like this be considered if we are really thinking of creating a nice environment for families to get back on their feet?	Thank you for taking the time to look into potential sites and for suggesting the former Methodist church on Putnam. We did assess that property, and while it has several useful features, we ultimately do not feel it is appropriate to locate the Anchor Resource Center in the middle of a residential area. Our goal is to place the center close enough to downtown for people to access services, while also minimizing impacts on nearby neighborhoods.	46723
293	If any homeless is only feeding and housing but not training people to be self sufficient, and getting the root of the problem and helping to solve it then they are just wasting money. The root of the problem must be found and people trained not to go backwards, but trained in skills to keep them from homelessness again. If they dont want to go through training to be self sufficient put them out, they show by their actions what their intentions are, be self sufficient or mooch off others.	We agree that meeting immediate needs alone is not enough to reduce homelessness. The Anchor Resource Center is designed to address the underlying barriers that contribute to homelessness and help individuals move toward long-term stability and self-sufficiency. Every individual seeking housing-focused services will complete a Coordinated Entry assessment and work with a Housing Navigator to develop a personalized Housing Action Plan. That plan identifies the barriers each person is facing and connects them with the services that best meet their individual needs. For some, that may include employment training through Blue Jacket. Others may benefit from financial literacy and representative payee services through Forgotten Stones, mental health treatment, substance use recovery services, healthcare, or assistance obtaining identification and benefits. The Anchor's purpose is not to make homelessness more comfortable; it is to make homelessness shorter. While every person's path is different, the expectation is that individuals actively engage in working toward the goals identified in their Housing Action Plan. The Resource Center combines compassion with accountability, helping people take	46819

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		meaningful steps toward permanent housing and greater independence.	
294	I think it is a good idea to have the homeless shelter there on Washington St. It is close to a lot of other services they need .	Thank you for your input.	46835
295	The fact that a 24/7 homeless resource center being placed downtown is up for so much debate is confusing to many of the citizens that have lived and grown up here. We already have two homeless shelters downtown, another in walking distance, and downtown is where the bus depot is. It's a perfectly central area thats easily accessible to individuals who are in need of those resources who dont have cars. Where else would the city even put it? I understand that downtown is starting to become a tourist attraction, but we have to put those who actually live here above people that are just passing through to spend their money.	Thank you for your input.	46807
296	I agree with many who have suggested that a downtown location is critical to the successful implementation of this resource center. Proximity to other resources and the general concentration of un-housed folks around downtown make this the only logical direction	Thank you for your input.	46818
297	I think the low-barrier shelter is a great idea. I have lived in Fort Wayne my whole life and have noticed the surge in the homeless population. It's like I've never seen before. We need to be doing everything we can in our community to provide assistance to people going through hardship - even those who have problems with addiction, be it drugs or alcohol. It's much better to get help and resources to people on terms that work for them, than funnel them through the legal system and into a never ending cycle of incarceration and unpayable debt. That does nothing to help them or the community - and will only leave them back on the streets worse off than before. Instead, we should be looking for ways to help people and find a path to recovery and employment - so they can find stability with dignity and hope, to rebuild their lives.	Thank you for your input.	46805
298	[COMMENT DELETED DUE TO AN UNSUBSTANTIATED ALLEGATION OF A CRIMINAL ACT]		46218
299	I support the proposed homeless resource center whole-heartedly! Frankly, I do not understand why there is opposition in the first place. I frequently drive down Lafayette, Jefferson past Matthew 25 clinic and along the Broadway Corridor. I see many homeless people waiting for food and services. The proposed location is perfect for serving the needs	Thank you for your input.	46807

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	of these people. While I understand that some homeless people also have drug, alcohol and mental health challenges, overall they are more harm to themselves than to others. Coordinated services are so necessary and greatly needed by this population! Lord knows, if I were in the same situation, I would appreciate it! We all need to walk in another's shoes.		
300	Hello. I applaud the intense research and focused intention you've given this project. It may not often feel like it, but there are many of us in the community who are so very grateful for your life's work and for working so hard to help solve this national and community crisis of homelessness. You are part of the solution. I 100% support the resource center and its current proposed location. It and you are part of the solution. It won't solve everything of course. This crisis is decades in the making and has many moving parts. But it is a step in the right direction and will offer resources not only for the homeless folks, but also for law enforcement, neighbors and businesses. Thanks!	Thank you for your input.	46802
301	The proven methods for helping reduce homelessness, especially in the most intractable cases, is low barriers to housing and resources. That means being where the homeless are. This won't be any more disruptive, with proper protocols and funding, than any other place in the city, and it is perfectly situated, near transit, near other housing (mission), and near service providers like brightpoint and ymca. Daytime access, more inclusive management, less restrictions on staying (Missions fail at helping people because of their rules about "vices" and religious requirements, etc) alll will have MORE people off the streets than a regular night time mission. I only hope they have accommodations for people with pets. My only concern is that it shouldn't be run by a religious org. They are too concerned with conversion and not enough with just helping, no strings attached, no personal values shoved down the throat of people who should have autonomy. They are homeless, not sinners.	Thank you for sharing your perspective and for your support of a low-barrier, housing-focused approach. The Anchor Resource Center will be operated as an independent nonprofit organization and will not be affiliated with or operated by a religious organization. Services will be available to all individuals experiencing homelessness regardless of their religious beliefs, background, or personal circumstances. Participation in religious activities will not be required to access services.	46802

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302	I think this project is very much needed in Fort Wayne, this is an excellent location, and these unhoused people need these services desperately. We need to get this done as soon as possible.	Thank you for your input.	46814
303	Always supporting and back at City Council, again, on Tuesday!!! Keep up the good fight!	Thank you for your input.	46835
304	I understand the city considered over twenty sites for the location of ARC before Barr & Washington was chosen. I also understand City Council members were to submit additional site locations for consideration. Can you publish a list of all considered sites along with evaluation comments for each site? This would help me better understand the site selection process.	Thank you for your question and for your interest in understanding the site selection process. The city did evaluate more than twenty potential locations for the ARC, and City Council members were invited to submit additional sites for review as part of that process. A list of possible sites will be provided to City Council members.	46845
305	Homelessness is a complex human condition that is the intersection of many disparate human realities. The homeless population cannot be simply categorized by focusing on a single, isolated characteristic of an individual. Rather, people are homeless as the result of multiple interacting events, environments, personal conditions, and yes, choices. Consequently, it is a severe misunderstanding of our homeless people to assume that a single action or a simple “band-aid” will provide a compassionate framework for supporting the homeless. Firstly, the real estate mantra “location, location, location” applies to our homeless citizens. That is, efforts to address homelessness must be focused at the location of the homeless population. We cannot and must not think that our efforts will be successful by moving homeless people somewhere else. We must meet the homeless where they live, where they are. This is particularly true when it is recognized that multiple levels of support already exist in the proposed downtown location. Secondly, the homeless population is composed of people, not threats to our city’s well-being. Many facile statements have been made, ostensibly highlighting the potential threats lurking among the homeless. But where is the data? Numerous successful programs addressing the needs of the homeless have been initiated around the country. What has been the outcome of these efforts? Before the City of Fort Wayne responds to apparently reasonable concerns, it is imperative to learn the	Thank you for your input.	46804-5935

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	reality of each concern as supported by real-life data from the locations of successful programs. It is irresponsible to make decisions in a vacuum. Thirdly, it imperative that efforts to address the multiple factors directly contributing to homelessness remain cognizant of the difference between “equality” and “equity.” The goals is not to make everyone in our society equal in some altruistic sense. Rather, our goal is to address needs that prevent human beings from being positive members of our society. Recognizing the diversity of our people, equity is a sincere effort to make it possible for people to succeed.		
306	As a downtown resident I fully support the proposed center. The homeless problem is not going to go away by refusing to address the issue. Offering solutions to the problem will ensure that our downtown area continues to grow and thrive.	Thank you for your input.	46802
307	Comment: I am in favor of the proposed homeless resource center in downtown Ft. Wayne. The city leadership has followed a solid process of information gathering, option comparisons, and outlining the good reasons to make this a beginning effort to combat this problem. The fact that there are risks and negative issues that will have to be dealt with has never been denied, in fact it has been embraced in this process. With a problem this complicated, finding the "best" answer can easily turn into a huge rabbit hole. This seems to be a reasonable "first" answer that could lead our community in a positive direction of solving this problem. Thanks to those who have done the work that has gotten us to this point.	Thank you for your input.	46802
308	I have lived downtown for 8 years and see so many homeless people of all ages walk by. They all look down and out, not like a person that would do harm to anyone. They do need a nice place to go such as the former Waterfield bldg. Please open up asap for all of them. [name deleted]	Thank you for your input.	46802
309	I'm not sure why there is even a discussion - the proposed location is across from a huge homeless shelter. The NIMBY argument seems to have already sailed and sank along with any negative downtown impact. It would seem obvious that providing services that the existing shelter can't or won't — especially services that either move the unsheltered towards stability and success or solve complaints such as public urination or unsanitary hygiene — is a great idea. The project seems	Thank you for your input.	46818

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	designed to end the problem of homelessness quickly and make the neighborhood better faster. Has no one made that point ?		
310	By what metrics will we measure success? Is there a roadmap of "next steps" that can be shared with the taxpayers/voters? I support the idea, and cautiously OK with the location, but how will we know this will work to solve the problem, not just manage it. Kudos to this administration for finally addressing the issue, not just kicking the can down the road, as has been done for the last 30 years. Thank you.	As we move forward, measuring effectiveness will be a key part of ensuring the Resource Center delivers the outcomes our community needs. That evaluation will be done in partnership with both the Governance Board and the Community Advisory Board. Together, they will help determine the metrics we track, review performance, and recommend adjustments if challenges arise — whether inside the facility or in the surrounding community. The Anchor Resource Center will also report to City Council annually on the agreed-upon metrics. This ensures transparency, accountability, and ongoing public oversight as the center grows and adapts to community needs.	46802-4730
311	I believe that the proposed sight, while a bit inconvenient for a few, is by far the best location. It's proximity to other services make it a simple choice. I see it having very little impact on the city as a whole.	Thank you for your input.	46777
312	The proposal for the homeless resource center on Washington Blvd. seems to be a well planned and is well located, especially since there are several other organizations for the underserved in the same area. I am concerned that St. Paul's church will attempt to skew the responses against the plan, but this building would pull the homeless away from, not toward, their property. I strongly support this plan as it is urgently needed in Fort Wayne.	Thank you for your input.	46815
313	With all of the vacant buildings downtown that seem larger in size, why do you want this one on Washington? People congregating on the sidewalks slows and hinders vehicle traffic. Motorists will either have to wait for people to jaywalk across the street or worry about them stepping off the curb. I can picture numerous buildings on Calhoun Street, Taylor Street, Wayne, Berry, Etc. that could be used. Telling people why it has to be in a certain building is helpful. The city property at Lafayette and Wallace is a much larger area and	Thank you for your message and for offering several possible locations. We did evaluate a number of vacant buildings downtown, but many of them either exceed our budget, are already in use, or are not suitable for the type of services the Anchor Resource Center will provide. The Washington Boulevard location was recommended because it is financially feasible, accessible, and on the edge of downtown rather than in the middle of the tourism and festival areas. We agree that homelessness is a serious issue, and the goal of the ARC is to provide	46774

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	located off of a busy street. It is also an easy walk from multiple areas of town. What will the old jail be used for? Could this building be considered? We all know homelessness is a big issue and I hope something can be resolved to give these people the help they need.	a safe, coordinated place for people to go—ultimately reducing unmanaged activity on sidewalks and streets.	
314	Thank you for requesting community input. I am a clergywoman at Peace United Church of Christ (9123 Aboite Center Road, Fort Wayne, 46804). I wholeheartedly, completely, and absolutely support the low barrier shelter and will be preaching about this to my congregation as the way in which we follow the teachings of Christ. I am disappointed and devastated to hear the voices of "Christians" who are speaking against this cruelty, especially as the unhoused already will be facing the cruelty of Governor Mike Braun's "no public sleeping" laws. If I can be an advocate or help in anyway, please let me know. I have the passion for this project. The mayor and I went to high school together and she led then, and she leads now. I am so proud of her passion and seeking to solve the problems in our community.	Thank you for your input.	46845
315	As a female who works downtown, please don't put the resource center at the proposed location. Walking to and from my building and to the parking garage is already not fun with the unhoused individuals yelling and making gestures. I'd like to be able to feel safe.	One goal of the ARC is to provide a safe, coordinated place for people to go—ultimately reducing unmanaged activity on sidewalks and streets.	46819
316	Are you aware that the website doesn't work? https://anchorresourcecenter.org/	The website directs to the Engage Fort Wayne site until an independent website is built. The correct address is http://anchorresourcecenter.org	46774
317	Homelessness is a crisis in Fort Wayne, and I appreciate your supporting and approving Mayor Tucker's proposal for the Resource Center, and to serve with integrity in the promise to advocate for ALL residents honestly, faithfully, and impartially. Mayor Tucker is a trained expert in this area, and her expertise in the matter is recognized, valued, and noted for the time and effort she has put into this project to serve our community. I support, and many of my friends & family support, Mayor Tucker in her	Thank you for your input.	46807

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	initiative for the Anchor Resource Center proposed at 333 East Washington Blvd, Fort Wayne, that will create one place where people experiencing homelessness can access resources towards long-term stability. Please vote to support this proposition. Many lives depend on it.		
318	As I stated in an email last month to the city council members, I stand firmly behind the idea of a homeless resource center. I served as the weekend volunteer coordinator at the St Mary's Soup Kitchen for 25 years. Leaving at the end of 2024. During that time I had the privilege of getting to know a lot of our homeless friends. I listened to their stories about how they got in the position that they were in. Many were tricked and cheated out of their life's savings, many were dealing with mental illness and could not afford their meds. Some were victims of life long abuse and neglect, some were addicts and just couldn't break their addictions. This made me realize that we all are just a tragedy away from being possibly homeless. I watched as they constantly were blamed for any vandalism in our city. They are always an easy scapegoat. I watched as our church took bathroom privileges away (for no reason) and then threw a fit when they peed and pooped behind bushes. The spirit of helping the poor left my church and so did I. The opening of the new Rescue Mission brought many new faces to our area. I was told by the homeless that they would witness sheriff cars from different counties pulling up at two and three in the morning and dumping people onto the streets. Prisons and mental health hospitals use the mission as their dumping grounds for discharge as well. What our city council needs to remember is that these people are human beings and just as important as they are. It's time we care fully for our brothers and sisters in Christ and stop putting it on hold. Every extension puts human life in danger. I would definitely support and help this endeavor with any resource I can find. PS: I still never understood why this council approved the Belmont liquor store to be built just a block over from the new Rescue Mission.	Thank you for your input.	46818

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	The Mission was approved first. Thank you for taking on this mission.		
319	I have been at both city council meetings regarding this matter. I am in favor of Anchor Resource Center and its proposed location.	Thank you for your input.	46805
320	Anchor Resource Center will be a valuable addition to our community. I think this is amazing.	Thank you for your input.	46805
321	We absolutely need this to help our community. Most of us are only 1 or 2 paychecks away from being homeless.	Thank you for your input.	46835
322	Whether the city of Fort Wayne decides to develop the homeless resource center or not, unhoused people will exist in Fort Wayne. They already do. I see them everyday. I think the questions we should ask ourselves is: Should we help them? Can we effectively help them without the resource center? If no is the answer to the first question, then I am ashamed to be a member of this community. The answer to the second question is no. We do not have a resource center currently and we have not effectively helped the unhoused thus far. The humane decision is to allow the development of the homeless resource center. Unhoused people are people.	Thank you for your input.	46815
323	I support the current proposal location.	Thank you for your input.	46845
324	I believe that this endeavor has the potential to greatly improve our city. The location is centrally located for jobs and transportation. I worked at a shelter a number of years ago and it was well run and benefited the community AND the people we served. I don't want to play "let's try this location" or that location only to delay services that are needed now! Let me know if I can help in any way. Thank you for your time.	Thank you for your input.	46818
325	I fully support the proposed homeless resource center. My main concern is that it will be fully funded now and into the future so that people will be able to continue to have access to the resources they need. The sooner we can move forward with this project, the better!	Thank you for your input.	46805
326	We are in favor of the downtown homeless resource center	Thank you for your input.	46804
327	We are in favor of the downtown homeless resource center, located at 333 E Washington.	Thank you for your input.	46804
328	I do not support the plan for the homeless center downtown. The government is having difficulty addressing lawless type activity as it is whether it is traffic control, racing or shootings. There are also people on	Thank you for your input.	46802

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	the street now that could go to the rescue mission and choose not to. Neighbors have been affected by homelessness and both the mayor and Geoff Paddock have not being able to respond effectively or provide support. I am all about helping others but we are coming up short on the basics and citizens are paying taxes for the basics. I think the entire project has been pushed through and short circuiting the public's reaction and transparency. Everyone frames all the "support" it has and overlooks and diminishes people that have concerns. If it had the support it needed, those tactics would not be necessary. Because I (or others) have concerns, it is not appropriate or appreciated to frame me as uncaring or non-Christian.		
329	The location that was picked out originally was the best location.	Thank you for your input.	46804
330	For some reason, the City of Fort Wayne continues to frame this situation as a win-lose proposition for those impacted by the designated site. The current approach assumes someone must be negatively impacted for this facility to be located, but I disagree. Without a doubt, the vast majority of potential users of such a facility will require strong supervision. Having a police presence immediately adjacent to the site would keep any "bad elements" in line or ensure they are quickly addressed. Those coming to Fort Wayne to utilize the services the city has developed should do so out of true need; a nearby law enforcement presence would force anyone with ill intentions to think twice. While I have noted the stated entrance requirements—specifically that no sexual offenders would be allowed—this raises a critical question: where do these individuals, or any other rejected residents, stay once they are turned away? They will likely remain on the street or seek housing in ways that threaten or impact innocent local residents. Based on the public comments I have heard, I suggest that a facility be built, or an adjacent structure repurposed, next to the newly constructed jail. This would send a clear message that Fort Wayne and Allen County will tolerate nothing less than helping the downtrodden, and that any issues will be addressed immediately by law enforcement. Regarding concerns about residents accessing services at St. Mary's Soup Kitchen, Matthew 25, or other providers, this could be resolved by running a bus	Thank you for your input.	46765

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	several times a day from the remote facility near the jail to the service providers. Since local businesses and schools have expressed support for the homeless shelter concept, creating unnecessary conflict with established neighborhoods is simply not required. I often wonder what the response would be if this structure were proposed for a space on the Landing or adjacent to the Pearl. The answer would likely be "not in my backyard." It is telling that the mission and the jail were both moved initially not due to overcrowding, but for development purposes. We should move this facility to the site of the new jail. Listening to local news reports regarding a similar structure in Lafayette, Indiana, the concerns were remarkably similar to those described by the owner of Hamilton Hunter Builders. She has described the daily reality following the mission's relocation: constantly cleaning up bodily discharges and having to lock everything down to prevent theft. Why is there a failure to recognize law-abiding residents as victims of this proposed plan, especially given the potential for a substantial increase in volume a new structure will likely generate? The residents and taxpayers deserve far better from Mayor Tucker and her staff. Furthermore, the budget and finances for this facility appear extremely sketchy and grossly underestimated. This often happens when the city and influential supporters are determined to establish a program. When the inevitable shortfall is realized, the city and taxpayers become the solution rather than those who misrepresented the finances being held accountable. While the idea of closing the facility in three years sounds good, it is unlikely to happen. A transparent budget and a full revenue/cost analysis must be developed and presented to the public. If a shortfall is likely, voters should have full knowledge of the situation to hold elected officials accountable. Any facility and operational proposal accepted for implementation should include an automatic termination clause if costs are not covered per the plan after three years. The residents of Fort Wayne would be wise to implement such a policy across		

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	many programs. The homeless issue in Fort Wayne must be addressed, but safety and financial accountability must be requirements, not options.		
331	Seems to me to be an excellent location.	Thank you for your input.	46835
332	My concern is on how this center will operate. I am told that the police are not allowed on the property as its called a judge free zone. What happens when one person attacks another person and there is no one there to stop it or tell them person who started it to leave. Second concern is the location; we have invested a lot to tax dollars to make the area better and now you want to open a homeless shelter with no limits or restriction to those who are homeless and many may have mental health issues. We already have many other organizations in the area, Rescue Mission and Inasmuch ministries who both have a excellent record of getting people off the street, recover and start a new life	Thank you for sharing your concerns. Regarding safety and law enforcement: The Anchor Resource Center is not intended to be a "judge-free zone," and law enforcement will not be prohibited from responding to the property. The Resource Center will have trained security personnel on-site 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, along with security cameras monitoring both the interior and exterior of the building. Staff will be trained in de-escalation, trauma-informed care, CPR, First Aid, and naloxone administration. Guests will also be expected to follow a Guest Code of Conduct, with clear expectations and consequences for behavior. If criminal activity or an emergency occurs, Fort Wayne Police officers will respond just as they would anywhere else in the community. Regarding the location and existing organizations: Fort Wayne is fortunate to have organizations such as the Rescue Mission, In As Much Ministries, and many other community partners serving individuals experiencing homelessness. The Anchor is designed to strengthen, not replace or duplicate, their work. Unlike existing providers, the Anchor will operate 24 hours a day, 7 days a week as a centralized access point where individuals can access basic needs, complete a Coordinated Entry assessment, work with a Housing Navigator to develop a Housing Action Plan, and be connected to the shelter, housing, healthcare, treatment, employment, or other services that best meet their individual needs. The Anchor's purpose is not to make homelessness more comfortable; it is to make homelessness shorter. By coordinating services, improving access to housing, and working alongside existing providers, the Resource Center is designed to help more individuals move from	46804

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		homelessness to stable housing while maintaining a safe, well-managed environment and being a responsible neighbor.	
333	I do NOT support this location.	Thank you for your input.	46808
334	I work downtown and support the proposed location of the resource center.	Thank you for your input.	46835
335	Questions I Have Asked That Still Need Clear Answers! Over the past several weeks, I have attended public meetings, spoken with City officials, met with members of City Council, reviewed available information, and listened carefully to those both supporting and opposing the proposed low barrier homeless shelter. I appreciate everyone who has taken the time to engage in this important conversation. However, despite those conversations, I still have a number of questions that have not been answered clearly or completely. These are not rhetorical questions. They are questions I believe deserve straightforward, public answers before a final decision is made. Public Safety Has an independent public safety assessment been completed for this location? What objective data demonstrates this site is the safest available option? What additional police resources will be dedicated to this area? Who will pay for those ongoing public safety costs? What security measures will be in place twenty four hours a day? How will incidents be tracked and reported to the public? Protection of Children Why was this location selected despite its proximity to schools, childcare programs, and youth activities? Has a child safety impact assessment been completed? What additional protections will be in place during school arrival, dismissal, recess, athletic events, and evening activities? If additional security becomes necessary, who will pay for it?	The City and Anchor Board recognize the importance of transparency, accountability, public safety, and neighborhood impact. Many of the questions raised are addressed throughout the published responses to submitted questions, as well as the Anchor's draft operations plan, security plan, site evaluation process, and ongoing planning. These materials are being provided to City Council for review, and additional operating procedures will be finalized by the Anchor Board prior to opening. The City and Anchor Board are committed to balancing compassionate services for individuals experiencing homelessness with being a responsible neighbor to residents, businesses, schools, and community organizations.	46845

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	Shelter Operations Who will operate the shelter? What experience does that organization have operating a twenty four hour low barrier facility? What behavioral expectations will residents be required to follow? Under what circumstances can someone be removed from the shelter? How will individuals experiencing addiction, intoxication, or severe mental illness be served safely? Site Selection What alternative locations were considered? Why were those locations rejected? Was an objective site selection process used? Will the City release the complete site evaluation for public review? Neighborhood Impact What measurable impact is expected on nearby schools, churches, businesses, and residents? How will those impacts be monitored? If problems arise, what specific corrective actions will be taken? Will there be an ongoing neighborhood advisory committee with meaningful input? Transparency Why was the community not engaged before this location was announced? Will all planning documents, consultant reports, and supporting analyses be released? What meetings occurred before the location was selected? Who participated in those discussions? Financial Responsibility What is the projected taxpayer cost over the next five, ten, and twenty years? What happens if operating costs exceed current projections? Who assumes responsibility if private funding declines?		

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	What are the long term maintenance costs? Measuring Success What specific benchmarks will determine whether this project is successful? How many individuals are expected to transition into permanent housing each year? How frequently will performance data be shared with the public? What happens if the stated goals are not achieved? Legal Considerations Has the City completed a comprehensive legal review regarding neighboring schools, childcare providers, churches, and businesses? What potential liability exists if safety concerns increase? Have all applicable state laws been fully evaluated? Long Term Planning Is this intended to be a permanent location? Does the City anticipate additional homeless services being concentrated in this area? How does this proposal fit into the long term vision for downtown Fort Wayne? These questions are offered respectfully and in good faith. They are not intended to delay solutions or discourage compassion for those experiencing homelessness. Rather, they reflect a desire for transparency, accountability, and thoughtful planning. Helping our most vulnerable neighbors and protecting our schools, churches, businesses, and neighborhoods are not competing goals. Our community should be able to accomplish both. Before moving forward, I simply believe these questions deserve clear, complete, and public answers.		
336	A Question About the Changing Narrative One concern I continue to have is the changing description of this project.	Phase 1 will function as a Resource Center that includes respite cots intended for short-term use. If Phase 2 moves forward, it would add emergency shelter beds. Because ARC will operate 24/7, answering how many people will be 'staying overnight' isn't straightforward — the	46845

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	When it was first introduced, it was described as a low barrier homeless shelter. More recently, it has often been referred to as a resource center. While those two terms are related, they are not necessarily understood by the public to mean the same thing. The descriptions of the facility itself have also seemed to change. At various times we have heard references to beds, then cots. We have heard assurances that taxpayers will not be responsible for the project, yet questions remain about future operating costs, public safety expenses, maintenance, and what happens if private funding falls short. Perhaps there are reasonable explanations for these changes. If so, they should be explained clearly and publicly. I believe residents deserve consistent answers to questions such as: What exactly is this facility? Is it primarily a shelter, a resource center, or both? How many people will stay overnight? What services will be provided? What has changed since the project was first announced? Why have those changes occurred? What financial obligations, if any, could eventually fall to taxpayers if private funding or operating revenue is insufficient? When the description of a project changes over time, it naturally creates uncertainty. That uncertainty can erode public trust, even among people who support helping those experiencing homelessness.	model allows individuals to come and go throughout the day rather than follow the traditional shelter schedule where guests check in at night and leave in the morning. ARC will provide a broad range of services on-site, including: • Showers • Laundry • Restrooms • Housing navigation • Case management • Employment skills and placement support The Anchor governing board is still finalizing many details including agreements with partner agencies to determine which services will be delivered on-site. Any changes should be understood as continued work on refining partners, policies, and procedures. Until we have approval and the final location it is impossible to solidify a lot of these details. Funding for ARC will follow the same approach used by other nonprofits and shelters: federal and state grants, private donations, and philanthropic support.	

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	Clear, consistent communication builds confidence. If the plan has evolved, the public deserves a straightforward explanation of what has changed, why it has changed, and what the final proposal actually is.		
337	Before We Build Another Shelter, We Should Ask a Different Question. The conversation in Fort Wayne has centered on whether we need a low barrier homeless shelter. I believe we should first ask a different question. Is a low barrier shelter the solution that best helps people escape homelessness? That is not the same question. Everyone agrees that homelessness is a real problem. Everyone agrees that we should care for our neighbors in need. But agreeing that there is a problem does not mean every proposed solution is the right one. A low barrier shelter addresses the immediate need for emergency shelter. It does not, by itself, solve homelessness. If our goal is to help people move toward stable housing, employment, recovery, and independence, then we should ask whether investing millions of dollars into another shelter is the best use of our resources. Could those funds be better invested in addiction treatment? Mental health services? Permanent supportive housing? Job training? Transitional housing? Family reunification? Homelessness is a complex issue that rarely has a single cause. Lasting solutions must address the reasons people become homeless, not simply provide another place to stay. Before making a permanent investment, the City should clearly explain why this model was chosen over other approaches. Residents deserve to	The City and Anchor Board recognize that emergency shelter alone does not solve homelessness. The purpose of the Anchor is not simply to provide a place to stay, but to create a coordinated access point where individuals can connect to housing navigation, healthcare, behavioral health services, substance use treatment, employment resources, and other supports needed to move toward stability. The Anchor model was selected because the community identified a gap in the current continuum of care: a 24/7 access point where individuals experiencing homelessness can meet basic needs, complete coordinated entry, and connect to the appropriate services and housing pathways. The model is also informed by national best practices that emphasize coordinated access, low-barrier engagement, and connecting people to the right resources based on their individual needs. The Anchor is one component of a broader community response system that includes shelter, treatment, housing programs, and supportive services. Success will be measured by the ability to connect individuals with appropriate resources and increase pathways to permanent housing. Additional operational details and performance measures will be finalized by the Anchor Board prior to opening.	46845

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	know what alternatives were considered, what evidence supports this decision, and how success will be measured. Good intentions alone are not enough. Every public project should answer a simple question. How will this make the problem better five years from now? If the answer is simply that more people will have access to emergency shelter, then we have expanded capacity without necessarily reducing homelessness. Fort Wayne is capable of developing solutions that are both compassionate and effective. We should demand a plan that does more than manage homelessness. We should insist on a strategy that helps people leave homelessness behind. That is why I cannot support the proposed low barrier shelter as it currently stands. Not because I oppose helping people. Because I believe we owe them, and our community, a solution that addresses the root causes of homelessness rather than simply expanding our ability to respond to its symptoms.		
338	Is Fort Wayne Repeating a Failed Approach? As our community continues discussing the proposed low barrier homeless shelter, I believe an important question has received far too little attention. Are we adopting a model that other communities, and even the federal government, have begun moving away from? For years, many cities embraced what became known as the Housing First approach. The basic idea was simple. Reduce barriers to shelter and	The Anchor model was selected because the community identified a gap in the current continuum of care: a 24/7 access point where individuals experiencing homelessness can meet basic needs, complete coordinated entry, and connect to the appropriate resources and housing pathways. The model is informed by national best practices that emphasize connecting individuals to services based on their individual needs, including housing, healthcare, behavioral health services, substance use treatment, employment, and other supports.	46845

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	housing, then offer supportive services after people were housed. The intentions were good. Yet many communities that adopted this approach continue to struggle with rising homelessness, addiction, untreated mental illness, and growing demands on emergency services. While some individuals undoubtedly benefited, many cities are still searching for more effective solutions. More recently, the federal government has signaled a shift in direction. Rather than relying primarily on housing without significant preconditions, policymakers have placed renewed emphasis on treatment for addiction, mental health services, accountability, recovery, employment, and long term stability. That raises an important question for Fort Wayne. How is the proposed low barrier shelter different from the approach that many policymakers now believe needs significant reform? If this proposal is built upon many of the same principles, why should we expect different results? If it is different, then the City should clearly explain those differences. Residents deserve straightforward answers. How will this shelter reduce homelessness rather than simply relocate it? How will individuals be moved toward recovery and permanent independence? What measurable outcomes will define success?	The Anchor is not intended to be a stand-alone solution to homelessness or a replacement for treatment, housing development, or other community services. Its purpose is to improve coordination, reduce barriers to accessing resources, and help individuals move toward housing stability. Success will be measured through outcomes such as connections to housing, service engagement, and progress toward stability. Specific performance measures will be finalized by the Anchor Board prior to opening.	

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	What accountability exists if those outcomes are not achieved? These questions are not rooted in a lack of compassion. They come from a desire to pursue solutions that actually work. Every dollar invested should move people closer to permanent housing, recovery, employment, and restored lives. Every public project should be judged not by its intentions, but by its results. Fort Wayne has an opportunity to learn from the successes and failures of other communities. Rather than repeating approaches with mixed outcomes, we should carefully examine the evidence, ask difficult questions, and ensure that whatever we build truly addresses the root causes of homelessness. Our neighbors experiencing homelessness deserve more than another shelter. They deserve solutions that restore lives. Our community deserves confidence that the path we choose will accomplish exactly that.		
339	A Question About Results? For years, Fort Wayne has invested significant time, money, and personnel into addressing homelessness. The City has dedicated funding, partnered with numerous nonprofit organizations, and even created a full time position to coordinate homeless initiatives. Yet homelessness appears to continue growing. As a taxpayer, I believe it is reasonable to ask why. What measurable progress has been made over the past five years?	The Anchor is part of a broader community response system and is intended to fill an identified gap in that system by providing a 24/7 access point for basic needs, coordinated entry, housing navigation, and connections to services. It is not intended to replace existing programs or operate as a stand-alone solution to homelessness. The City does not operate social service agencies directly and will not operate the anchor; homeless services are provided through a network of nonprofit and community partners. However, organizations receiving City funding report outcomes for the specific programs supported. The Anchor will establish its own performance measures and reporting processes to track its impact within the broader homelessness response system.	46845

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	How many people have permanently exited homelessness? What benchmarks were established for success? Have those benchmarks been met? If not, why not? Before asking taxpayers and donors to support another major initiative, shouldn't the City first provide a clear accounting of the results from its existing efforts? Good government requires more than good intentions. It requires measurable outcomes and public accountability. If the current system is working, the City should present the data demonstrating that success. If it is not working as intended, then we should have an honest conversation about why and whether a different approach is needed. Creating another program without first evaluating the effectiveness of current programs risks repeating the same mistakes while expecting different results. Our community wants to help those experiencing homelessness. That commitment has never been in question. The question is whether our current strategy is producing the outcomes we were promised. Before expanding that strategy, the public deserves a transparent report on what has worked, what has not, and why this new proposal will achieve better results than the efforts already underway. That is not just opposition. That is responsible stewardship.	The Anchor will establish measurable outcomes focused on connecting individuals to appropriate resources, increasing engagement with services, and helping individuals move toward housing stability. Performance measures will include services provided, coordinated entry assessments completed, housing plans developed, referrals made, and connections to shelter, treatment, and permanent housing. The Anchor Board will finalize reporting requirements and performance measures prior to opening.	
340	I support this resource center at the proposed location.	Thank you for your input.	46825

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341	I believe this is the most reasonable location, right near the Rescue Mission, St. Mary's Soup Kitchen, Matthew 25, etc. where our homeless are already being cared for. This resource center will offer more assistance. I was proud to know the Methodist Church directly behind and on the same block was supportive, and am sorry to know the Lutherans are questioning this, because numerous times in the Bible we are called to welcome the immigrant, feed the hungry, etc. As a Christian, I believe another layer of help is a good thing and I support this project in the proposed location. If strict rules are set forth from the outset, I doubt the surrounding neighbors will have trouble.	Thank you for your input.	46815
342	I Please DO NOT concentrate services - to downtown nor any other part of the City. I currently live in Bloomington, IN and have seen firsthand what a concentration of services/amenities does. I won't go into detail. Suffice to say, it is a mess. The unhoused problem (in my experience) doesn't get better - only worse. The more services provided, the worse it becomes. Does Ft. Wayne want to be responsible for unhoused people from Branch Co., MI or Lima, OH? A better model might be to have houses throughout all zip codes of Fort Wayne that offer temporary housing/services. Again, concentrating services is a mistake. Because, well, concentration... As an aside, Bloomington tried the "housing first" model. It was a total failure. The apartments that were built are basically uninhabitable due to occupants behavior.	Thank you for your input.	47401
343	Dear City Representatives, Although I believe the decision for the location of the new homeless shelter is 'a done deal', and the comment suggestion on this web site and the community mtgs. discussions that have been held are only a ruse to placate those persons who vehemently oppose this location. I will participate and share my input...as I served and believe in the duty of every citizen to participate and share insights regarding our government.	Thank you for your input.	46808

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	The 'study' in which Mayor Tucker's administration alluded to on the news, PRIOR to any real neighborhood and business input, was the tell. This decision has been made for the location. As a person with 2 Masters, one from I.U., S.P.E.A., and one who possess no skin in the game affiliated with a local business adjacent to the new homeless shelter location, this location is sheer lunacy. Building a shelter and opening it up to unvetted persons, with no screening for drugs, dangerous mental illness history or violent previous offenses is a recipe for absolute disaster. Tax payers for the most part, have enthusiastically contributed to the enhancement of down town; new business owners have worked hard investing their entire savings to build down town; and we have children who attend school less than 600' away from this location. As I wrote, I do believe this is a done deal, but it is with my education and experience that I share, the city WILL regret this decision. We will be reading about the exodus of a few businesses and the injury to our students within a year of this happening. As a former: Captain from the 10th Mountain Division, a manufacturing factory manager, educator, and voter in every primary and election, SHAME on you. The next administration, regardless of party affiliation, will be dealing with this mess. Please do not waste your time with a reply; this 'battle' is over, and the war for insightful and safe solutions to ameliorate root causes of our challenging homeless situation will continue.		
344	I don't understand the need to group the homeless. I think it will produce more problems. However, I can't think of a good solution for this.	Thank you for your input.	46807
345	I work about one block away from the proposed location and I fully support this recourse center. It is desperately needed. It is the right thing	Thank you for your input.	46805

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	to do as a community and the community will improve as people receive the resources needed.		
346	I am against having another homeless shelter. Especially a low barrier shelter. It will only attract more of the criminal element. The city of Fort Wayne already provides all of the resources needed and we don't need another facility. This homeless facility won't add anymore services than we already have. Especially a low barrier one. Low barrier is not good. It will depress the city and the local businesses. This will only attract more of the criminal element and promote people dropping off their homeless in Fort Wayne. It is also a money maker for those who deal with the homeless. They don't ever fix the problem because they don't want the government money stopping. San Francisco is an example of this. Most of these people choose to be homeless or have some type of mental illness that is not going to be fixed with another shelter. We must vote against this low barrier shelter!!!	Thank you for your input.	46815
347	How about the building at 1116 US-27 aka S Clinton, it is Two stories, next to the Farmers Market parking lot by a church, and it is NOT by a Liquor Store or Gas station where homeless people tend to congregate but by a Subway, the walk would be from South 27 to North 27 in like a / way, even had a vacant lot next to it!~	We did review the building at 1116 US-27, but unfortunately it does not meet the layout requirements needed for the ARC. The facility must have a large, open floor plan that supports line-of-sight throughout the space to ensure safety and effective operations, and this building's structure doesn't allow for that.	46774
348	I am in favor of the proposed homeless resource center. I find the arguments about increased homeless people hanging around downtown as fearmongering. The homeless are already there! This plan is to give them a chance to get off the streets. If they have a place to take shelter, you will not see so many on the streets.	Thank you for your input.	46804
349	We asked the city to "fix" the homeless problem in downtown and the experts, after researching best practices from other cities, have determined that a resource center is our next best step. Having spent lots of time with this very charged issue, I know this center won't fix the problem; there will be much more work to come. Additionally, I respect and appreciate the concerns of those in its immediate vicinity. In the end,	Thank you for your input.	46802

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	I do believe the center will have a positive impact for the homeless and for our downtown. I support the resource center and in the location city leaders have chosen.		
350	This is not a good idea. Keeping a bunch of homeless people right across the street from a Belmont Beverage liquor store. Why are we keeping them within a 5 minute walk to all of the main downtown parks and attractions? Don't we want families to feel safe bringing their families downtown? I work downtown every day. I just got back from Washington DC and was appalled that I encountered less homeless in downtown DC than I do here.	The reality is that the unhoused population is already present throughout downtown, including near parks, attractions, and businesses. Placing the ARC here is not about concentrating people in this area — it's about addressing the challenges that already exist. The proposed location allows us to bring individuals indoors, offer services, and reduce loitering in high-traffic areas like parks, sidewalks, and storefronts. In other words, the ARC is intended to improve the downtown experience by providing structure, supervision, and support rather than leaving people unsheltered with nowhere to go. We absolutely want families to feel safe enjoying downtown, and this approach is aimed at making that possible. We appreciate you taking the time to express your concerns and remain committed to improving the environment for everyone who lives, works, and visits here.	46819
351	I would like to voice my support for this resource center. People need help. I see it every time I come through the downtown area. A resource center in the proposed space is perfectly acceptable to those that need it.	Thank you for your input.	46804
352	Dear Ladies, Have you considered that this kind of facility will increase the homeless problem in our community by making Fort Wayne the place to go to from other communities? How do you propose to make this a community resource (along with the numerous resources for Ft. Wayne homeless families already in existence) for homeless Ft. Wayne families without incurring many more homeless people from other areas outside of Fort Wayne? The primary reason for homelessness is mental illness and addictions to drugs and alcohol as well as Dual Diagnosis. A major problem that goes along with that is resistance to treatment and the treatment needed is more longterm than 72 hour holds. Obviously, criminal behaviors are prevalent with this subculture. How do you propose this project to be humanitarian to the existing population of our	Earlier this year, the Mayor's Office introduced an ordinance — unanimously approved by City Council in late March — that makes it illegal to intentionally transport unhoused individuals into Fort Wayne from other cities. Since then, we have issued several cease-and-desist letters and two citations. This helps ensure that our resources are focused on Fort Wayne residents, not individuals being brought here from elsewhere. You are correct that mental health challenges and substance use disorders are significant factors in homelessness, and we absolutely agree they require long-term, coordinated support. However, the primary drivers of homelessness — in Fort Wayne and nationally — are	46804

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	Ft. Wayne families? We have some wonderful resources for our homeless families and individuals such as St. Vincent Village for one. I have concerns we will increase the problem of homelessness and all the criminal behaviors that go with it by attracting more homeless to Ft. Wayne. Thank you for providing this platform for input and our concerns. I very much appreciate it. Sincerely, [NAME DELETED]	high housing costs and wages that have not kept pace with those costs. When people cannot afford stable housing, even small setbacks can lead to crisis. Mental health challenges, substance use disorders, and dual diagnoses are contributors to homelessness. Treatment can be complex, and long-term stabilization is often needed. That is exactly why the Anchor Resource Center (ARC) is being designed as a coordinated, supportive environment that connects people to the services they need — including case management, housing navigation, showers, laundry, employment services, and respite space — all under one roof. The goal is to reduce unsheltered activity and improve outcomes for individuals and for families who live, work, and spend time downtown. It's important to note that the unhoused population is already here, throughout our downtown, near parks, schools, businesses, and visitor areas. ARC is intended to improve the current situation by providing a structured, supervised place for people to go instead of remaining in public spaces without support. Fort Wayne does have strong resources like The Rescue Mission, YWCA, Just Neighbors, Josephine's Place and Vincent Village and we value every one of them. However, there are still gaps in our existing system. ARC is designed to fill a gap that those existing services cannot.	
353	I am wholly in favor of the proposed low-barrier homeless shelter at 333 E. Washington Boulevard. As this location is already close to the resources of existing medical and social service organizations already providing outreach to the homeless, it only makes sense. The facility is much needed, and will be in an excellent location to expand upon the already good work that Fort Wayne's downtown business and social service communities have long been doing to help those in need. It	Thank you for your input.	46815

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	also does so in a way that preserves and supports a robust, family-friendly business environment. To say that Fort Wayne is unique in that regard is putting it mildly, and I am proud of my community for its great success. Recalling that “The City That Saved Itself” is rare among other communities its size, Fort Wayne has much to be grateful for, including such programs as Matthew:25 Ministries; the Rescue Mission; Super Shot; Downtown Lutheran; the Allen County Public Library; Parkview Randallia; Catholic Charities; Lutheran Social Services of Indiana; Associated Churches of Allen County; and more. All combine to solve issues that continue to plague other communities. If there is a call to action that benefits our friends and neighbors, we rise. That is what we do. Good and engaged citizenship matters here. At the very core of Fort Wayne's strength are the values of neighborliness, community, and friendship, which combined to help earn Fort Wayne its most recent All-America City honor in 1993. As with a measles outbreak in 1991 and Super Shot; infant and maternal mortality and Matthew:25 Ministries; and the Great Flood and Headwaters Park; this is a moment that tests Fort Wayne's resilience and resolve. With our shelters full, we can either run away from the challenge or meet it head on, as Mayor Tucker rightly proposes. I stand firmly with Mayor Tucker, just as I would with anyone who would propose to do the right thing in a difficult situation. Additionally, in reference to those from Lafayette who commented about the low-barrier shelter there: please note that as a native and frequent visitor to that wonderful town, I have seen first-hand the many good works that its low-barrier shelter provides. There is much goodness in the solutions offered. That some in our faith community are turning away those who are hurting instead of turning toward them in boundless love brings shame to my		

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	Christian faith and goes against core of Christ's healing ministry; it also goes against all that I hold dear for my beloved adopted community. Many thanks for the gift of your time.		
354	• Homeless Shelter Location: Requesting the city of Fort Wayne to place a homeless shelter on the left side of Grant Avenue. • Reason for Request: To teach young men responsibility and the importance of investing in their own future. • Financial Responsibility: Emphasizing the need for individuals to be financially responsible and not rely on the government to clean up their messes. • Shelter Location Request: Requesting a shelter to be placed on Grant Avenue, providing fathers with support and resources for parenting. • Fatherhood Support Program: Proposal for a one-year program to help fathers become active and productive members of the community by providing parenting classes and support. • Business Investment: Statement about investing in a personal business (Green Qween KANHA LLC) and not using personal property for any other purposes. **Homeless Shelter Location Request** The City of Fort Wayne is hereby requested to establish a homeless shelter on the left side of Grant Avenue. **Reason for Request:** The establishment of this shelter is intended to impart responsibility and the significance of investing in one's future to young men. **Financial Responsibility:** The request emphasizes the importance of financial responsibility and discourages reliance on government assistance for personal matters. **Shelter Location Request:** The city is requested to locate the shelter on Grant Avenue, providing fathers with the necessary support and resources to effectively parent their children.	Thank you for your input.	46804

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	Fatherhood Support Program: A one-year program is proposed to assist fathers in becoming active and productive community members. This program will offer parenting classes and support services. **Business Investment:** The request includes a statement regarding the investment in a personal business, Green Qween KANHA LLC, and the commitment to utilizing personal property solely for the purposes of the business.		
355	A majority, if not all of the available resources for people experiencing homelessness are downtown. It only makes sense to put the resource center near the additional resources that are available as most people experiencing homelessness don't have a car or money for gas if they do have one.	Thank you for your input.	46808
356	Could you clarify low barrier? I know that the church is worried about sex offenders, Wood individuals who have been charged with sexual assault or child sexual abuse be allowed to stay in the low barrier shelter?	Low barrier simply means removing unnecessary obstacles that prevent people from accessing services. It does not mean there are no rules, no supervision, or no expectations. The Anchor Resource Center will operate with a Guest Code of Conduct, 24/7 staffing, on-site security, security cameras, controlled access, and appropriate consequences for rule violations. Individuals seeking housing-focused services will complete a Coordinated Entry assessment and work with a Housing Navigator to develop a Housing Action Plan. Staff will work to connect each person with the services that best meet their needs while maintaining a safe environment for everyone. Regarding sex offenders, Indiana law prohibits individuals convicted of certain sex offenses from residing within 1,000 feet of a school. The proposed location at 333 E. Washington Boulevard is within that restricted area, and those laws remain in effect regardless of the Resource Center. The Anchor will also work closely with law enforcement and follow all applicable state and local laws in its operations.	46815

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		The Anchor's purpose is to provide a safe, well-managed environment that helps individuals move toward stable housing while also being a responsible and accountable neighbor.	
357	I am 100% for having a resource center for the homeless in building and area already chosen. With help many on these individuals will be able to start building a better life for themselves. Left as it is their is really no hope for many.	Thank you for your input.	46805
358	I think the low barrier shelter is a great idea & the proposed location is perfect. I think we should give it a try. There are many homeless people congregating on Clay St & in the alley behind Oak St Health. This should help alleviate the problem with trash & loitering.	Thank you for your input.	46805
359	With eleven years being part of a ministry that served the homeless in Fort Wayne every week, one thing my wife and I can say, with certainty, is that we know the homeless... personally... and over a long period of time. With certainty, we can say that the vast majority of the homeless are people who do not want to be where they're at in their life. Most have been unwanted. And unwanted for years and decades. They are desperate. And most despise the few (and they are few) who, for some reason, wish to remain perpetually drunk, addicted, or disruptive. Having been to a number of city council meetings where this center has been discussed, the concerns for its existence and/or location have been framed in fear. Not statistical fear. Not demonstrable fear. But fear framed by bundling this group into one big monolith of dangerous people who pose an imminent threat to children, businesses, and the overall well being of downtown. Experientially speaking from eleven years of serving them faithfully, this fear is a falsehood, but a fear that gets more press and media coverage than does the need itself.	Thank you for your input.	46805
360	This location sounds like a good fit as near all the other services like the rescue mission that keeps all the services in one area and makes it easier for navigating. Unfortunately , the fear based negativity is basically the " not in my backyard" mentality. These are folks that need help due to life dealing them a hard blow. It could be any one of us in a heartbeat. Count your blessings and focus on what truly matters , helping our brothers and sisters, and not the real estate values or other superficial reasons you might have . Rather they be there than sleeping on the streets which no one wants to see.	Thank you for your input.	46805

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361	I fully support the proposed downtown location for the Anchor Resource Center suggested by Mayor Tucker and others. Unhoused individuals will remain Downtown because of all of the other resources there that they need to survive such as Soup Kitchen, Ave Maria House, Rescue Mission, Matthew 25 and Wayne Township Trustees Office.	Thank you for your input.	46815
362	I am not in favor of the chosen site for the new downtown homeless shelter. Proximity to businesses and school. I am not in favor for the city to purchase the building. I think the rehab. of the jail (which will be replaced by the new jail) would be an excellect location for a homeless shelter and be less expensive to convert/rehab.	We understand why the old jail might seem like a possible option, but the jail building is owned by the County, and the City does not have authority over how that property is used. We also believe the proposed location on the edge of downtown is the most appropriate fit. It keeps the Anchor Resource Center close to essential downtown services while avoiding placement in the heart of the festival and tourism area, which would not be an ideal environment for clients or the community.	46804
363	My wife, Cynthia, and I strongly support the proposed homeless center and urge the City Council to approve the requested downtown location and the requested funding. The location is as close to perfect as possible with its proximity to the Rescue Mission, St. Mary's, Matthew 25, etc. In addition to the soup kitchen at St. Mary's, many residents who are, have been, or are at risk of being homeless are clients of the VITA free income tax assistance program there at which I have volunteered for the past 8 years. Those who have expressed opposition or who have tried to stall this process have not proposed any other site that would be comparable to this site or any sound reasons why this project should not go forward. The Homeless Services Manager and other members of Tucker administration have done a commendable job in thoroughly investigating and planning all aspects of this very important project.	Thank you for your input.	46804
364	I think the location on Washington Street is appropriate for the Anchor Resource Center. If the resources in the proposal are available to the clients with needs and the center is monitored and secure, it will be a win/win for our community. It will not fix all the problems with those that are unhoused, but no program or location can do that. And the Center will need to constantly evaluate what is and is not working and make adjustments. As a resident of Fort Wayne or is often in the area of the proposed center, I say "yes, do it"	Thank you for your input.	46804

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365	What is the annual budget for the Shelter and how much money has been committed? Has the City contacted any private contractors to run the Shelter as opposed to a non-for-profit? If not, why not? If yes, what was their response?	The current estimated annual operating budget for the Anchor Resource Center is approximately \$1.2 million, which includes staffing, security, facility operations, supplies, and other operating expenses. To date, approximately \$3.1 million has been committed toward operations, providing funding for nearly the first three years of operation. The Anchor Resource Center is being established as an independent nonprofit organization governed by a local Board of Directors. This model was selected because it allows the organization to build strong partnerships with healthcare providers, shelters, nonprofit organizations, businesses, faith communities, and philanthropic partners while remaining focused on its mission of serving individuals experiencing homelessness. It also allows the organization to pursue grants, charitable contributions, and other funding sources that are generally not available to private, for-profit operators. The City has worked closely with community partners to develop a governance model that provides local oversight, accountability, and long-term sustainability for the Resource Center.	46802
366	I would like to comment on the proposed homeless center. I have seen concerns that the center may negatively impact nearby businesses. However, I would like to offer an alternative perspective. Providing individuals experiencing homelessness with temporary housing, access to hygiene services, support programs, and employment opportunities can help them regain stability and become active participants in the local economy. Rather than disrupting nearby businesses, this investment has the potential to increase the number of customers and workers within the community. Individuals who previously lacked the financial means to contribute economically may now have the opportunity to do so. My primary concern regarding the proposed homeless center is the quality and consistency of the services that will be provided. As has been observed with some behavioral and social service programs in Fort	Thank you for your input.	46804

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	Wayne, low wages, inadequate staffing standards, and insufficient training requirements can negatively impact the quality of care. If employees are not compensated fairly or are not provided with adequate training and support, the effectiveness of the program may suffer. This could result in individuals not receiving the assistance they need to achieve long-term stability, ultimately leading to a cycle in which they return to homelessness. For this reason, I support the proposed homeless center, provided that sufficient attention is given to staff compensation, training standards, and program quality to ensure that it effectively serves those who need it most.		
367	I am completely against a homeless facility of this nature. Any homeless center, regardless of who funds it, should not be allowed if it is not coupled with requirements that get people actually out of homelessness rather than just putting a roof over peoples heads while allowing them to engage in the same socially detrimental behaviors that keep them homeless regardless of their opportunity to find housing. Letting people essentially have near total autonomy of behavior under the guise of “ease of access” is naively optimistic of a homeless center of this nature’s ability to actually life people out of squalor and vagrancy. It also provides no protections and guide rails to protect more vulnerable populations. If a homeless center must be created, it should not be centralized for “ease of access” to resources. It should be placed somewhere that allows for more secure monitoring of the homeless for both their safety and that of those around them. I have heard suggestions of near the jail. Perhaps renovations of the old International building could allow for centralized facilities that would allow monitoring and supervision. Even better, two smaller facilities, one that is for vulnerable populations	Thank you for your input.	46815

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	like women with their children and one for the rest with differing levels of supervision required depending on their history with law enforcement. Homeless with drug issues should be dealt with firmly through drug court to get them out of the cycle of addiction and public detriment. I think another significant issue would be to take care of Ft Wayne homeless first, rather than taking on the burden of other city's homeless that their generated with their poor policies. If the homeless didnt live in Fort Wayne prior to being homeless, buss them back where they came from and the. Use resources to take care of the homeless actually from here. The people of Fort Wayne are our brothers and sisters, not anyone that wanders into our city from anywhere in the entire world. A low barrier shelter should be a hard red line they cannot agreed to. Compromise should not be considered on this point. Any plan that includes one should be trash canned.		
368	This is a well thought out plan. I want this to be up and running as soon as possible. Thank you for caring and taking the initiative.	Thank you for your input.	46825
369	People who are homeless due to drug use should be required to attend drug court and get clean. It is inhumane to them and law-abiding citizens to allow such criminals to rotate between vagrancy and jail time. We require our government to enforce expectations of personal responsibility, not dependence. We want our city to use homeless shelter models that a) rely on private charity, not public tax dollars and b) imitate models that have a proven record of multi-year success, defined as their clients becoming self-sustaining long-term. We want law enforcement prioritized over handouts. People who are chronically homeless deserve sympathy, but so do the people whom vagrants endanger with drug use, property destruction, public intoxication, and forced public expenditure on policing and health services. Our laws and funding should prioritize law-abiding citizens and	Thank you for your input.	46807

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	vulnerable innocents such as children , not the people who choose to break the law and disturb public peace. No more homeless centers in the downtown area, in compliance with state law forbidding such centers near schools, youth centers, and parks. As we've already seen with the Rescue Mission, homeless services attract vagrancy and crime, and therefore should be located where they are least likely to affect law-abiding citizens. A good location would be near the new jail site. A low-barrier shelter is a complete nonstarter and should never be allowed here. NO city funds for California-model homeless services corruption. All these do is make the problem worse! We want the opposite! Our local officials should be working with the legislature about a statewide response to our homeless problem that includes busing homeless transients back to Chicago and other failed cities, revitalizing long-term mental health facilities in countryside settings away from children, more law enforcement, and transferring public funds from programs that enable homelessness to programs that end it.		
370	Hello! Thank you so much for being open to public input, for your compassion on those experiencing homelessness in our community, your goal to prevent and end homelessness, and for the research that has been done. I'm so thankful Ft. Wayne has people actively workin and speaking for those in need. Being united with you in desiring to truly help those experiencing homelessness, and with a goal to prevent and end homelessness long-term, I believe a shelter that is low-barrier and that is at the 333 E. Washington Blvd location has great risk of worsening the issue and harming the surrounding community. -Not low-barrier: While it's commendable to want to help everyone,	Thank you for your input.	46804

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	there's a huge risk this will end up worsening the problem. Low-barrier relies on self-reporting, which there is absolutely no way to confirm will happen. Those on drugs need to be required and enforced to be in rehab programs, especially before being connected to more permanent housing or resources that will simply entrench them in further drug use. Enforcement in this situation is kindness. Without enforcement, there's no motivation for themselves to get clean, but rather more opportunity to overdose, and they continue to be a danger to themselves and others. Encouraging and enabling self-harm is never kindness. Any shelter should focus on a select community, like women and children (which the promo video highlights as one of the main vulnerable homeless communities in this area in need), and protecting them from others that are violent, addicted, or sex offenders, not gathering them all at one location, which is simply putting the vulnerable at risk and encouraging repeat offenses. Separate shelters with accountability, not throwing everyone together with low-barrier, would be safer to all and more helpful. If you say there will be 'high accountability' and situations will be 'immediately addressed', it would increase public trust for there to be publicized detailed plans and policies in writing for how exactly that will be achieved and enforced before any large scale building projects are set out on. - Not the 333 E. Washington Blvd. location: Existing businesses like the YMCA, the farmer's market, a school, the Grand Marquis - these were all there first. We need to protect and care for the elderly residents, young children, and other vulnerable community members who make use of these businesses and will be put in harms way if we do not make their voice heard. Any proposed shelter needs to be placed in a location further away, so as not to draw in further harm (a real risk with low-barrier). When asked if this location will attract more people experiencing homelessness to downtown, the reply is that 'No, individuals without shelter are already here in our community', but that fact does not exclude		

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	the high possibility that putting a shelter at this location will increase the number of people experiencing homelessness being drawn to it from other areas.		
371	The main concern for this homeless shelter is the location and the low-barrier model. The suggested location is indeed near a school, thus violating state law. The rescue mission downtown has already attracted vagrancy and crime. Another shelter nearby would undoubtedly do the same, especially given its model of unaccountability for the individual in need of personal responsibility, not dependency. A better location would be near the new jail site. Individuals suffering homelessness due to drug abuse ought to be required to attend drug court and get clean, full stop. Allowing the use of facilities without a check on them is inhumane to both them and to law abiding residents. Downtown Fort Wayne has been improving in terms of family attraction, entertainment, and leisure. Homeless people who wander to Promenade Park and around areas of commerce do pose a threat to the safety of downtown. If attracting people to spend their time and money on downtown business is at all a priority for the city, then this shelter is an active barrier to that goal. Homelessness is indeed a problem and those who live accordingly are to be sympathized and pitied. I want to see revitalization of mental health facilities for them in countryside settings, away from children and businesses downtown who are trying to make it. Let's work together with the legislature to form solutions to the long term problem rather than providing centers that exacerbate the issue and potentially endanger residents.	Thank you for your input.	46805
372	Personally, I have a lot of empathy for the homeless. Most of us have no idea how close we may be to that situation. All it may take is losing a job, or maybe an illness, or divorce to be in that situation. I live in the East Central neighborhood and I know some of my neighbors are not happy about the location; just as we weren't happy about the Mission and doubly unhappy about a liquor store right across the street. Apparently, the liquor store owner is unwilling to move the location. There's a fine line between vagrancy and homelessness. Vagrants apparently have no desire to better they're situation and prefer to "hang out" and sleep wherever. Hopelessness is another factor and I'm hoping	Thank you for your input.	46803

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	the Resource Center will have a person(s) on staff who can help in that area.		
373	I believe that the city administration did their due diligence. There is no perfect place. This is close to it. I have been downtown in the area. I would think that the businesses and church/school would prefer to have more knowledge of the homeless humans. That they have a place to go, A PLACE TO GO, to get the help that they need, to shower, perhaps get mail, instead of milling around wherever. These “scary “ individuals will be around in either case. Where is the security in that.	Thank you for your input.	46815
374	The Resource center as suggested is not big enough to actually house the homeless. It may be OK for offices and such. The present jail is perfect for a permanent shelter for the homeless. They need a place for long term housing. They can help maintain the building. Help in the kitchen, laundry and other jobs in the building and grounds. Each cell has water and facilities. Blankets can be hung for privacy. There are showers and laundry available. There is a large kitchen. The Reswouce Center does not provide for these facilities.	We understand why the old jail might seem like a possible option, but the jail building is owned by the County, and the City does not have authority over how that property is used. We also believe the proposed location on the edge of downtown is the most appropriate fit. It keeps the Anchor Resource Center close to essential downtown services while avoiding placement in the heart of the festival and tourism area, which would not be an ideal environment for clients or the community.	46806
375	I also wanted to add that each room could be locked so the the homeless can keep their few possessions safe. A cable with a separate lock cold be used. You don't have to relock the entire jail. A separate lock system could be used. Each room could have a recliner and TV with head phones for quiet after a certain time.	Thank you for your input.	46806
376	Question: What, if anything, is the city administration doing to make sure not to repeat what are arguably past city mistakes and mistakes of municipalities generally in region with contracts including : *real estate agreements combined with environmental problems with sites (including possible seller dishonesty), *improper permitting leading to unnecessary delays, *NDAs , *possible lack of disclosure of conflicts of interest (including any that probably are required to by state conflict of interest reporting be disclosed on Indiana Gateway for Government Units especially if airing on safe side; this might include NDAs), *and seeming lack of current ownership of site (which relates to	Thank you for raising these important questions. We understand the concerns about past projects in Fort Wayne and across the region, including issues related to environmental conditions, permitting delays, real estate agreements, and disclosure requirements. As with all City projects, we conduct thorough due diligence — including environmental reviews, title research, and compliance checks — before committing funds. While unforeseen challenges can still arise despite careful preparation, we continuously evaluate past projects and incorporate lessons learned into new ones.	46819

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	problems like not knowing about details about site which could result in environmental issues)? Context notes: Examples of projects that seem to have faced delays directly or indirectly (through things like consideration time for increased cost) due to permitting seem to include Hillcrest Commons (not a very long one but seems to have been a couple months if I am not mistaken) as far as a more similar project as well as environmental issues with the very different luxury apartments downtown with Lofts at Headwaters Park (refresher on that): https://www.journalgazette.net/local/stalled-lofts-at-headwaters-park-project-faces-cost-and-contaminants/article_c0573f1c-a18d-11ed-abdd-27346a74a151.html	For Anchor Resource Center, we are applying the same diligence. This includes reviewing environmental considerations, ensuring permitting requirements are understood early in the process, and maintaining transparency in accordance with state law, including conflict-of-interest reporting requirements. We are committed to improving our processes with every project and carrying those improvements forward to help safeguard public resources and maintain accountability.	
377	Our unhoused neighbors cannot wait months for access to basic needs, safe indoor space, and coordinated services. Fort Wayne's proposed Anchor Resource Center's downtown location is ideal. To deny housing for the homeless - at a time when our federal and state "leaders" are criminalizing homelessness - would be an abomination. "Fear is dangerous. It creates an environment in which it's acceptable to treat those experiencing poverty and homelessness with anger and hate. The first step to stopping this is to realize that this fear is unfounded and dangerous." — Terence Lester, I See You: How Love Opens Our Eyes to Invisible People "Before you ignore another homeless person on the street, just remember that that could be someone's father or someone's mother and they have a story." — Syesha Mercado "To save a life is a real and beautiful thing. To make a home for the homeless, yes, it is a thing that must be good; whatever the world may say, it cannot be wrong." — Vincent Van Gogh	Thank you for your input.	46807

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	“Whoever shuts their ears to the cry of the poor will also cry out and not be answered.” – Proverbs 21:13 “If anyone has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need but has no pity on them, how can the love of God be in that person?” – 1 John 3:17 “Is it not to share your food with the hungry and to provide the poor wanderer with shelter?” – Isaiah 58:7		
378	Third thought. Men on one floor, women on another floor. Women with children on another floor. Space is needed to help all those who need help.	Thank you for your input.	46806
379	People who are homeless due to drug use should be required to attend drug court and get clean. It is inhumane to them and law-abiding citizens to allow such criminals to rotate between vagrancy and jail time. We require our government to enforce expectations of personal responsibility, not dependence. I want our city to use homeless shelter models that a) rely on private charity, not public tax dollars and b) imitate models that have a proven record of multi-year success, defined as their clients becoming self-sustaining long-term. I want law enforcement prioritized over handouts. People who are chronically homeless deserve sympathy, but so do the people whom vagrants endanger with drug use, property destruction, public intoxication, and forced public expenditure on policing and health services. Our laws and funding should prioritize law-abiding citizens and vulnerable innocents such as children, not the people who choose to break the law and disturb public peace. No more homeless centers in the downtown area, in compliance with state law forbidding such centers near schools, youth centers, and parks. As we've already seen with the Rescue Mission, homeless services attract vagrancy and crime, and therefore should be located where they are least likely to affect law-abiding citizens. A good location would be near the new jail site. A low-barrier shelter is a complete nonstarter and should never be allowed here. NO city funds for California-model homeless services corruption. All these do is make the problem worse! We want the	Thank you for your input.	46807

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	opposite! Our local officials should be working with the legislature about a statewide response to our homeless problem that includes busing homeless transients back to Chicago and other failed cities, revitalizing long-term mental health facilities in countryside settings away from children, more law enforcement, and transferring public funds from programs that enable homelessness to programs that end it.		
380	I believe the center proposed is the best solution as it is close to resources people might need. We need to help others not as fortunate as us.	Thank you for your input.	46819
381	Living housed downtown is a privilege, but for many of our unhoused community members, living downtown comes with countless risks: water and food insecurity, exposure to life-threatening weather elements, public ridicule and unsanitary conditions, just to name a few. These are risks and realities many of us will never know or encounter, but those realities will not go away unless resources and programs are provided to help unhoused folks find their footing. What is needed downtown is a resource like this. A place to escape the sweltering heat, a place to rest, a place to get crucial information and support to build a better future and, eventually, transition into stable housing and move off the streets. Many of us in America right now are one unexpected job loss, one serious health diagnosis or one unforeseen financial emergency away from losing it all. I know I almost was -- I was diagnosed with HPV-positive cervical cancer at 35 years old, and it devastated me financially, emotionally and mentally. I had to lose everything - my beautiful home, my credit score, a leadership role at a top university, and my only mode of transportation - to realize how quickly life can turn upside down. I was very lucky to have assets to fall back on at that time, but to this day, I am still working to rebuild my life. Imagine how long it would take for an unhoused person to recoup their livelihood, their health, and their dignity. We all deserve basic human needs like shelter and safety. We all deserve dignity and compassion. Please approve this resource center. It can only be a positive addition to our city at a time when unhoused individuals are facing much more than any of us will ever face in our lifetimes. Thank you for reading, and please approve this center. One day you may need a helping hand, too.	Thank you for your input.	46802

#	Question or comment	Answer	Zip code
382	"While Christian compassion rightly calls us to care for the needy, scripture equally emphasizes the duty to protect the vulnerable from harm. God is famously depicted as the Good Shepherd who defends His flock, and verses such as Psalm 82:3, Jeremiah 48:4, and Matthew 18:10 underscore His fierce, protective love for children. As followers, we must mirror this devotion by prioritizing the safety of our youth. Mayor Tucker's acknowledgment that 'no one wants the ARC in their neighborhood' reflects a widespread, pragmatic understanding of the safety risks associated with low-barrier centers. "Proverbs 22:3 reminds us that 'a prudent person foresees danger and takes precautions.' As we seek to address community challenges, we must also ensure that our attempts to do good do not inadvertently result in harm. Let us exercise divine prudence today. For the safety and peace of our children, please reject any proposed ARC location near our schools, parks, and playgrounds."	Thank you for your input.	46845
383	I Support the Location. And please make the liquor Store move.	Thank you for your input.	46804
384	I am a member of St. Paul's Lutheran Church. I am very much in favor of establishing a Homeless Resource Center in the Fort Wayne area, as I believe most if not all of my fellow St. Paul's members would agree. However, since the currently proposed site is within 600 feet of our school, and since attendees will not be properly vetted for prior criminal activity on record, I do not feel that the proposed location is acceptable being that close to our school. I respectfully request that the Community Development Division and the City Council members consider a location for the Homeless Resource Center that is not within 1000 feet of a school. The current city jail, which will soon be vacated, would seem to be an ideal location for the homeless center.	We understand the concern about proximity to the school. It's important to note that the unhoused population is already present in this part of downtown, including around St. Paul's, and the goal of the Anchor Resource Center is to reduce unsheltered activity near schools, churches, and businesses by bringing people indoors into a supervised, structured environment. Regarding the question of vetting: individuals will be monitored while on-site, and the facility will operate with staff present 24/7. In addition, registered sex offenders are tracked and monitored through the Allen County Sheriff's Department, and failure to meet legal reporting requirements results in arrest. The Resource Center does not change those requirements or reduce enforcement. As for the suggestion of using the current Allen County Jail once it is vacated, that site is not a viable option. It is owned by the County, not the City, and therefore not available for purchase or redevelopment by the Anchor Resource Center. Additionally, the jail site is too close to the downtown visitor and recreation areas, which makes it incompatible with our siting criteria.	46773

#	Question or comment	Answer	Zip code
385	I would like to register my support for the 333 E. Washington location for the Anchor Resource Center. I have been a long time supporter of downtown development, a co-founder of the Downtown Improvement District (DID), and 12 year occupant of the property in question (Waterfield Mortgage, 1977-89). I firmly believe the Center should be located near support facilities, just as the nearby Rescue Mission is. While it is understandable that nearby businesses would like the homeless moved elsewhere, there is no perfect location. The homeless really need support from a city that cares, as these folks won't just disappear. If no efforts are made to assist them in finding a better life, they will just retreat into less safe places, and cause more problems, not fewer.	Thank you for your input.	46804
386	I work with homeless frequently at Inasmuch ministry, as well as at my church's weekly free community meal, which attracts homeless people. (I attend Faith United Methodist Church.) I'm writing to register my support for the proposed homeless resource center for the following reasons: 1. The proposed center's services are definitely needed. It will definitely fill resource gaps that are needed. 2. The location of the center is near other services, which already attract homeless people needing resources. To relocate it to another location will likely result in persons needing services to have to overcome a transportation barrier in order to utilize the help. 3. The State of Indiana passed a new law in essence forbidding the homeless "camping" in public spaces. The stated rational was to help them get connected with resources. This center will do just that reducing the number who may end up being arrested and held in the county's jail.	Thank you for your input.	46807
387	I am in favor of the proposed Resource Center. I believe that all people need to be safely housed. It seems like a good idea to have the center downtown since many people already are located there. It will be great if they can visit the different places that they might get assistance. I find it surprising that people would be opposed to providing help in an area where unhoused people are already located. I appreciate the research that went into this project.	Thank you for your input.	46805

#	Question or comment	Answer	Zip code
388	Regarding the purposed low barrier homeless shelter. I don't understand why you would remove Faith, Jesus, and standards from the homeless shelter. First, you can't do anything well without Jesus. Second, people whom are drunk or high have lower inhibitions, so that they are more likely to perform crimes. These are not the people to except into a shelter with men, women, and children. You have shelters that work. They set standards people have to live by to receive help. Why you wouldn't just support the shelters that already exist and do a good job? Also the stats on the shelters website are ridiculous. Apparently if you become homeless and temporarily stay with a friend or family member like a parent you are now homeless. This is how society was supposed to show up for each other not depend on the government.	Thank you for your input.	46815
389	I am concerned that by adding a low barrier shelter it will draw more people experiencing homelessness from surrounding communities. My understanding is that Lafayette IN had opened a low barrier shelter and the numbers of homelessness have nearly doubled. Also, it is my understanding that calls for service for the Lafayette Police in the immediate area have increased each year since the opening of the shelter. Fort Wayne does not need an increase in petty crime. Downtown already has many commercial space vacancies, I do not wish to see them increase. I am worried that a low barrier shelter would adversely affect Fort Wayne. There are already many resources, and I believe that improving those in existence would be more beneficial.	Thank you for your input.	46815
390	Traffics congestion on Washington street. Elementary school within 375 yrs of proposed site. Would detour the beautification of downtown. Who would be responsible for the financial service & up keep of the shelter. What's the safety protocol to protect the people using the shelter. If the shelter is approved what would be the rules governing the conduct of the people using the facility.	The Resource Center is not expected to generate significant additional vehicle traffic. Most individuals utilizing the Resource Center are expected to arrive on foot, by public transportation, or through outreach and partner agencies. Any site selected will comply with applicable traffic, zoning, and permitting requirements. The safety of children and the surrounding community has been a priority throughout the planning process. The Anchor Resource Center will comply with all applicable state and local laws. Because the proposed location is within 1,000 feet of an elementary school, individuals convicted of sex offenses that are prohibited by Indiana law from residing within that distance will not be permitted to reside at the Resource Center.	46804

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		In addition, the Resource Center will operate with 24/7 staffing, on-site security, security cameras, controlled access, and regular perimeter checks to help maintain a safe environment for guests, neighbors, and the surrounding community. The Anchor Resource Center will be operated by an independent nonprofit organization governed by a local Board of Directors. The current estimated annual operating budget is approximately \$1.2 million, and approximately \$3.1 million has already been committed toward operations. The nonprofit will be responsible for the day-to-day operation, maintenance, and management of the facility. The Resource Center will have trained staff and security personnel on-site 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, along with indoor and outdoor security cameras, controlled access, regular perimeter checks by security and outreach staff, and close coordination with the Fort Wayne Police Department when law enforcement assistance is needed. The Anchor will operate with a Guest Code of Conduct that establishes clear expectations for behavior. Guests will be expected to follow those rules while using the facility, and violations will result in appropriate consequences. While the Resource Center follows a low-barrier model to make services accessible, low barrier does not mean there are no rules or no accountability.	
391	I think you are going to get a lot of resistance from the downtown businesses. For example, Burger King on Jefferson has experienced major problems with the homeless. Everything from loitering and panhandling to smearing feces on bathroom walls. Also, I believe opening a homeless facility a block away from a liquor store is a bad idea.	Thank you for your input.	46815
392	One of the many concerns and reasons not to support this decision is the slippery slope of a fiscal sinkhole. By comparison, the city of Portland, OR, has spent \$724 million on homeless services in the fiscal year of	Thank you for your input.	46805

#	Question or comment	Answer	Zip code
	2024. It is a risk for a city to accommodate its homeless population at the neglect of other taxpaying citizens. It is also possible that shady individuals will, and do, profit from the misuse of funds. The Portland cost is an eye-opener and a sober warning to beware. See: https://www.oregonlive.com/politics/2025/07/how-much-is-spent-per-homeless-person-in-the-portland-area-heres-why-its-impossible-to-say.html		
393	For at least 20 years the city and agencies discussed a central location with services for unsheltered people. Finally, such a place is found. The Center will offer services to people so that they can stabilize their lives. Any discomfort we may experience with people who are difference and struggle to exist is no reason to be fearful of this Center's location. Numerous studies show that vulnerable people who are unsheltered, disabled or who face mental health challenges are the ones most likely to be attacked and violated not vice versa. Young children attending near by schools have experienced the venerable and different people for many years with few, if any, publicized incidents of a child being approached or attacked. I want our city to be one that shows compassion and offers ways to lift up venerable lives. The proposed Center is a good start to offer creative solutions toward meeting the needs of all of our neighbors. Lifting up the vulnerable among us makes everyone of our lives better. Please support this plan for the Homeless Resource Center.	Thank you for your input.	46808
394	With laws like SEA 285, which criminalizes camping and sleeping on state-owned land, going into effect on July 1st, this homeless resource center is more important than ever to help bring stability for those in our community without homes. This homeless resource center will reduce the number of homeless individuals experiencing legal problems, and for this reason alone it is essential.	Thank you for your input.	46805
395	Many thanks to Mayor Sharon Tucker and the Anchor Resource Center team. You have already addressed and resolved my questions on your main webpage and FAQs. We appreciate your research and willingness to listen and learn from other communities successes and lessons learned. The negative impact of Salt Lake City relocating homeless resource centers away from the downtown area is especially thought provoking. A close friend of ours was a Board member at the Bay Area Homeless	Thank you for your comment. In terms of how you can help, currently the best thing you can do is to continue to learn about the project and educate others about the intentions of the resource center or refer them to read these questions and responses to learn more. If the site is approved and the organization begins to move forward there will be more opportunities for community involvement.	46814

#	Question or comment	Answer	Zip code
	Services (BAHS) near Houston, TX. For more than 40 years, BAHS has provided hope, shelter, and a pathway to self-sufficiency for homeless men, women, children, and families in their community. Details about their shelter can be found at https://bahs-shelter.org. The model you are proposing for our Fort Wayne community is similar to what has been successfully implemented at BAHS for 40 years. Thank you for protecting the vulnerable and treating each person with dignity and respect. I actually do have one question - how can we help?		
396	1. What is your annual budget? 2. Will you have FWPD 24/7 presence? If so, what is security budget? If not, why not? 3. Are clients expected to have meals at Rescue Mission? If so, why is Mission not mentioned as a provider! 4. Is there a designated time overnight and walk-in clients are allowed to stay at facility? If so, where will they go when they leave ? Thank you.	1. The final operating budget will be set once the Anchor Board completes its staffing plan and confirms partner agencies, but our current estimate is approximately \$1.2 million per year. 2. FWPD will not have a permanent on-site presence. However, we will work closely with them to establish security protocols, and officers will respond whenever it is appropriate. 3. The Anchor will partner with local agencies to provide meals. One potential partner is The Rescue Mission, which is included as a shelter partner for the Resource Center. 4. There will be no designated time limit for how long individuals can remain at the Resource Center. Final policies and procedures will be established by the nonprofit operator, but the facility will be open 24/7 because people need safe, stable places in the evenings and on weekends. Homelessness does not only occur during standard business hours, and the center is designed to reflect that reality.	46802
397	I feel the best place for the homeless resource center is where you have presented On Barr st. This is close to Matthew 25, the rescue mission, bus line many churches that provide food, clothing and support, the library, and several other resources facilities. Why not place where there are so many resources and place they are so comfortable. The local mental health facility is not to far away on State street. I understand there is an issues with a school but children do not walk to or from. The playground is fenced off and supervised by personal. Let us help there people	Thank you for your input.	46774

#	Question or comment	Answer	Zip code
398	Use the present Allen County jail with renovations when the new jail is completed. Put a county building to no longer used for a purpose.	We understand why the old jail might seem like a possible option, but the jail building is owned by the County, and the City does not have authority over how that property is used. We also believe the proposed location on the edge of downtown is the most appropriate fit. It keeps the Anchor Resource Center close to essential downtown services while avoiding placement in the heart of the festival and tourism area, which would not be an ideal environment for clients or the community.	46798
399	As a 6-year resident on the Landing and now a resident of West Central, I've seen firsthand the need for resources and assistance for our unhoused neighbors. This proposed location is in an area that's easily accessible and makes it easy to meet people's needs where they are. Thank you for all you're doing to help our neighbors in need.	Thank you for your input.	46802
400	Did the city create a new nonprofit to do this instead of an existing one doing it?	Yes. The Anchor Resource Center is being established as a new, independent nonprofit organization. Fort Wayne is fortunate to have many outstanding nonprofit organizations serving individuals experiencing homelessness, and the Anchor is designed to strengthen, not replace or duplicate, their work. Rather than assigning responsibility to a single existing organization, a new nonprofit allows multiple community partners to work together through a shared governance model with a Board of Directors representing different areas of expertise. This structure allows the Anchor to focus exclusively on coordinating services for individuals experiencing homelessness while partnering with organizations that already provide housing, healthcare, behavioral health services, employment assistance, financial literacy, recovery services, and other specialized programs. It also allows the organization to pursue grants, charitable contributions, and other funding sources to support long-term operations.	46802
401	The city received \$280,000 over 1 and 1/2 years ago to build a single outdoor toilet next to this sight and it's still just a hole in the ground. Given the cost and amount of time for 1 outdoor toilet that is yet to be completed why should we expect this project to be any different?	These are two completely different types of projects. The Barr Street restroom is a new facility type for both Fort Wayne and the state of Indiana, and that has created delays in securing the necessary building permits. Being the first of its kind in our area comes with challenges.	46805

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		The Resource Center, however, is based on an established model with proven processes already in place. That structure allows us to move forward more efficiently.	
402	What/where are the assessments/findings for the other (22?) properties that the City investigated for the proposed homeless shelter/resource center? What are the qualifying/disqualifying standards? With local business, Anthis Career Center (other schools and pre-k), and Grand Marquis Senior Living in near proximity to the proposed Jefferson site just across the street from the Rescue Mission (main FTW East/West, North/South arteries), what are added law enforcement/security measures (and estimated cost) with the increase draw that the homeless shelter/resource center will bring to the city center? Any realistic possibility to have registered offenders actually fulfill legal requirement to report their occasional presence?	The full assessment of all properties considered, including evaluation criteria and findings, will be presented to City Council on August 11th. It's also important to note that the population we are discussing is already present in and around the downtown area. The goal of the Resource Center is to provide a structured, supervised indoor space to reduce the impact on sidewalks, parks, and nearby institutions. We will be working closely with the Fort Wayne Police Department to ensure appropriate safety measures are in place. Regarding registered sex offenders, they are monitored by the Allen County Sheriff's Department. If they fail to fulfill their legal reporting requirements, they are subject to arrest for that violation.	46815-8518
403	This is something that is desperately needed in our community. The site chosen is a good one, and the roadblocks to it need to be removed.	Thank you for your input.	46815
404	I don't think the sight on Washington Blvd is the proper place for a homeless shelter. I've listened to the council meetings and I've heard all the pros and con's, you've heard them too. One comment I heard was from a resident from The Grand Marquis deals with some confrontation with people from The Rescue Mission and I don't believe we need add to that situation. I've driven by the Linc's Wonderland site and I feel it would be more appropriate site. They talked about an open air area and I don't see a place to put one. The Washington Blvd site is pretty much land locked and has no room for expansion. The E Creighton Ave sight appears to be a much building and has a much bigger parking area which part of could be used for expansion and open air area. Thanks for your time.	The planned courtyard at the East Washington Boulevard location will be fully secured, attached directly to the Resource Center building, and enclosed by a surrounding wall. It will only be accessible from inside the Resource Center, ensuring it remains a controlled, private space rather than an open public area. Regarding the East Creighton Avenue site, while it does offer more exterior space, its close proximity to residential homes makes it inappropriate for this type of facility. Maintaining a respectful buffer from residential neighborhoods is an important part of our site-selection criteria.	46805
405	I am in support of the homeless resource center. Having resources available for those who are unhoused nearby to other resources such as the Rescue Mission is a good use of available resources. Many unsheltered people need a hand up. A responsible community comes	Thank you for your input.	46804

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	together to help those in need. I commend the Mayor and those making this possible to the fullest honors.		
406	I want to thank you for considering the needs of our homeless city members. I know it is a difficult and complex issue (complete with strong and opposing views). I particularly appreciate that this resource center will include services intended to address the mental & physical health of individuals and, hopefully, get them to a place where they can be gainfully employed and self-supporting. My concern regarding the present proposal is it's location in to a school (St. Paul's Lutheran School). I am also concerned about the possible impact on our local businesses. While in the transition state, those struggling with various addictions do not always exhibit behaviors we want our children to experience before they are of an age to discern properly. Is there a location (like current Allen County jail facility that is being replace)? It seems to me that many of the needs for a homeless resource center—including kitchen, bathrooms & showers, simple housing—are already designed in such a facility that has been outgrown for its present purpose. Thank you for your consideration.	Thank you for your thoughtful message and for recognizing how complex this issue truly is. We appreciate your compassion for individuals experiencing homelessness and your understanding of how important it is to connect people with mental and physical health services, employment support, and stability. We also hear your concerns about the location, especially regarding its proximity to St. Paul's Lutheran School and the potential impact on nearby businesses. Those considerations are absolutely part of the decision-making process. The unhoused population is already present in this area of downtown, and the goal of the Resource Center is to provide structure, supervision, and services that reduce the unsheltered activity happening near schools, businesses, and sidewalks today. By bringing people indoors, we aim to improve safety and the overall environment for families, students, and employees. Regarding the idea of using the current Allen County jail facility: that site is owned by the County, so the City has no say in the disposition of the building. In addition, its location is too close to the downtown visitor and recreation areas, which makes it incompatible with the criteria we use when evaluating potential sites for the Resource Center.	46845
407	I fully support the Resource Center in the location as it is proposed. It is a wonderful opportunity to help those in the most need. I don't believe, having helped the homeless on the street for over 10 years and for knowing several personally, I don't believe they are a threat to the Lutheran school. These folks know that most of the predators are in their own ranks .There are so many pastors, priests, teachers, coaches and jealous husbands who are much more of a threat than someone who needs love and support from their community.	Thank you for your input.	46809
408	Please consider a different location that is not near an elementary school. Thank you. God bless the homeless.	Thank you for your input.	46815

#	Question or comment	Answer	Zip code
409	One of the most intractable challenges to homelessness concerns those who struggle with an addiction and/or mental illness. If this new shelter only provides a place of temporary respite for such individuals, which I understand is needed, but doesn't go the added step of insisting that they enter a treatment program, the shelter will not address the root causes of these problems. To make life easy for such individuals without pushing them toward taking the necessary, difficult path toward healing is not, in the end, showing real compassion. At worse, all it does is make us feel better for having tried something What specific outcomes is the city putting forward to measure the success of the proposed shelter? Will names be gathered in order to know frequency of use? If not, how will the city know whether it is succeeding in reducing homelessness. We understand that users of the shelter will be directed to other resources in the community. Will the city follow up with those organizations in order to determine whether overall goals are being achieved? Before approval is given to locating the shelter at the location on Washington, I believe it is incumbent upon city officials to provide a detailed explanation of how the new downtown police district will enhance security in the sector of the city where homeless services are provided. The video on the police department's Facebook page promoting the new downtown district nicely describes the goals of a more robust presence, but it isn't lost on those who watch the video carefully that all of the images in the background are of The Landing and Calhoun and Harrison Streets, with the magnificent courthouse in the background. Nothing east of Clinton Street appears in the video. As the April 15 post on the city's website indicates, the enhanced downtown presence is intended to provide "proactive crime prevention" and "enhanced quality of life." And as the department reported on July 6, the enhanced patrols the night of July 4 were effective in preventing crimes. As Sgt. Cutler stated, "I don't think anybody will argue that police presence usually results in people not committing crimes right in front of police officers." Tell us in detail, BEFORE the project is approved, how you will enhance that presence along Lafayette Street between Wayne	The Anchor is intended to connect individuals experiencing homelessness to appropriate services, including treatment, healthcare, and housing resources. It is not a treatment facility and cannot require individuals to participate in treatment; however, staff will work to engage individuals and connect them with available services based on their needs and eligibility. The Anchor will track outcomes such as the number of individuals served, Coordinated Entry assessments completed, housing plans developed, referrals made, and connections to shelter, treatment, and permanent housing. Individuals accessing services will be entered into the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) in accordance with applicable requirements, allowing for measurable progress and identifying service needs. The Anchor Board will finalize performance measures prior to opening. The Anchor's security plan includes 24/7 staffing, security personnel, cameras, safety procedures, and coordination with community partners, including law enforcement. The City and Anchor Board will continue to work with public safety partners to ensure the facility operates safely and supports the surrounding neighborhood.	46825

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	and Lewis streets. How about a substation right in that vicinity. Perhaps the hundreds of residents in the East Central neighbor would appreciate that presence as well! If the city cannot answer these questions in detail at this time, then it seems to me that the proposal should not be approved.		
410	Please, please, do not put this low-barrier shelter in the currently proposed location. This needs to be located away from downtown's commercial district. The feedback from neighboring businesses to these shelters in other cities has been overwhelmingly negative. Our city has invested far too much time and money to revitalize downtown, and it is moving in the wrong direction. As a local small business owner, with over a decade operating our downtown restaurant, the effects the Rescue Mission has had on our business has already been a huge challenge. We rely on having a busy 4th of July, and this year was a record setting low for turnout. Every year, downtown's public perception has worsened and people are feeling unsafe about visiting. The consensus among the other downtown business owners is that we may not survive the addition of a low barrier shelter so close by. There will be a mass exodus of businesses and downtown will return to the ghost town it once was, and that is very sad to think about after all of the progress that has been made, and all of the investments made by the small businesses who took a risk. Since we know a lot of the unhoused were bussed in from other cities, a good start would be to bus them back. It is unfair for our city's resources to be burdened by these transplants. Then we can figure out a path forward. "If you build it, they will come" is an absolute truth. Other cities saw our Rescue Mission as an opportunity to offload their unhoused, believing our city has the resources to handle them. I don't feel it is in our best interest to double down on those resources, but if we must, then I strongly encourage the location to be near the new Allen County Jail, where the safety in a commercial district will not be impacted. Please hear the cries of the local business owners before an irreversible mistake is made and progress is undone.	Thank you for your input. Last year, Mayor Tucker and the City Council collaborated on an ordinance that empowered the City to cite organizations that drop off homeless people in Fort Wayne without a plan for how the homeless people who are dropped off are going to get services. This inhumane practice leaves the homeless person in a community with no social support network and no knowledge about where services are available. The City has sent cease and desist letters to organizations in central Indiana that have paid ride-sharing services to drop homeless individuals in Fort Wayne and has issued citations to an organization that has done this twice. The cease and desist letters and the citations resulted from calls for service in the downtown district.	46802
411	Additionally, please leave my previously submitted comments anonymous.		46802

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412	- A low-barrier shelter will not be able to serve women and children. The fact that it is low-barrier means it will be serving populations dangerous for them to be around. This is a huge oversight in the project. You can be low-barrier, or you can serve women and children, but not both. Homeless women and children need protection more than anyone else. A project that would be low barrier would take away that protection. The project must choose to include either "low-barrier" or "women and children" in its verbiage going forward, but not both. Which will this project choose? -If the project chooses to be low-barrier, it cannot be placed downtown or near any schools, youth centers, and parks if it is to be in legal compliance with current sex-offender laws. -What are the strategies the town is taking to make sure we are serving our own homeless population, and not encouraging other cities to shuttle their homeless our way to overwhelm our resources? -What is our plan if other cities do shuttle their homeless here? Is there a plan to return them and hold their city of origin accountable for their aid? Yes, we have an ordinance (passed March 2026) that makes busing illegal, but what are our plans to uphold that ordinance and ensure other cities abide by it? -We want our government to enforce expectations of personal responsibility, not dependence. We want our city to use homeless shelter models that imitate models that have a proven record of multi-year success, defined as their clients becoming self-sustaining long-term. What is the track record of the model this project is following? In what cities has it already been implemented with multi-year success?	Thank you for your thoughtful questions. Can a low-barrier model safely serve women and children? Yes. Low barrier does not mean there are no rules or safety measures. It means removing unnecessary barriers that prevent people from accessing help. The Anchor will have a Guest Code of Conduct, 24/7 staffing, on-site security, security cameras, and controlled access. The facility is being designed with separate spaces and procedures to support the safety and privacy of families, children, and other vulnerable populations. The Anchor will comply with all applicable laws and regulations, including requirements related to registered sex offenders, and will coordinate with law enforcement as appropriate. How will the Anchor avoid attracting people from other communities? The Anchor is designed to serve individuals experiencing homelessness in Fort Wayne and Allen County. Individuals seeking housing-focused services will complete a Coordinated Entry assessment and work with staff to identify their needs and connect to appropriate resources. The goal is to coordinate services for those experiencing homelessness in our community, not encourage migration from other communities. What if other communities transport people to Fort Wayne? The City has adopted an ordinance addressing the transportation of individuals experiencing homelessness into Fort Wayne under certain circumstances. The City will enforce applicable ordinances and work with community partners and law enforcement as needed. How does this model promote self-sufficiency? The Anchor is designed to fill an identified gap in the continuum of care by providing 24/7 access to basic needs, coordinated entry, housing navigation, and connections to services. The model is informed by national best practices that emphasize connecting individuals to the resources needed for housing stability, including employment, healthcare, behavioral health, recovery, and other supports.	46804

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413	The location for the homeless that the mayor wants is not adequate for that purpose. 1)It is not set up to house people and to feed them. Traffic on Washington street is already congested and this would make it more congested. It is too close to an elementary school. It too close to the farmers market, retail business and the YMCA.	Thank you for your input.	O46804
414	I commend the work of the City and various non-profits in the thoughtful approach to addressing issues of homelessness in our community. This is a multidimensional problem which requires ongoing assessment of needs and interventions. The unhoused in our community are not a monolithic group. We must proactively grapple with needs while maintaining respect for the basic humanity of these community members. Although I am a strong proponent of providing nurturing and safe environments for children, my experience in community mental health does not support the belief (fear) that unhoused individuals are sexual predators who will prey upon students at the school within 1000 feet of the proposed 24/7 low barrier resource center. Children are at much higher risk of sexual abuse by people they know: family members and other trusted adults within the communities in which they regularly engage. The palpable fear that is evident within the St. Paul school and congregation is unwarranted. However, loving parents and grandparents are frightened by any perceived threat to the safety of their children. They should be reassured that focusing on unhoused individuals as threatening pedophiles is a false flag situation. Unhoused individuals themselves are in need of safe and secure environments. Having access to amenities such as showers and washing machines helps individuals (and families) meet basic needs. I have seen the gratitude of unhoused clients who have had the opportunity to launder belongings and complete grooming. It is important for the resource center to be on a bus line. However, accessing bus services requires funds, adding a burden for these individuals. Many of the homeless in our community already reside in the area proposed, thus services should be available there. Suggestions for opening a resource center away from the downtown area are flawed for various reasons. Certainly opening a center 20 minutes from downtown	Thank you for your input.	46804

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	will not corral individuals although that would be the intent. It is time for the City Council to trust the work that has gone into developing the plan for the resource center. Let this project move forward. Will it be perfect? No, but this will be an ongoing process. Do not undermine the basic premises of this center by trying to put it “out of sight, out of mind”.		
415	I understand that no place in Fort Wayne is optimal to be a homeless resource center, but a location that has been suggested to me is the large, unused school building on the premises of Zion Lutheran Church. Probably some of the members would object to this use of their property; on the other hand, it is not near any school (that I am aware of), and proximity to the church might benefit both homeless people and the congregation bent on carrying out works of mercy in Christ's name. Just a thought...	The unused school building at Zion Lutheran Church is a creative suggestion, and we recognize the appeal of a space that is not near another school and has strong ties to a caring congregation. In this case, however, the site is located too close to residential neighborhoods, which is an important factor in our evaluation process. We have been intentional about avoiding locations that place a facility of this type directly within or adjacent to residential areas.	46815
416	I object to the notion of a "low or no barrier" shelter. In her June 2 video at just past the 1:00 minute mark, Mayor Tucker emphasizes that the proposed ARC will accept clients who arrive inebriated or on drugs. As she notes, these "could not be serviced in any other facility." This means inebriated people will be attracted to ARC and allowed to roam the Downtown neighborhood in this inebriated state. A large proportion of these individuals already suffer mental illness. So we can anticipate a substantial number of drunken madmen on the streets. And since ARC will offer free, secured parking, many of these will be driving to and around ARC. This is not the environment we want for the school children, the elderly, and other visitors to Downtown. We have invested a great deal of public and private funds in the attempt to revitalize the Downtown. For example, St. Paul's Church and School has invested about \$7 million in the past three years to attract more people to Downtown. The ARC proposal threatens this revitalization effort. It is not at all unreasonable to have some expectations, requirements, rules for these individuals who are seeking public assistance. "No barriers" makes no sense.	Thank you for sharing your concerns. A common misconception is that low barrier means there are no rules or expectations. That is not the case. Low barrier simply means removing unnecessary obstacles so people can access services while maintaining a clear Guest Code of Conduct, expectations for behavior, and consequences for violations. Individuals may access services even if they have drugs or alcohol in their system; however, the use of drugs or alcohol on Resource Center property will not be permitted. Staff will connect individuals to mental health, substance use treatment, healthcare, and other services that address the underlying causes of homelessness. The Safe Parking Program is also often misunderstood. It is not open public parking. It is a structured program for individuals living in their vehicles who are working toward stable housing. Participants must follow program rules and expectations, and impaired driving will not be permitted. The Resource Center will have trained security personnel on-site 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, along with security cameras, regular perimeter checks, and close coordination with the Fort Wayne Police Department when law enforcement assistance is needed.	46825

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		The Anchor's purpose is not to make homelessness more comfortable; it is to make homelessness shorter by connecting individuals to housing and the services they need to achieve long-term stability.	
417	The proposed homeless resource center is good the way it is, including the location. The “concerns” about unhoused people being in the area are unfounded, in my opinion, because the people are already there. Why not give them a resource center that meets them where they are? It would mitigate a lot of these supposed risks, because there would be supervision and resources for the people who need it. Providing these resources is exactly what reduces the risky behavior everyone is so concerned about. If you’re so concerned, why fight something designed to help reduce the harm that you’re worried about?	Thank you for your input.	46815
418	If a business has someone they believe to be homeless on their property how will the center help them navigate the situation	The Anchor Resource Center is committed to being a good neighbor and maintaining open communication with surrounding businesses and organizations. The Resource Center plans to provide a dedicated phone number where businesses can report concerns, ask questions, or seek guidance. Depending on the situation, staff may be able to provide outreach, connect the individual with available services, or recommend the appropriate response, and of course offer a place where the individual may go to be connected to services. If there is an immediate safety concern or criminal activity, businesses should contact 911 or the Fort Wayne Police Department.	46825
419	I think this is a long time coming. We need a place to give people shelter and hope.	Thank you for your input.	46845
420	I've heard a lot of discourse on this new resource center... and here's my take: This Homeless center, and its location, poses no risk to anyone in that area, and it will benefit our homeless residents greatly by allowing our homeless populations opportunity that would otherwise not exist in our community. That said, I believe drug/alcohol abuse and relapse programs should also	Thank you for your comment. There will be partnerships with drug and alcohol providers that individuals can be referred to if that is a need.	46818

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	exist in this homeless center, in order to prevent opportunities for crimes in the area. Even with this said, I believe the risk to safety is low to zero. So any businesses around the shelter will be safe, and this shelter may even lower crime by giving opportunities to those who haven't had such in the past.		
421	I find it cruel we make people jump through so many hoops to get help. The people that really need the help never seem to get it. They're punished and have jail time for being homeless. Where in our Bible does it say to treat others as such? My Christ told us to give the clothes off our own backs. Help the homeless.	Thank you for your input.	46808
422	Regardless of where this is placed, please make sure that there are ample beds. Also, don't under budget and have a solid sustainability plan in place.	Thank you for your input.	46807
423	Terrible idea that will only make the homeless population increase. Money would be better spent on inpatient mental healthcare facilities. "Love thy neighbor" doesn't just apply to the homeless. It should apply to the people who live and work near there. Who's send their children to school there. They're also your neighbors and they contribute to the society. It is unfair to put what will become a burden to them and all they have worked for. I know this from my own personal experience and what a homeless shelter did to my personal property in a town close by. If the cities goal is to take all the momentum, that's been building for a great downtown. This will surely do it.	Thank you for your input.	46814
424	This is one of the most important and human-focused projects that the city is working on. The people that need these resources have limited existing alternatives. Community care and compassion are essential. This will not encourage worse behavior, bring in sketchy people, or any of the fear mongering that our more anxious community members are proclaiming. It will help people live better lives, with dignity, and options to help them better their current situations.	Thank you for your input.	46807
425	I am very much in favor of this plan. I am very disappointed in some of the organizations that businesses and especially the Lutheran Church that is against this. Very, disheartened. I believe that the Lutheran Schools already have security on their doors to protect from other situations, how	Thank you for your input. Yes — we have gone out and spoken directly with individuals experiencing homelessness. In fact, one of the first steps we took was to ensure that people with lived experience had a real voice in shaping this approach. Our Homeless Services Manager	46774

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	is this different? These people are already there, let's do what we can to help them. One question that I have considered, is what do the homeless folks in the area think of this plan? Has anyone asked any of them - or is everyone afraid to talk to them? Doesn't it make sense to hear what at least a few of them would think or feel about it? Thank you for considering asking those actually impacted.	conducted interviews with both men and women to understand their needs, what's missing today, and what would truly help them move toward stability. They overwhelmingly supported the idea of a Resource Center. Many described how difficult it is to meet basic needs right now. One woman shared that having a center like this “would have made a difference for her on day one.” Instead, she had no choice but to wash up in park restrooms before job interviews because there was nowhere else to go.	
426	I strongly urge city council to approve the Anchor Resource Center as proposed by Mayor Tucker... and do it now!! Or come up with a better plan NOW!	Thank you for your input.	46816
427	I think this is a long overdue and wonderful plan, and I hope that it can move forward as planned.	Thank you for your input.	87901
428	INPUT FORT WAYNE reported on February 17, 2026, that the only requirement for accessing the ARC facility is a desire to obtain housing. Surveys and waiting-list experience from similar low-barrier facilities suggest strong demand among unhoused individuals for these programs. Do you feel that demand can outweigh the inconvenience of a remotely located shelter? Will clients access beds on a first-come, first-served daily or nightly basis as space becomes available, or will beds generally be assigned to residents until they secure housing? Will clients be required or encouraged to participate in work or volunteer activities—such as food preparation, cleaning, street cleanup, or other community service—to use their time productively, build work habits, and contribute to the community? Based on outcomes from similar programs—or on your own expectations—what percentage of clients do you expect to be placed in public housing without expected employment in the foreseeable future? Please provide separate percentages for single individual groups and family groups.	Thank you for your thoughtful questions. Many of the operational policies for the Anchor Resource Center will be developed by the Anchor Board of Directors and the organization's leadership prior to opening. Those policies will be informed by best practices, community input, and the experience of similar resource centers. How will sleeping accommodations be assigned? The Draft Operations Plan includes temporary stabilization cots for individuals who need a safe place to rest while awaiting placement in shelter or another appropriate housing option. Specific operating procedures, including eligibility and length of stay, will be established before the Resource Center opens. Will individuals be required to work or volunteer? The Resource Center's focus is helping individuals move toward stable housing. Every person seeking housing-focused services will complete a Coordinated Entry assessment and work with a Housing Navigator to develop a Housing Action Plan. Employment, education, treatment, or other goals may be part of that individualized plan depending on each person's needs and circumstances.	46845

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	Surveys commonly show that many unhoused individuals struggle with drug or alcohol addiction. • What incentives are offered to encourage participation in addiction recovery programs? • Without strong incentives, could the housing program unintentionally enable addictive behaviors that the hardship of the unhoused lifestyle might otherwise discourage? At a recent City Council meeting Mayor Tucker stated ARC's operations would be partly modeled after the San José California program, including its monitoring and integration of many separately operated homeless-service providers—thank you Mayor for this approach. Another major program factor in San José was its Emergency Interim Housing, or “quick-build,” legislation, which quickly added many tiny homes and converted motel beds. Should Fort Wayne anticipate future funding requests to purchase motels or build tiny homes to expand housing options for unhoused residents? If so, can you estimate the timeline and cost?	What housing outcomes are expected? Because the Resource Center has not yet opened, it is not possible to accurately project housing outcomes or percentages. The Anchor will measure outcomes and report on its effectiveness after operations begin. How will substance use be addressed? The Anchor will connect individuals to substance use treatment, mental health services, healthcare, and other resources based on their individual needs. The goal is to address the underlying causes of homelessness while helping individuals move toward long-term stability. Will the City pursue tiny homes or purchase motels in the future? The current project is focused on developing and operating the Anchor Resource Center. The City has not approved any plans to purchase motels or develop tiny home communities as part of this project. Any future housing initiatives would require separate planning, funding, and public review.	
429	The plans are not clear regarding running the program and oversight. The vague plan of operation needs to be shared with voters. Sounds like no rules will result in chaos at the shelter and for the downtown area.	Thank you for your comment. A detailed draft operation plan has been provided to council by the Anchor board and many details have been included in questions that have been submitted. Low barrier simply means removing unnecessary obstacles that prevent people from accessing services. It does not mean “chaos” or that there are no rules, no supervision, or no expectations. The Anchor Resource Center will operate with a Guest Code of Conduct, 24/7 staffing, on-site security, security cameras, controlled access, and appropriate consequences for rule violations. The Anchor's purpose is to provide a safe, well-managed environment that helps individuals move toward stable housing while also being a responsible and accountable neighbor.	46835
430	It's now illegal to be homeless in Indiana. We need all the resources we can get for these people.	Thank you for your input.	46815

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431	"There are many other resources in the community that provide these services. These homeless individuals have to be willing to accept the help, get treatment, and change. This won't work unless there is a ban on homeless individuals drinking alcohol all day. Public intoxication laws need to be fixed. The idea is on the right track, but without court intervention forcing them to get help, you are spending taxpayer dollars to give them a choice to turn their lives around, which doesn't mean they will. There is a trade-off: are you okay with wasting these taxpayer dollars if no one changes?"	Thank you for your input.	46803
432	I do not believe this center should be housed downtown on a major thoroughfare. It seems like there could be a better location that is accessible by bus.	Thank you for your input.	46806
433	It is my opinion that the proposed location is not in the best interests if downtown Fort Wayne. Also, there is not a clear picture of ongoing operating costs for the unproven charity that has 501C3 status pending. I hope that everyone involved with this proposed project read Bill Casts column in today's(July 8) Fort Wayne Journal,Gazette.	Thank you for your input.	46805
434	The problem I have with this proposed facility is that I don't want Ft Wayne to be another San Francisco. With more crime, more homeless on the streets, more drug use on the streets, a needle tent for them to shoot up ect. I do not agree with a low-barrier shelter which means No background checks, sobriety, no strict curfews, no identification, and other factors! That doesn't sound safe to me at all. I would no longer go down town if this is put anywhere close to places where children or families frequent. I don't want this low barrier shelter here at all ! If it had strict rules I possibly wouldn't oppose this . But no rules no identification NOPE ! I do not want this to be approved please deny this facility to be placed in downtown Fort Wayne .	Thank you for your input. Low barrier simply means removing unnecessary obstacles that prevent people from accessing services. It does not mean there are no rules, no supervision, or no expectations. The Anchor Resource Center will operate with a Guest Code of Conduct, 24/7 staffing, on-site security, security cameras, controlled access, and appropriate consequences for rule violations. Individuals seeking housing-focused services will complete a Coordinated Entry assessment and work with a Housing Navigator to develop a Housing Action Plan. Staff will work to connect each person with the services that best meet their needs while maintaining a safe environment for everyone. The Anchor's purpose is to provide a safe, well-managed environment that helps individuals move toward stable housing while also being a responsible and accountable neighbor.	46825
435	We need a resource like the proposed homeless resource center in Fort Wayne, IN. Our homeless population is rising. A resource center aimed at	Thank you for your input.	46815

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	helping and encouraging our homeless population would benefit our community in many ways.		
436	When did city government become a social service agency?	The city will not be the operator, the Anchor Resource Center is the non-profit operator. The city will only be the owner of the building.	46805
437	In my view, the location of the resource center on East Washington Blvd. is appropriate, reasonable, and practical. It does not intrude on the focus of downtown development. The Rescue Mission, Lutheran Social Services, Catholic Charities, Matthew 25 Health Care, Brightpoint, St. Mary's Soup Kitchen, the Ave Maria House, and other service agencies are already located within several blocks. These are excellent organizations but are limited in their ability to serve all in need. The City's vision for the resource center includes a forward-thinking plan to not only provide services to the unhoused of our community, but to reduce homelessness with assistance toward other life choices and opportunities. The resource center will be guided by a respected board of civic leaders and is supported by a number of downtown businesses and religious congregations. I applaud the City of Fort Wayne for this innovative, thoughtful, and compassionate response to a critical community concern.	Thank you for your input.	46815
438	I am a retired female who enjoys going to the new businesses, restaurants & entertainments available downtown & along Promenade Park & the river. I feel strongly that having another shelter so close to those areas would be a mistake. I have already been approached by individuals on multiple occasions asking for money while walking downtown in the areas mentioned above. This creates an uneasy feeling & even feelings of being unsafe while wanting to enjoy the parks & restaurants. Sometimes I have my 3 young grandchildren with me which raises the level of my concerns even more. I believe there must be a better location for the proposed facility than the current one being considered. I also question the wisdom of having the new facility so close to the current Rescue Shelter & how that will affect the individuals currently using that facility's services. I feel like the 2 facilities will be more effective if they are not close together & not in such a busy business & entertainment focused areas. We want to continue to make downtown Ft. Wayne a desirable destination for people of all ages to enjoy safely.	Thank you for your input.	46765
439	I think this is a great idea. I'm all for it!	Thank you for your input.	46807

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440	I support the homeless center at the original chosen location. Several services are nearby and that's important. The mission serves meals and there is medical and dental assistance at Matthew 25. On a side note I also think the complaint from a clergyman about the location is both shameful and ridiculous. These people could be members of his congregation! They are no danger to children, and his problems with the center location are ridiculous.	Thank you for your input.	46809
441	I am all for helping my unhoused neighbors with the current proposed center and location despite what my city council person votes.	Thank you for your input.	46805
442	I believe wholeheartedly in this project. Our unhoused community needs places to land and this provides them a low barrier method to get resources and be physically and mentally safe. In the city of churches, it is abhorrent to see the number of clergy who are standing out against doing for the least of those in our city. As Jesus once said, "That which you do for the least of men, you do to me." I ask that our city put any resources we have towards making this happen.	Thank you for your input.	46807
443	What is the opposition's solution? Another location? Would they help facilitate the traveling needs to/from the new location for the numerous people who are either staying at or near the Mission? It seems absolutely ridiculous to make these unhoused people now find a way to travel elsewhere in the city and back when most would be staying across the street from the opposed location. I feel as if residents are forgetting that dangerous people come from all demographics. The unhoused population who would be coming to this facility are LOOKING FOR HELP TO BETTER THEIR SITUATION. I also think the opposition needs to take a very hard look in the mirror. There are dangerous people in churches and schools every day that don't look like the monsters you envision. Acting as if the people benefitting from this center are dangerous or unsafe is reckless and disgusting.	Thank you for your input.	46835
444	Terrible idea re the placement of this facility. The City made up their minds, and are attempting to bulldoze the plan through to fruition. This is the wrong place for a facility of this sort. Find something that the City already owns, that at least is configured in some way to keep conversion	The City has evaluated more than twenty sites across Fort Wayne, including properties we already own. Each site was assessed against consistent criteria such as proximity to residential areas, impact on	46802

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	costs down. How about the Downtown Jail? How about anywhere that isn't on a main artery in the heart of downtown? The "proximity to Matthew 25 and the Rescue Mission" argument doesn't hold water. Fort Wayne has made excellent decisions about Downtown improvement for more than two decades, why toss this bad idea into the mix? The Casino folly deservedly went away, this should do the same. There is no deadline, and so there is time to make a better decision.	visitor and recreation zones, access to services, traffic considerations, and the ability to meet the operational needs of the Resource Center. It's also important to clarify that the unhoused population is already present downtown — including near parks, businesses, and major corridors. The Resource Center is not intended to draw people into the heart of downtown; it is designed to address the challenges currently occurring by providing a structured, supervised indoor space instead of leaving individuals unsheltered along sidewalks and public areas. Regarding the downtown jail: that property is owned by Allen County and is not available for City use. Additionally, it sits too close to downtown's primary visitor and recreation areas, which makes it incompatible with our siting standards. We share the community's commitment to preserving the progress made in downtown development, and the goal of this project is to support that continued success by reducing the impacts of unmanaged homelessness, not adding to them.	
445	Can't recall if I commented or not but very supportive of creation of the homeless center. We're spending far more on building a new jail.	Thank you for your input.	46807
446	Please do not build this downtown. The city has been working hard to make downtown a destination for families and visitors and this facility would be counterproductive to those efforts.	Thank you for your input.	46819
447	I agree that there is a definite need for a safe place for our unhoused friends. Is there another location in the downtown area that might be a better location- one that is not across from a liquor store or backs up to a school? What about the GE site across from Electric Works or the brick building a block east of In As Much Ministries that borders the parking lot, or an upper floor of the Rescue Mission? Is that whole building being utilized to its best possibility? What rules and expectations will there be? How will they be enforced? Can someone be banned ? Will there be separate areas for women, families, and men or will everyone be together? Who will supervise the center? Will it be supervised 24/7?	Thank you for your thoughtful questions. Why was this location selected instead of another downtown site? Multiple locations have been explored. The proposed site was identified because of its size, accessibility, proximity to existing services, and potential to meet the operational needs of the Resource Center. Other locations have also been considered, but each presents different opportunities and limitations. What rules will there be, and can someone be banned? The Anchor will operate with a Guest Code of Conduct that establishes clear expectations for behavior. Individuals who violate the	46743

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	With rising rents, end of government subsidies, and the very real possibility of more people losing their housing, what is being done proactively to prevent evictions and provide decent low income housing? (The housing plan book presented at the fair housing summit was not truly affordable for low incomes and fixed incomes). By the way, I live in the county but interact with our unhoused friends downtown 3 or 4 days a week. It saddens me that both sides of this proposed location and shelter have resorted to name calling and in some cases downright hostility. It is okay to ask questions, voice opinions, and share concerns. It is through such means that new possibilities and potential problems can be resolved. But then we need to move forward. Human lives are at stake. One last question- since In As Much Ministries has housed almost 200 in the last 18 months and has a respected reputation in the community, why weren't there representatives from In As Much appointed to the board to discuss and plan this shelter?	code of conduct may face consequences, up to and including temporary or permanent exclusion from the facility, depending on the nature of the violation. Specific policies will be adopted by the Anchor Board prior to opening. Will there be separate areas for women, families, and men? Yes. The facility is being intentionally designed to include separate spaces for families and individuals with children, along with areas that promote privacy and safety. Will the Resource Center be supervised 24/7? Yes. The Resource Center is planned to have 24/7 staffing, on-site security, and indoor and outdoor security cameras. Why isn't In As Much Ministries represented on the Board? The Anchor has been developed through collaboration with many community partners, including In As Much Ministries. Board membership reflects a variety of community perspectives and will continue to evolve as the organization grows. Regardless of board membership, the Anchor intends to work closely with In As Much Ministries and other providers.	
448	I fully support any resources, especially housing and healthcare (mental health is healthcare!!), that can be given to people in our community to hopefully build them back up. I'd say put that resource center where it needs to go, whether close to other resources or a place that is easily accessible to public transportation or pedestrians. The people who oppose helping people are those who have had the privilege in their lives to never need to ask for help. Furthermore, I would like to see how this resource center aids and providers for individuals who are addicts as addiction is something that plagues our society. I also hope to see a diverse population able to stay in shelters in fort Wayne. Men with children, families, women with children, or just single people. Anyone can be affected by homelessness.	Thank you for your input.	46808
449	What is the cost of the building, and then what is the cost of renovations to make it what meets the needs? While I have heard 2.5 million, not sure	The proposed acquisition and renovation budget is approximately \$5.8 million. We have requested \$2.6 million in unallocated supplemental local income tax funds and interest earned from the American Rescue	46825

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	what that buys. We should be looking at costs of initial open of the center and find ways to reduce those expenses.	Plan Act. We are also committed to keeping costs as low as possible, which is why we are not considering locations that would require significantly higher investment.	
450	I am extremely disappointed in the councilman that are for this location. The attempt to place this around children and elderly and disregard the state laws is unconscionable. No one is against a facility if it is properly funded. After doing my own research locations have closed across the USA because of funding. Do what is right! We have laws in place for reasons. This has nothing to do with not being a Christian'. How about the faculty across from Foellinger foundation...Matthew 25.. start saving planning and purchase the property.	Thank you for your input. The current estimated annual operating budget for the Anchor Resource Center is approximately \$1.2 million, and approximately \$3.1 million has already been committed toward operations, providing funding for nearly the first three years of operation. The facility across from Foellinger has been sold and Matthew 25 is not available for at least another year and the asking price would not be within the desired budget.	46807
451	I strongly support the Mayor's Plan for a Resource Center in Downtown Fort Wayne, because simply putting a roof overhead does not "fix" or "prevent" homelessness, and it continues to kick the problem down the road to another generation. Years ago, when I worked for the City, I often had to help find housing assistance for people in need. Unfortunately, the "problem" is not just a building, but a holistic approach to the underlying problems that caused that situation in the first place. The Center will give a One Stop approach to overcoming barriers, learning new skills, and building the community around them that will continue to give a hand up, not a handout. Contact me directly if you want information on the Social Services Summit we did in 2005.	Thank you for your input.	46805
452	I support the current Anchor Resource Center proposal and believe the selected location downtown makes sense. The population in need of these services already exists downtown. The challenges of homelessness cited by opponents of this proposal would be directly addressed through the services provided (showers, restrooms, places for people to get resources, etc.). While this approach will not solve homelessness (no one solution ever could), this is an important step forward to address the needs of unhoused people in our community. It's a pragmatic approach, and the right thing to do.	Thank you for your input.	46807
453	I just want to say that I think that's not the best place to have the homeless on Jefferson because all the people going through town will see all the vagrants laying around and sitting around and messing up the	Thank you for your input.	46774

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	place. I do think it'd be good to find a home for them but not there. I don't think we need to have all the people driving through town seeing the worst part of us		
454	I think a lot of thought and research has gone into the current suggested location and that it should be passed by City Council. It is close to the Rescue Mission and so shouldn't be much different than that. It's also close to the needed services. I don't understand why some on the council are dragging their feet other than politics, which is a shame and disappointing. It's not like they have come up with a better location.	Thank you for your input.	46815
455	I personally was a small business owner in the heart of downtown FW. I saw firsthand what the homeless can do just by careless action or when under the influence of drugs and alcohol. I think it is a shame to think that all the businesses and residents who have recently gravitated into downtown FW would be slapped with this establishment in the center of our city. Would you do this in your own neighborhood with \$500,000 plus houses/apartments/condos? I highly doubt it. I don't think it's going to make anything better. It's not fair to the people of our community who are participating and pitching in to the local economy. I would predict people to bail out left and right. Residents will leave downtown. Businesses will close their shops. I have already heard people talking. People sacrifice so much and work so hard to launch their own small businesses. The alarm system at my small business was constantly going off in the middle of the night with vandalism and sketchy encounters. People pee on your flowers, poop wherever they want to, and disrespect your property. There has got to be a better location.	The Anchor is intended to improve conditions downtown by providing a place where individuals experiencing homelessness can access services, basic needs, and connections to housing rather than relying on public spaces. The facility will have 24/7 staffing, security procedures, a code of conduct, and coordination with community partners to support safety for guests, businesses, residents, and visitors. The Anchor Board will continue to refine operating and security procedures prior to opening. The City evaluated multiple potential locations as part of the planning process. The selected location provides access to transportation, existing service providers, employment opportunities, and other community resources. A complete list of locations considered is being provided to City Council for review.	46814
456	I believe that the proposed location will best serve the largest group needing this service. While it may inconvenience a few, it is the best centralized location. Where ever it is located there will be those who will find unacceptable. That is simply the society we live in now. Please move forward with this project.	Thank you for your input.	46807
457	So there are other cities that tried this and it has been a failure all we are doin is give a place for someone to stay after they stand outside and do there drugs and how many police officers are going to have to monitor this place and keep some person that is on drugs from assaulting someone seems like you have been wasting a lot of money the city doesn't have	Thank you for your input. The Anchor will employ trained security personnel who will provide on-site security 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Security staff will work closely with the Fort Wayne Police Department and other public safety partners when appropriate, but day-to-day security will be provided by Anchor employees. No drugs or alcohol will be allowed on the resource center property.	46825

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458	#1 Why does the Rescue Mission not allow their clients to stay during the day? I think that requirement should be re-thought. The Rescue Mission is the reason homeless are downtown to begin with. If they had somewhere they could go during the day, we would not see them out on the streets. #2 I have read that businesses are concerned about the Saturday market. Why would the homeless be of concern as I cant afford to go to that market and I am housed. Its for a couple hours once a week. To make this an issue when homeless are already downtown is nonsense. #3 If the City can not move the Rescue Mission then services for homeless should be located where the homeless are already. #4 I agree that this new facility should be reviewed every 6 months to monitor effectiveness, and other issues related to the new shelter. #5 I appreciate the new facility addressing mental health issues as that is a driving factor of homelessness and I dont know of any other business dealing with mental health. #6 BE COMPASSIONATE to the homeless as, for most, its not a choice they make and could happen to anyone under challenging circumstances especially in these expensive! Times. #7 Thank you Mayor Tucker and your staff as this issue has been challenging for our community. Your time & expertise does not go unnoticed!	Thank you for your input. The Rescue Mission does allow people during the day and welcomes people throughout the day for meals.	46805
459	I strongly support opening the low barrier resource center at the proposed site on Washington Blvd. Downtown is where the unhoused congregate. Other services are already downtown -- The Rescue Mission, St. Mary's Soup Kitchen, Inasmuch Ministry -- so adding the resource center makes sense. It makes very little sense to have it located in some remote location. I urge the city council to approve this.	Thank you for your input.	46804

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	[NAME AND ADDRESS DELETED]		
460	I'm not a fan and do not support this project. Strip any government tax funding & any funding associated in running it and lower taxes! This is a from of socialism. I do not need the government choosing where I want to donate my money for causes. Our local government should not be involved and this should come from 100% non-profit organizations, not tax payers.	Thank you for your input.	46835
461	I do see a need for more help for homeless people. However, concentrating resources in one neighborhood puts additional stress on the area businesses and St. Paul's school. These entities are already dealing with drug paraphernalia, disorderly people, defecation, and worse, to add more homeless people to that part of town only adds more stress to the system. Other areas of town have homeless people as well, surely the city can find an alternative to this plan. Additionally, I don't think the money budgeted and the estimate of costs will cover the costs of the shelter(resource center). And the true costs are more than financial, they will affect the neighborhood for years to come.	Thank you for your input. The Anchor is intended to improve conditions downtown by providing a place where individuals experiencing homelessness can access services, basic needs, and connections to housing rather than relying on public spaces. The facility will have 24/7 staffing, security procedures, a code of conduct, and coordination with community partners to support safety for guests, businesses, residents, and visitors. The Anchor Board will continue to refine operating and security procedures prior to opening.	46815
462	What is the plan to address the influx in the number of people and the number of police responses required? How will the police department be able to respond to not only the mission but this place as well while the department is undersized for a population as big as Fort Wayne? Why isn't what Lafayette Police department being made public, such as number of calls doubling, number of homeless doubling, and number of officers needed just to address the shelter?	The Anchor Resource Center is being designed to reduce, not increase, unnecessary emergency responses by connecting individuals to appropriate services before situations become crises. The Resource Center will have 24/7 staffing, on-site security, clear behavioral expectations, and partnerships with healthcare providers, behavioral health providers, outreach teams, and law enforcement. The planning team has visited and learned from similar resource centers, including Lafayette's LTHC. Those lessons have influenced the Anchor's operations, security planning, facility design, and community partnerships. Every community is different, and the Anchor's operations will be tailored to meet the needs of Fort Wayne while working closely with the Fort Wayne Police Department and other public safety partners.	46825
463	It is needed and location is good.	Thank you for your input.	46816
464	Having lived in Los Angeles for many years and witnessed the many well-meaning but short-sighted attempts at curbing the issues of	Thank you for your input.	46802

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	homelessness, I am very concerned that this project will bring more problems to our downtown than it will solve. With the commitment of forward-thinking city leaders and the support of taxpayers, the transformation of downtown Fort Wayne has been a source of pride for our city. When the Rescue Mission moved to its current location, there was a noticeable increase in the homeless population downtown. The proposed project, located in such close proximity to the Rescue Mission, will only make the issue worse, and make residents and visitors to our city reluctant to spend their time and money downtown. I think we can all agree that the homeless problem is a complex one, but the unfortunate truth is that many people "experiencing" homelessness are doing so by choice. Providing the services that the proposal promises may certainly be worth exploring, but the location being considered will only serve to bring more concerning behavior to our beautiful downtown, and increase the likelihood that future projects will be unpalatable to the residents and taxpayers whose support will be required. Let's learn from other cities that have attempted, and oftentimes failed, to curb the problem of homelessness, and consider an alternate location for the proposed services.		
465	I've seen similar situations play out in several other up and coming cities. They get some press, get some buzz, get some cache, like Ft. Wayne has gotten over the past several years, and suddenly they turn left. Why? Nothing says "Welcome to Downtown Ft. Wayne" quite like seeing hordes of urine soaked, drug addicted, drunken hobos wandering around Parkview Field, The Hilton, and the Botanical Conservatory. Wise up!	Thank you for your input.	46804
466	Why not move it to the old GE building not being used. It could start out small and then add if needed	Thank you for your input. One of the most important criteria for location is that it not be located in a residential area. Additionally, plans for future phases of Electric Works are not compatible with a resource center.	46825
467	This is a necessary place that is needed. The vote should be to move forward to complete this project at this location.	Thank you for your input.	46807
468	Love this idea of the resource center! It is so needed downtown. The proposed location is absolutely perfect.	Thank you for your input.	46807

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469	This location is great!!! There is a large need in that area. It will provide a much needed service in the down town area. Changing location will also set back the project unnecessarily.	Thank you for your input.	46807
470	Homeless shelter should be away from downtown as Fort Wayne working on revitalizing downtown. Been to places in Europe like Ireland, Spain etc and they have their homeless shelter in the downtown too and it wasn't pleasant and safe. People hang around outside the shelter where they smoke and does not maintain cleanliness also very uncomfortable. Please think of the businesses surrounding the area they bring jobs , pay taxes and help the economy. People will be discouraged to go to downtown	Thank you for your input.	46818
471	While I appreciate the thought of helping people. I think the addition of this facility downtown would be detrimental to the positive economic growth and development our downtown has seen in the recent years. There is a similar low barrier shelter around the Lafayette area that can be viewed as a perfect example of what our downtown would become. People lying around everywhere. Massive increase in crime, break-ins, and human feces and urine everywhere. Please consider building this, but keeping it out of downtown! Move it closer to the new jail. Plenty of space and a safe area. Better for everyone!	Thank you for your input. The majority of our homeless population is already downtown and lacks reliable access to transportation, so spreading services across multiple areas would make it much harder for people to reach the support they need. Additionally, we have visited Lafayette several times and are learning from their model and anticipate several changes that will improve this model in Fort Wayne, such as regular perimeter checks and an outside courtyard that will be shielded from public view.	46802
472	We spend lots of time downtown, my kids go to a school downtown, not the school next to the resource center, but another school. We used to swim at the y downtown, and utilize the downtown library. I have witnessed not safe situations for children or women with the homeless population. I understand the desire to help the homeless, and also wish to help those that are in need, but the desire to do good does not always yield successful outcomes. You also need to protect individuals especially children and their families who are investing into downtown. Have the current homeless resource centers, helped the homeless population, have they decreased the amount of homeless, have they increased the safety of downtown? I would argue not, show the data on the current resources before you put more money into another resource. It seems like what you are doing is not effective and therefore not an effecient use of funds.	Thank you for your input.	46814
473	The project background portion of the city's website indicates that in December of 2025 the scoring committee determined the	Thank you for your thoughtful questions.	46805

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	recommendation to create a new nonprofit to operate the center and took that to City Council. City Council stated the need to determine operation funding should be completed prior to purchasing the building. Paperwork for the organization was filed in February of 2026 to create the organization. In March of 2026 the first board members were identified and meet. In April, the first official organization meeting took place. Based on a newspaper article on a quilt of support published on 7/4/26, the organization had 4 board members, and one has resigned. Has the new organization been able to fulfill the City Councils directive of determining operational funds prior to purchasing a building? The City toured 333 East Washington Blvd. in September of 2025 and hired the architect in January of 2026 with plans presented in May of 2026. First board members were identified in March 2026 and the first meeting was in April of 2026. How many outside (non-city employee/scoring committee) stakeholder planning input meetings took place with the design team, how many outside stakeholders were involved with those meetings, and how many planning input meetings took place with the new board and design team prior to the May announcement? In the newspaper article regarding the quilt of support, it was mentioned that the mayor's office and city council had appointments to the new nonprofits. What appointments have each body made to the organization? The City has stated that numerous sites were reviewed and eliminated. The architect was identified in January 2026 to address the renovations for 333 E Washington, alluding to not being involved with the evaluation of other locations. What were the other sites evaluated, why were they eliminated, and who was a part of the evaluation process? Why was a maximum acquisition cost of \$2,000,000 decided as one of the two baseline cutoff factors if no funding plan was developed? The current site represents a location of known institutionalized entrapment for those with various backgrounds based on state law, who	The current estimated annual operating budget for the Anchor Resource Center is approximately \$1.2 million, and approximately \$3.1 million has already been committed toward operations, providing funding for nearly the first three years of operation. The planning process has included City staff, the Anchor Board of Directors, architects, service providers, public safety representatives, and other community stakeholders. As the project moves forward, the Anchor Board will continue to develop operational policies and make decisions regarding the facility's day-to-day operations. Multiple potential locations were evaluated during the planning process based on a variety of factors, including size, cost, condition, accessibility, proximity to services, and the ability to support the Resource Center's operational needs. The Anchor Resource Center and the City will comply with all applicable federal, state, and local laws. Operational policies, including those related to safety, eligibility, and legal compliance, will be finalized prior to opening. Questions regarding potential legal liability, hypothetical scenarios, or specific property evaluations are beyond the scope of this FAQ.	

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	may or may not know proximities to nearby services. The city has stated that it is on the individual to know where they can stay, not the city or organization managing the center. If the true goal is a center where all services are open to all in need, why is this known issue being ignored at this location? How many of the other evaluated sites did not possess a violation to known proximity restrictions based on State Law? What liability does the City have if a restricted individual stays and receives additional charges without knowing the proximities or stays and commits another offense against a nearby protected individual, given the city knows of the proximity issue with the site prior to purchase and has been part of the messaging that no verification methods will be required? The city is the property owner, has documented that it has been the main driver behind the site selection, and is an integral party to the establishment of the nonprofit operation entity. I truly believe a center like this is needed to serve all those in need. I think this location has the potential to bring long-term legal exposure to the City, given the proximity to other protected uses, if individuals facing hard and desperate choices are not completely honest. I believe there may be other nearby locations such as 505 E Washington, with similar proximity to the other services nearby and further from protected uses, but might have been eliminated due to price. It is adjacent to another property of a former daycare facility that had also been recently on the market and is tied to Ivy Tech's address through the property report card records. That could give the center an entire city block to operate off of and be adjacent to one of the highlighted supporters and one of the funding supporters.		
474	I work for Fort Wayne Adult & Teen Challenge. We are opening up a men's center once the remodeling is done at 2025 Olladale drive blvd. I think you should be aware of our program and non profit. We help adult men 18 struggling with any life controlling issues and have been around for 68 years and have centers in over 130 countries. Often many of our residents our coming out of homelessness as we currently have 4 other centers in	Thank you for your input.	46808

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	the state. We don't take insurance and most resident don't pay anything to live with us for 12-18 months while we help them become successful members of society once again or maybe for the first time. I think it would be really important to know this is something already about to start that isn't a new idea but an already proven success. We are already working with Allen County Commissioners office and have 12 active board members all from Allen County.		
475	I again want to express my UTMOST SUPPORT of the Anchor Resource Center. We are stronger together as a community and that means helping everyone. If we want to solve the problem of the unhoused, we need to provide them with a hand up and not a hand out and that's exactly what this resource center does. It needs to remain central to transportation, healthcare, community resources. These are not people to be hidden away and shipped off, these are human beings who deserve respect and kindness and empathy and help to get themselves on a better path. I hope that anyone opposing this never finds themselves in a situation where they would need this center but rather can find the empathy we're supposed to have to help those less fortunate. Please make sure we can have the Anchor Resource Center.	Thank you for your input.	46835
476	There is the Rescue Mission downtown already. The mission already attracts homeless from all over the state. Tha puts a bigger strain on the resources. Why is there need and want to locate another shelter downtown? This lower barrier shelter will attract more homeless with more problems downtown such as petty crime, drug dealing and usage, and more violence.	The Anchor is not intended to replace or duplicate existing shelters. The Rescue Mission and other existing providers are critical partners in the community's homelessness response system. The Anchor will serve as a centralized access point for coordinated entry, basic needs, housing navigation, and connections to services that help individuals move toward shelter and permanent housing. The goal of the Anchor is to improve coordination among existing providers, provide access to resources that are not currently available 24/7, and help connect individuals experiencing homelessness to appropriate services and housing options. The Anchor Board will establish operating procedures, safety protocols, and partnerships prior to opening.	46806
477	I fully support the proposed downtown resource center for families & individuals facing homelessness. This project was thoughtfully researched and planned. I visit downtown Fort Wayne several times each week, walking the streets to restaurants and events. Persons are	Thank you for your input.	46804

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	homeless for a multitude of reasons but are NOT largely a danger to others including children. Let's dispel that myth! Please proceed with this plan for further services to my fellow Fort Wayne citizens.		
478	The resource center should be located in DTFW. Not in a neighborhood. Not next to or adjacent to a neighborhood. The location at 333 E Washington Blvd seems ideal. It's close to other resources. It's not in, next to, or adjacent to a residential neighborhood. The Rescue Mission, that does receive sex offenders, is closer to St Peter's than 333 E Washington. The Y allows unhoused residents to sit in their lobby and to use their chapel. Those 2 entities being used as reasons to oppose the proposed resource center location is a specious argument.	Thank you for your input.	46802
479	Given that local shelters are at capacity, what will be the timeline established for having beds available to those in need? What will be the requirements for folks occupying a bed? (I.e. number of nights permitted, enforcing/ following laws regarding permanent address for those on sex offender lists, separation of women & children and men (we were told by Mayor Tucker) - but what about families or men with children?)	The Anchor will provide limited overnight stabilization cots as part of its services, while the primary goal remains connecting individuals to appropriate shelter, treatment, and permanent housing resources. The timeline for making cots available will depend on completion of renovations, staffing, and final operational planning. Overnight accommodations will have established procedures regarding length of stay, guest expectations, safety, and referrals. The Anchor Board is responsible for finalizing these policies prior to opening. The Center will comply with all applicable laws and regulations, including requirements related to registered sex offenders, and will coordinate with local law enforcement and community partners as appropriate. The Anchor will serve individuals and families experiencing homelessness. The facility design and operating procedures will address the needs of different populations, including families, single adults, women, and men with children, while prioritizing safety for all guests. Specific bed availability, eligibility requirements, and operating procedures will be finalized by the Anchor Board prior to opening.	46835
480	What is your response to Allen County officials who said you didn't seek to work with them? Is this true? If so, then some places community members have mentioned, such as renovations to the former jail, actually could be an option to look further into, couldn't it?	Thank you for your input.	46835

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481	I live and work downtown, and I've watched our community invest in shelters and support services for years. Despite those efforts, every new shelter and resource reaches capacity, and then demand continues to grow. The next shelter will fill, and so will the one after that. There has to be a point where we recognize that simply adding more shelters is not a sustainable long-term solution. It is not the City's responsibility to solve every challenge facing the unhoused population, particularly by concentrating additional shelters in the downtown area. Downtown has been on a positive trajectory, with growing businesses, residents, and investment. I am concerned that adding yet another shelter downtown risks undermining that progress. I urge the City to consider solutions that balance compassion with the long-term health and vitality of our downtown, rather than continuing to concentrate these services in one area.	Thank you for your input.	46802
482	Someone from St. Paul's mentioned having to deal with an overdose situation next to their school/ gate and the response from some community members came across as "thats life" or "kids see worse than that everyday". Why are we, as a community, not doing everything we can to protect our children? Kids know that difficult things happen, and it's true, they're exposed to things no child should have to see/ hear/ experience on a far too regular basis. But that should make us want to step up and do all we can to protect them - not have them fear walking down a sidewalk to go to aftercare at the YMCA, or worry about people harassing them during field trips downtown, or seeing people OD next to their school. And please do not insult our intelligence with "if we build the ARC, then that problem won't exist because it'll give people without a home a place to go instead". You have no way to guarantee that locating the ARC in the proposed location will lessen those issues when, if you look at other resource centers in other cities, there's a decent chance it will actually exacerbate those issues.	Thank you for your input.	46802
483	I fully support this resource center. I think the city has done extensive and effective collaborative research. It appears to me that all the reservations expressed by council and residents have already been acknowledged and addressed with care and appropriate plans. Please do not let uninformed fear based on misperceptions of homeless people deter the plans for this center.	Thank you for your input.	46835

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484	I truly believe the city is correct in the proposed project, as someone who has worked with the homeless over the last few years, I believe the center is needed. BUT I have said from first hearing of the project WRONG LOCATION. As the city has worked so hard to bring the downtown alive over the last several years, the location proposed is going to do damage to that area. On any Saturday morning in the summer months, you'll find several hundred folks congregating on the very street that run along the site. Goodbye summer farmers market! I know this sounds sad, but people will not be opened to shopping and mixing with those who will be using the facility. 2nd - this end of the downtown is also the Theater district, with the performing arts center and the Arts museum. Once again will the public feel comfortable in the area. I realize this sounds harsh, but the reality of the location does truly affect the continue spirit of the downtown. A location just a block or two east or south would be so much better for all concerned. Perhaps Mathew 25 bldg could be used or a new building could be erected with funds the city is requesting and additional fund raised in a true city- wide fund campaign involving all the churches, private citizens, corporations, etc. I realize that may sound like a pipe dream on fund raising, but Fort Wayne has a big heart when asked for a truly good and honest project.	Why was this location selected instead of other possible locations, such as the Matthew 25 building? The City evaluated multiple potential locations as part of the planning process. A complete list of locations considered is being provided to City Council for review. The selected location provides access to transportation, existing service providers, employment opportunities, and other community resources. The Anchor is moving forward based on the availability of the site, the timeline needed to address the community's current needs, and its suitability for the planned services. Why not wait for another location or a new building to be developed? The need for coordinated services and access to basic resources exists now. The Anchor project has been developed over several years and is moving forward with an available site that can be renovated and brought into operation more quickly than constructing a new facility. The Anchor Board will continue developing partnerships, services, and operating procedures while preparing for opening.	46819
485	I'm fully in support of your plans for the Anchor Resource Center and it's proposed location on E. Washington Blvd. It needs to be downtown and near the other services that our unhoused brothers and sisters need. I want our City Council to give it the backing (financially and otherwise) that it needs. Quit stalling!	Thank you for your input.	46809
486	During the public comment meeting, which had a phenomenal turnout, the owners Purple Mountain Cheesecake mentioned having to sell their food truck because of the constant vandalism and, if I remember correctly, they said people were sleeping in there as well. I've also heard a lot of push-back from others saying "it was teenagers, not homeless people". Or when people have mentioned feces on the sidewalk, others are saying it's "irresponsible dog owners". This honestly sounds like certain people are trying to shift blame rather than addressing the actual problems. And locating the ARC right across the road from Purple Mountain Cheesecake isn't going to solve said issues. Yes, the ARC would be open 24/7, but for those who want to consume their alcohol or	Thank you for your input.	46802

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	use drugs, the ARC won't be the place for them to actively do those things so they'll still have to fend for themselves on the streets - next to businesses - which will also deter visitors and tourism.		
487	Who will be providing all of the resources the ARC is touted to offer? The ARC has been presented as this amazing 24/7 place that will help people get back on their feet because other resources are not available at all hours. So who exactly is providing all of these resources? Which resources, specifically, will people be able to receive at the ARC? How are these resources going to be better than those already available elsewhere? For those resources which the ARC cannot/ will not offer, how will having a 24/7 center being available be any more helpful than utilizing resources that are already available elsewhere?	The Anchor will provide core stabilization services directly, including coordinated entry, housing navigation, showers, restrooms, laundry, mail services, phone charging, storage, and connections to shelter and housing resources. Community partners will provide or connect guests to additional services such as primary healthcare, behavioral healthcare, substance use treatment, peer recovery support, employment assistance, benefits enrollment, legal assistance, and case management. The Anchor is not intended to replace existing providers. Its purpose is to improve coordination, create a central access point, and ensure individuals have a place to begin the process of connecting to available resources. The 24/7 model is a key component of the Anchor because homelessness and the need for basic resources, safety, and support do not occur only during traditional business hours. While many existing services operate during scheduled hours, the Anchor will provide continuous access to basic needs, connection to resources, and a pathway toward housing stability. Partner participation, service schedules, and final operating procedures will be established by the Anchor Board prior to opening.	46802
488	The best location is 333 E Washington Blvd in DTFW and not near the neighborhoods. And if not there then on the boulevard of Forest Park Blvd. Or maybe the west end of Lakeside Park.	Thank you for your input.	46805
489	In my opinion it's irresponsible to incentivize homelessness in a climate zone that where it can result in death from frigid temperatures. We should simply be using the resources to give them a one time clothing and hygiene overhaul and get them a bus ticket to the nearest state where it doesn't get as lethally cold. Probably a homeless shelter in that state nearby a lot of easy entry job opportunities. This solution will be a hard pill to swallow for people on both sides of the issue but it's objectively the only solution that is the most humane and doesn't leave anyone behind.	Thank you for your input.	46806

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490	What are you going to do to provide safety for people around the area? The city already removed benches from the Barr St Market due to vagrants hanging around there, yet you want to provide a whole block for them to congregate much like Clay St.	The Anchor is intended to improve safety and quality of life by providing a centralized location where individuals experiencing homelessness can access services, shelter referrals, and housing assistance rather than relying on public spaces. The facility will have 24/7 staffing, security personnel, cameras, a code of conduct, and established procedures for addressing safety concerns. The Anchor Board will finalize operational and security procedures prior to opening and will work with community partners, including local law enforcement, to support a safe environment for guests, staff, and the surrounding neighborhood.	46805
491	Fort Wayne has become a homeless destination for people due to the outpouring of services we give. We need to have better restrictions on who gets the benefits of local tax dollars. Keep the transient people away by providing services for locals only. We have too many amenities that attract a higher numbers of people coming here.	Thank you for your input. Last year, Mayor Tucker and the City Council collaborated on an ordinance that empowered the City to cite organizations that drop off homeless people in Fort Wayne without a plan for how the homeless people who are dropped off are going to get services. This inhumane practice leaves the homeless person in a community with no social support network and no knowledge about where services are available. The City has sent cease and desist letters to organizations in central Indiana that have paid ride-sharing services to drop homeless individuals in Fort Wayne and has issued citations to an organization that has done this twice. The cease and desist letters and the citations resulted from calls for service in the downtown district.	46807
492	I would like to encourage our leadership to strongly consider the long term and perhaps unintended consequences that establishing a low barrier resource center would bring on downtown Fort Wayne. Establishing this center will create a magnet that will attract homeless from other locations who are in areas without such a resource to come here for the benefits this center provides. I don't believe there is any way to try to deny this other than simply refusing to accept reality. Studies have shown that many of these individuals will have addiction issues (drugs/alcohol), mental issues or both. It then stands to reason that more drug dealers will then come to the fringes of this area to prey on an increased customer base. In seems some like to present the homeless issue as if all homeless are helpless. If that indeed is the case then how does the low barrier solution	Thank you for your input. The City has been working with Blue Jacket, Parview Behavioral Health, the Rescue Mission and others on the homeless resource center. These partners and others will be vital to the success of this effort. Additionally, last year, Mayor Tucker and the City Council collaborated on an ordinance that empowered the City to cite organizations that drop off homeless people in Fort Wayne without a plan for how the homeless people who are dropped off are going to get services. This inhumane practice leaves the homeless person in a community with no social support network and no knowledge about where services are available. The City has sent cease and desist letters to organizations in central Indiana that have paid ride-sharing services to drop homeless individuals in Fort Wayne and has issued citations to an organization that has done this twice. The cease and desist letters	46765

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	help them long term? In my opinion it is dangerous and reckless to advertise downtown as a place of recreation and education to families while knowingly establishing “services” that attract people to that very same area with major mental and addiction issues. My suggestion to our mayor and our city council is to work more with organizations like Blue Jacket and The Rescue Mission to focus on providing real opportunities to those who would like a hand up. In tandem with this we need bring in other organizations like Parkview Behavioral Health who can compassionately assess those with real out of control mental and addiction issues to get them either the real help they do not know they need or to a place they cannot harm anyone or themselves. A major duty of any established government is to protect the ones it serves. To me, protecting all involved needs to be the focus in any discussions moving forward instead of spending well intended donations and eventually tax payer dollars on an idea that at best kicks the can down the road or at worst makes the problem larger.	and the citations resulted from calls for service in the downtown district.	
493	Criminalizing homelessness without offering shelter is cruel and unusual. It is imperative to offer an option other than incarceration PRIOR to using incarceration as punishment for people who cannot afford the cost of housing. I see increasing numbers of people wandering or walking long stretches with luggage and belongings in dangerous weather conditions. It is astonishing that an unhoused person seeking respite in 97 degree heat is considered a criminal instead of a human being in dire need, who is in a life threatening situation. Dealing with homelessness takes addressing the present reality of the circumstances rather than just wishing unhoused people weren't visible, or near you or your business. Without a shelter that is accessible, where will they go? Walk to Indianapolis along the interstate? Perish in the elements? It almost seems as though many of our residents would prefer that over knowing that there is a shelter down the street. Since there is a large Christian population here, what would Jesus do? Tell them to get out of here and call the cops? Addressing the problem. Hope is not a plan.	Thank you for your input.	46845
494	The city moved the jail well outside of the downtown when it was relocated. Why is the city jamming this unmanageable blight into eastern downtown?	The City evaluated multiple potential locations as part of the planning process. The selected location provides access to transportation, existing service providers, employment opportunities, and other	46765-9776

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	The city completely disregards or ignores the honest taxpaying businessmen and women adversely impacted by this site selection. The city MUST respect and honor these concerns of the pending victims of this decision. As a suggestion, if we truly need such a facility, I suggest placing the shelter next to the new jail. Finally, the economics/budget of this project are suspect. My conclusion is the actual costs are underestimated. How will this startup be funded if costs double? Taxpayers deserve better from their elected and appointed officials. Council needs to stop this plan and force better planning and impact analysis for such a facility. Thank you for your consideration.	community resources. A complete list of locations considered is being provided to City Council for review. The Anchor has developed a multi-year operating plan that includes City support, private philanthropy, grants, and other funding sources. The Anchor Board will be responsible for managing the operating budget, securing ongoing funding, and adjusting operations as needed to ensure long-term sustainability.	
495	I am concerned about the location of the proposed homeless resource center. It is within 600 feet of an elementary school, St. Paul's, and proximate to local businesses, art and cultural centers, and a lively Saturday market. This will become the location for more homeless people on the street. The result will be more drug use and crime in the area, further hurting our city's cultural hub. I also have questions about the objectives of the proposed low-barrier resource center. How are families and adults safely served in the same facility?	The Anchor is designed to reduce the number of people experiencing homelessness in public spaces by providing a centralized location for services, housing navigation, and connections to shelter and treatment resources. The facility will include security measures, 24/7 staffing, a code of conduct, and procedures to support the safety of guests, staff, and the surrounding community. The Anchor will serve individuals and families experiencing homelessness. The building design and operating procedures will include designated spaces and processes to support different populations, including families, single adults, and other vulnerable groups. The Anchor will comply with all applicable laws and regulations, including requirements related to registered sex offenders and proximity to schools. The Anchor Board will establish final operating procedures in coordination with community partners, including local law enforcement agencies, prior to opening.	46805

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496	Maybe the mayor and donors should put this blight up by their grandkid's schools instead of somebody else's. You are bringing a population (of whom the majority are deeply disordered) over by a school, by a church, by businesses and by a neighborhood where kids play; this will affect poor families, business owners, and make the city un-walkable in the area. Sort of like how the city is over by the other shelter on Washington. But it's fine when the consequences of your actions aren't affecting your community and progeny. Tone-deaf and shameful abuse of power, funds, and community on behalf of the local governance.	Thank you for your input.	46807
497	I support the project 100 percent. It is needed and the location will be located in a supportive community. I worked with Amanda Fall at the Central Y for 10 years and found her to be a very empathetic strong leader as a director and know she will manage this project well. I have also worked at Mathew 25 and know this is so needed.	Thank you for your input.	46804
498	- No one disputes the need, just the location with no green space, minimal setback from one of the busiest corridors in the city and limited room for expansion. - It was said that there have been "hundreds" of meetings the past two years. That is a lot of meetings. Were there really that many? Are there minutes from those meetings? - Where are the other locations that were looked at and dismissed? - Suggest that you consider sites with more room for expansion on less busy streets and a campus environment. How about the former St Vincent's Orphanage on Wells Street or the former Orphanage on Lake Avenue? - If bus service is a concern, just ask Citilink to provide a stop. They cover the city very well and citizens are never far from service. - Thanks for your efforts to help the homeless people in Fort Wayne. Please just find a better location for all concerned, Thanks -	The City evaluated multiple potential locations as part of the planning process. A complete list of locations considered is being provided to City Council for review. The site selection process included consideration of factors such as access to transportation, proximity to existing service providers, available infrastructure, cost, and suitability for the planned services. Community engagement and planning for the Anchor have included numerous meetings with service providers, community organizations, neighborhood stakeholders, elected officials, and other partners. Supporting planning documents, including the draft operations plan and security plan developed by the Anchor Board, are being provided to council for review.	46825
499	I just wanted to say I support the current proposed homeless center.	Thank you for your input.	46845
500	Can't a portion of the Electric Works project be used as a practical solution to this issue?	The City evaluated various options during the planning process. The Washington Avenue location was selected because it provides access to transportation, existing service providers, employment opportunities, and other community resources. Electric Works serves	46835

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		a different purpose as a mixed-use innovation district and was not identified as a suitable location for the services planned for the Anchor.	
501	I think this center is needed and the proposed location is in the correct area.	Thank you for your input.	46815
502	As a member of First Wayne United Methodist Church, I frequently come in contact with homeless individuals. I have never felt endangered when interacting with these people. They are human beings who have experienced varied issues that have led them to their current situation. As a parent who lost their daughter to the vagaries of substance abuse, I have an appreciation of the circumstances that lead people to homelessness. I fully support the proposed homeless resource center at the Washington Blvd. location. The proposed center is a sorely needed addition to the service system that serves the homeless population.	Thank you for your input.	46825
503	The entire concept of the Anchor Resource Center is a much needed to assist those in need. However, the location is WRONG. By locating the Center at 333 E. Washington Blvd., you are essentially 'carving out' that block as a 'homeless haven' and the area bounded by that location will become devoid of any new investments/businesses. People will avoid that area....guaranteed! I enjoy walking downtown and do so quite frequently. My route frequently takes me down Washington Blvd. but I always stop short of the area by the Rescue Mission because I do not want to encounter all the folks walking around, standing along the building just 'hanging out'. And that is what is going to happen, just like me, people will avoid that area, and you will have in essence created an 'island'. There are other locations that could have been selected that are still withing walking distance to the Mission which would have a lesser impact on local businesses, churches and schools. You need to do more homework!	Thank you for your input.	46825
504	I serve a a Board of Elementary Education member at St. Paul's Lutheran Church and School. We have very serious concerns with the city locating this low-barrier homeless resource center so close to our school, the YMCA, and other downtown businesses. The Rescue Mission already brings some significant challenges to this area of downtown; adding this shelter would only compound those challenges. Our school has been here since 1837. We would appreciate the city continuing to keep this	The City selected the downtown location because it provides access to public transportation, existing service providers, employment opportunities, healthcare, and other community resources. The goal is to connect individuals with services in one centralized location while improving coordination across the homeless response system. The facility will operate with 24/7 staffing, security measures, and a Good Neighbor Agreement to support the surrounding neighborhood.	46825

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	area safe for schools and businesses to thrive. I totally oppose the location that is currently proposed for this shelter.		
505	The proposed location for the resource center is the perfect location. The people it will serve are already in that area. That location is among other resources to help the homeless community.	Thank you for your input.	46802
506	I absolutely support access to these resources for homeless and this location makes perfect sense!	Thank you for your input.	46818
507	I don't live in that vicinity but I think this proposed homeless location would be ideal because of the other homeless services that are provided in the downtown area. It just makes sense. I pray that the best decision will be made in this situation and the people that oppose will reconsider and come together to make this happen for the homeless community. Thanks, Mayor Tucker and your team of officials for all you've done and continue to try and do for our city. God bless!	Thank you for your input.	46814
508	Consider working with the County to renovate a portion of what will be the "former" County Jail as that facility will be emptied soon. The caveat is to start small and do it right so that it is a respectable, accessible, and expandable option not a second rate , second class, or demeaning facility. The building has all the necessary lobby, water, electrical, parking, and space to both accommodate and expand. The former jail location is likely already outside of areas of concern that are close to public schools, shopping, day cares, etc. Just a thought to reinforce there are likely suitable facilities not either downtown or near the downtown area that can be renovated and mitigate the concerns raised.	Thank you for your input. Regarding the downtown jail: that property is owned by Allen County and is not available for City use. Additionally, it sits too close to downtown's primary visitor and recreation areas, which makes it incompatible with our siting standards.	46814
509	If you have a home to sleep in tonight then allow the earliest available place to open for someone who does not. The time to reconsider other places is past. Direct your energys into the perceived problems you fear instead of making these people wait another night. Also quit ignoring the unhoused with animals. They are just as important.	Thank you for your input.	46825
510	This is a well thought out plan. Please go forward with it. The needs based services and solution oriented programs far out weigh NIMBY worries.	Thank you for your input.	46804
511	I am opposed to building another homeless shelter in Fort Wayne, particularly a low-barrier shelter. Fort Wayne already has a variety of resources and services available for individuals experiencing homelessness. Adding another facility would not	Thank you for your input. The Anchor is designed to fill gaps in Fort Wayne's existing homeless response system, not duplicate existing services. While many community partners provide shelter, meals, healthcare, and	46809

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	provide significant new services beyond what already exists. Instead, it risks duplicating resources while creating additional challenges for nearby neighborhoods and businesses. My primary concern is the low-barrier model. While the intention may be to increase accessibility, it can also reduce accountability and make it more difficult to address issues related to crime, public safety, and quality of life. Many residents and business owners worry that such a facility could attract individuals with ongoing behavioral, substance abuse, or criminal issues, placing additional strain on the community. There is also concern that expanding shelter capacity may encourage other communities to direct homeless individuals to Fort Wayne, increasing the local burden rather than solving the underlying problem. Nearby businesses could experience negative impacts, including reduced customer traffic and declining property values. In addition, a growing homeless-services industry has developed in many cities that receives substantial public funding but often shows limited success in reducing long-term homelessness. Cities such as San Francisco are frequently cited as examples where large expenditures have not produced the desired outcomes. Rather than continuously expanding shelter capacity, efforts should focus on measurable results, accountability, mental health treatment, addiction recovery, job training, and pathways to permanent housing. Homelessness is a complex issue. Some individuals struggle with severe mental illness, addiction, or other challenges that cannot be solved simply by adding another shelter. Before investing in additional facilities, the city should carefully evaluate whether existing resources are being used effectively and whether new approaches would produce better long-term outcomes for both those in need and the community as a whole.	specialized services, the Anchor will provide a 24/7 access point for basic stabilization services, coordinated entry, housing navigation, and connections to community resources. Low barrier simply means removing unnecessary obstacles that prevent people from accessing services. It does not mean there are no rules, no supervision, or no expectations. The Anchor Resource Center will operate with a Guest Code of Conduct, 24/7 staffing, on-site security, security cameras, controlled access, and appropriate consequences for rule violations. Additionally, last year, Mayor Tucker and the City Council collaborated on an ordinance that empowered the City to cite organizations that drop off homeless people in Fort Wayne without a plan for how the homeless people who are dropped off are going to get services. This inhumane practice leaves the homeless person in a community with no social support network and no knowledge about where services are available. The City has sent cease and desist letters to organizations in central Indiana that have paid ride-sharing services to drop homeless individuals in Fort Wayne and has issued citations to an organization that has done this twice. The cease and desist letters and the citations resulted from calls for service in the downtown district.	
512	Do not put it off Barr Street!!	Thank you for your input.	46809
513	Fort Wayne has built a premier farmer's market on Barr St. Why would vendors and shoppers want to go down there to be around homeless	The City selected the downtown location because it provides access to public transportation, existing service providers, employment	46825

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	people who won't mix in. I don't and I am sure you will lose many others including the food trucks and vendors. Still don't understand why you even want to put this by a liquor store like you did the Rescue Mission. No part of this make sense. You want to upset the good churches, schools and businesspeople in the surrounding area that thought they were in a nice part of downtown. Plus, the Mayor doesn't even seem to care. She wants to do her agenda no matter how it affects others. Everyone is going to lose using this location. I think it needs to happen, but not there for sure! I wish I had a suggestion on where to go, but there are people better fitted in the real estate market that will help with that.	opportunities, healthcare, and other community resources. The goal is to connect individuals with services in one centralized location while improving coordination across the homeless response system. The facility will operate with 24/7 staffing, security measures, and a Good Neighbor Agreement to support the surrounding neighborhood.	
514	It's embarrassing to me that a decision to go ahead with the project was postponed. Our city desperately needs this and the plan has been well made and researched	Thank you for your input.	46748
515	The human beings for whom the Anchor Resource Center is to be activated are our neighbors. We all deserve compassion and help. The proposed Center is meant to offer such kindness and direction from necessary sources. I am grateful such a centering of resources will soon be available for our fellow human beings! Please proceed!	Thank you for your input.	46804-2872
516	I am favor of the proposed homeless resource center and its proposed location. The services are certainly needed. The location was made virtually inevitable by approving the Rescue Mission relocation. The cat is out of the bag. The die is cast. The area around the Rescue Mission is the de facto center of homeless services. That decision was already made.	Thank you for your input.	46805
517	How will the Center screen for sex offenders? How long can a person use the cots at the Center? If housing cannot be found for the person, how long can they stay? What resources will be given? Will drug/alcohol, and mental health counselling b available? With who and where? How will people get to off-site services? Who will pay for these services? What are your outcome measures for the Shelter? How do you determine it is a success? Or a failure? How will the Shelter increase housing options for people? What about the private contractors you contacted led you to the decision not to use them?	The Anchor Board will establish admission and safety procedures before opening. Draft operations and security plans include guest registration, staff oversight, and coordination with law enforcement as appropriate. Overnight cots are intended for short-term stabilization while individuals are connected to shelter, treatment, or housing resources. Specific length-of-stay policies will be established by the Anchor Board prior to opening. The Anchor will provide coordinated entry, housing navigation, referrals to shelter and treatment, showers, restrooms, laundry, mail services, phone charging, storage, meals and basic necessities	46805

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		through community partners, and space for partner agencies to provide services. Community partners are expected to provide primary and behavioral healthcare, substance use treatment, peer recovery support, employment assistance, benefits enrollment, legal assistance, and case management. The Anchor is not a treatment facility. Community partners are expected to provide behavioral health, substance use treatment, peer recovery support, and healthcare services on-site or through referrals. The final service model will be determined by the Anchor Board and its partner agencies. Staff will help connect individuals to community providers and available transportation options. Transportation procedures will be finalized by the Anchor Board prior to opening. Services will be funded through a combination of partner agencies, insurance or Medicaid when applicable, grants, charitable support, and other existing funding sources. The Anchor itself is not expected to pay for all partner-provided services. The Anchor's primary measures of success will focus on connecting people to shelter, treatment, and permanent housing while reducing the amount of time individuals remain unsheltered. The Anchor Board will finalize performance measures before opening. The Anchor does not create housing units. It improves access to existing housing resources by providing coordinated entry, housing navigation, and connections to landlords, housing programs, and community partners that assist individuals in obtaining permanent housing. The City evaluated multiple operating models during the planning process. After reviewing available options, it determined that establishing an independent nonprofit to operate the Anchor would	

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		provide the greatest long-term flexibility, community ownership, and sustainability. The Anchor Board will be responsible for day-to-day operations.	
518	I am not against helping the homeless, but I am against this facility in this location. --Low barrier shelters do not help to fight drug and alcohol abuse, which are a large problem driving homelessness and the problems with the behavior of the homeless population. It is inhumane to treat these people as sub-human and incapable of self-control. --This plan prioritizes the desires and comfort of the homeless over the safety, well-being, and livelihoods of law-abiding tax-paying citizens. We should not be concentrating the homeless population in an area that already feels borderline unsafe because of the current homeless population, and we definitely should not be talking about funding a facility like this so close to a school. Fort Wayne has spent millions of dollars on our downtown, and it has become a great place to be, but, over the last couple of years, the homeless population has made it feel far less safe, especially in areas where they congregate like around the main library, Promenade Park, and around the Rescue Mission. This will only make all of that worse as it draws more problematic homeless people to the area. There are places in the city where this could be done outside of the center of downtown. They will go where the services are. They know how to use the buses. --Our family is downtown often for the library, TinCaps games, the Botanical Conservatory, the farmer's market, and restaurant dinners. My grandchildren have witnessed public urination, drug use, and been verbally accosted by an obviously drunk vagrant. This is not acceptable, and this project will only serve to make these occurrences more common. --In summary: Wrong location. Wrong priorities. Wrong path.	Thank you for your input.	46807
519	The proposed site appears to be the best one for the Homeless, due to the location. It seems to be, in the area, that would, hopefully, have the best chance of changing lives...please vote yes...	Thank you for your input.	46804

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520	I believe your concept of a low barrier shelter is flawed. You are using one site to serve too many different needs. The needs of "the working poor" are different than those with drug, alcohol and mental health issues. Yo do not even have statistics on what percentage each group represents in the homeless population. These populations are very different and different locations and services are necessary for each. Ant center trying to do all at 1 location is a disservice to all homeless people.	Thank you for your input.	46802
521	As a longtime resident of the Fort, I've never been more in support of a project in the city-- with the state of things as they are right now, more and more people are struggling, and Fort Wayne needs to be able to help catch them when they fall! I am fully, completely in support of this new shelter, and I hope it is able to be fully realized.	Thank you for your input.	46806
522	am against having another homeless shelter. Especially a low barrier shelter. It will only attract more of the criminal element. The city of Fort Wayne already provides all of the resources needed and we don't need another facility. This homeless facility won't add anymore services than we already have. Especially a low barrier one. Low barrier is not good. It will depress the city and the local businesses. This will only attract more of the criminal element and promote people dropping off their homeless in Fort Wayne. It is also a money maker for those who deal with the homeless. They don't ever fix the problem because they don't want the government money stopping. San Francisco is an example of this. Most of these people choose to be homeless or have some type of mental illness that is not going to be fixed with another shelter.	Thank you for your input.	46809
523	That a country that can produce a trillionaire has even one homeless person should be viewed as a national disgrace. Actually, more than a disgrace, a crime. I have created and hosted two community forums "Homeless in the City of Churches" a front page story in the Journal Gazette, and a year or so later, "Still Homeless in the City of Churches," that generated a feature story in the JG. My point was what is religion for if not to help promote the best of human behavior which is to help those in need. From what I've read, church members here are doing the	Thank you for your input.	46845

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	opposite, leading opposition to a facility to help those among us who need our help the most. I was raised a Lutheran and attended St. Paul's, one reason I dropped out. I also hosted a call in show with the leader of "Housing First," in Utah. It doesn't take a great thinker to know that providing housing is the biggest need and surest solution to the problem. But so many oppose it because of a greater need, the need to have someone to look down on, to feel superior to. To satisfy that need, we feast on lies, that the homeless are drug addicts and criminals, who aren't deserving of help, overlooking the dismal fact that is our values of worshipping wealth and demonizing the poor that creates the giant gap between the CEO and the worker, low pay, high rent, that creates the homeless problem in the first place. Thank you for providing this forum.		
524	This is entirely unsupported by the community who pays for and enjoys these areas. This will have an everlasting negative impact on the area, the security of visitors, and the sustainability for businesses in the area. But the intent isn't to help people, but to destroy something beautiful. You are all failures at your professions.	Thank you for your input.	46750
525	Why has the mayor's office failed to disclose the 23 other sites considered for the low-barrier facility, what were those sites, what was the criteria by which they were evaluated, and what exactly disqualified each site?	The Mayor's Office has been looking through new suggestions from the community and from real estate professionals. The entire list will be released soon.	46802
526	■ Pursuant information provided, the food/meal services this facility is "providing" appear to be sending clients to the nearby Rescue Mission and St. Mary's Soup Kitchen. If this is correct, is that the reason the City is so adamant in having this facility as close to the Rescue Mission as possible? If this is correct, has the City entered into any written or formal agreement with either the Rescue Mission or St. Mary's Soup Kitchen as to this arrangement? Are these community resources aware of the increased burden of food costs and food preparation you're expecting them to subsidize? Without this food subsidy from Rescue Mission and St. Mary's Soup Kitchen, how much is the City or it's "quilt of partners" allocating for food costs per year? Who will be bearing this cost? The partners? The taxpayers? Rescue Mission and St. Mary's donors? Other?? ■ According to the FAQ, there are no service providers, services, resources or considerations for members of the LGBTQIAA+ community,	The City and Anchor Board recognize the importance of transparency, accountability, public safety, and neighborhood impact. Many of the questions raised are addressed throughout the published responses to submitted questions, as well as the Anchor's draft operations plan, security plan, site evaluation process, and ongoing planning. These materials are being provided to City Council for review, and additional operating procedures will be finalized by the Anchor Board prior to opening. The City and Anchor Board are committed to balancing compassionate services for individuals experiencing homelessness with being a responsible neighbor to residents, businesses, schools, and community organizations.	46801 - 46845

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	including Transgender individuals. Why not? Also, will Transgendered individuals be forced to use bathrooms, showers, beds, etc. based on their genders assigned at birth? Or will considerations be made for their biologically intact gender features and/or their the gender they identify as without regard to gender features? Will non-Transgendered individuals be made aware they are sharing accommodations with Transgendered individuals? Why or why not? Will non-related individuals of differing genders be sheltered overnight together or separately? Why or why not? ■ Why is there no clothing bank or food bank on site? ■ Who is the specific target demographic for this facility? Different groups—such as unaccompanied youth, single adults, families with children, or domestic violence survivors—require vastly different specialized care and security environments. Surely, you're not going to have children and sex offenders in the same spaces? ■ Indiana is a Constitutional Carry state. That means people have a Constitutional right to open-carry or conceal-carry a gun however they want to, wherever they want to. According to the FAQ, the facility will not allow guns. Denying someone shelter who owns a gun while providing shelter to someone who doesn't own a gun is a form of discrimination. How will this be dealt with? ■ Will this facility allow guns and other weapons (knives, razor blades, baseball bats, etc)? If yes, how will those weapons be stored? If no, will those individuals be turned away? Even in Extreme situations like Heat, Cold and Tornadoes? ■ What circumstances would you turn someone away? And where would you send them? ■ Will any gun restrictions apply to just those with a criminal		

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	background or to everyone, including individuals who have a Constitutional right to bear arms?; ■ Will this facility provide drug abusers with Narcan? Also, how will Children, Staff, Volunteers, and Clients who have no drug history be safeguarded from things like fentanyl? ■ Will the facility follow a no barrier model? A low-barrier model? Or a model requiring rules and accountability? Whichever version is being utilized, can someone please explain what that means in terms of this specific facility? Will people be admitted without strict prerequisites like immediate sobriety, background checks, or identification? Without ID and background checks, how do you know whether or not someone seeking shelter isn't a sexual offender or violent predator? How do you know their a legal citizen? ■ How will residency be established for non-residents? Will you be setting people up with a mailbox and getting them registered to vote? ■ What type of shelter is needed most? And how do you know that? How many immediate short-term emergency beds, standard transitional housing beds, extended transitional housing beds and parking spaces will there be at this facility? Why was that number chosen? How many people does the Fire Marshall say you can have at 333 E. Washington Blvd? . ■ Why does the location HAVE TO BE Downtown by the Rescue Mission? Does the location have the correct zoning? ■ A few days ago, the Rescue Mission lost power. It's back-up generator wasn't big enough for the job. Has a back up generator been planned into the budget? What kind of generator is it and when was it purchased?		

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	■ The facility at 333 E. Washington Blvd it accessible via public transportation. But because so many clients can't do not drive, the facility needs to be within walking distance of bus stops, grocery stores, and medical services.But it's not within walking distance of all those things. When is the grocery store going in Downtown and how will the homeless be able to afford it? ■ The City is aware that putting a facility at 333 E. Washington Blvd creates a proximity risk for St. Paul's Lutheran Church & School. So why put it there? Also, why put a facility that's going to house children less than 1,000 feet from the Rescue Mission? ■ What are the rules regarding pets and personal belongings? Prohibiting pets or lacking secure storage for possessions are major reasons why unhoused individuals choose to avoid shelters. ■ How will community and family configurations be handled? Can the Facility accommodate self-defined family groups and partners staying together to avoid breaking up household support networks.What is the facility's behavioral policy? How will Staff handle disruptive or dangerous behaviors without resorting to immediately barring individuals and leaving them completely unsheltered? ■ In your list of online service providers, why aren't other shelters listed as Community Partners or Community Resources? Example: YWCA for victims of domestic violence, Josephine's Place, Charis House, Vincent Village, Just Neighbors, etc. Same question as to Recovery Homes (substance abuse), Re-Entry Homes (post-incarceration), Group Homes (kids who've aged out of foster care), Veterans Homes/Veterans Programs, etc. It seems one of the problems with local homelessness is lack of information - or maybe getting the right information into the right hands. Is there a way to create a printed guide of homeless resources instead of requiring people to use their phones?		

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	■ Why aren't more self-sufficiency resources made available through our Parks system? Example: Solar powered phone charging stations, coin operated lockers, outdoor showers, grills, waste containers and port-o-potties. Why can our parks be turned into homeless parking spaces after hours? ■ Are supportive services integrated on site at this facility? Physically, on site! It seems there's an a lot of service providers for mental health and behavioral health issues, but not for dedicated substance use support, legal assistance, and benefits enrollment. ■ Are supportive services going to be made available to those who get out of jail and transition back into society? If so, what will those be? If not, why not? ■ How does the facility connect to permanent housing? A shelter is a temporary stop. ■ Are there any sobriety or drug-testing requirements to enter? Or to stay?The FAQ is confusing on this point. It sounds like someone can get drunk or high then come in for shelter; leave and repeat. Will those individuals be connected with services? What happens if they refuse services? ■ Will the facility require confirmation of residency (US citizen, Indiana resident), background checks, credit checks, or income verification?Are guests required to present a government-issued ID to get a bed? What happens if they don't have one? Will the facility help them get one? ■ Is entry contingent on participation in religious services, chores, or classes? ■ The FAQ discuss low barrier entry, but what about curfews. Are there		

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	going to be rigid curfews that force people out early in the morning like Rescue Mission does? ■ Will this facility accommodate the "Three Ps": Pets, Possessions, and Partners? Are family units separated by gender, or can they stay together? Is gender self-identified for bed placement? Is there secure storage space for clients personal belongings? Is the storage self-secured by way of locks or will there be some sort of staff oversight? ■ Will the code of conduct be focused on dangerous behaviors rather than rule compliance? What are the specific, absolute criteria that would cause someone to be denied entry? Will this information be posted online and on site, in writing and visible for all to see? ■ Will Staff members and Volunteers be trained in de-escalation, trauma-informed care, and conflict resolution? Will they receive some sort of third party certification for consistency in training, best practices and other similar standards? ■ Will Staff members and Volunteers be trained and certified in First Aid? Are overdose reversal tools like Naloxone (Narcan) going to be easily accessible throughout the building? ■ Is the physical building going to be accessible to individuals with limited mobility or other disabilities? Will ADA Accessible bathrooms be available? If so, will there be more than one ADA bathroom? And will there be multiple styles of ADA bathrooms? One with a roll-in shower? One with a bench seat in the tub? Both with plenty of handrails in tub, shower and toilet areas? Will there be lower wheelchair accessible sinks in any of the bathrooms? ■ For ADA purposes, will there be audio and visual fire alarms throughout the facility?		

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	■ For ADA purposes, will there be either adjustable beds or beds that are lower to make wheelchair and walker transfers easier? ■ How will ADA service animals be accommodated? Will there be any limitations on what kind of service animals will be allowed? Will medical proof or any other proof be required that service animal is needed? ■ Will emotional support animals be accommodated? Will there be any limitations on what kind of support animals will be allowed? Will any other proof be required that support animal is needed? ■ Will pets be accommodated? Will there be any limitations or restrictions as to type or size of pet? ■ Will people with ADA service animals, emotional support animals and pets be separated from people without pets? Especially those with allergies. ■ Are housing conversations happening during the very first contact or intake? If not then, when? ■ Will there be a way for people to register and check in online in advance of physically coming to facility? ■ How will success be measured? Will it be measured by nightly bed counts or by exits into permanent housing? ■ If someone must be asked to leave due to violent behavior, is there a clear restorative path to return? Will this be in writing, some place visible?		

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	■ Will smoking legal substances (cigarettes, cigars, vapes) be permitted on premises? ■ How many people will be assigned per toilet? Will toilet paper be made available or will people need to provide their own? Will restrooms at this facility be available for anyone to use or just the people staying there? (NOTE: From a former Rescue Mission client who wishes to remain anonymous.) ■ What kind of overnight sleeping accommodations will be made available? Actual beds? Prison or military style metal bunk beds? Cots? Mats on floors? Sleeping bags? Will pillows be available? NOTE: From a former Rescue Mission client who wishes to remain anonymous.) ■ In Winter and extreme cold, will blankets be available? Actual blankets, not just sheets. (NOTE: From a former Rescue Mission client who wishes to remain anonymous.) ■ Will fire escapes be controlled by computer/digital locks or key? Or will they not be controlled by anything and just there? (NOTE: This question comes from a Rescue Mission client who was recently stuck on the 2nd floor of the Rescue Mission during a power outage and had to be rescued by Fort Wayne Fire. This individual is showing the beginning signs of PTSD.) ■ How will this facility work to prevent bed bugs? Cockroaches? Mice? Mold? (NOTE: From a former Rescue Mission client who wishes to remain anonymous.) ■ Will this facility partner with any grocery stores that allow food delivery? If so, can clients have food delivered and stored on site? ■ Will this facility provide day passes to its clients for Public		

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	transportation? ■ In medical matters and in the event of a medical emergency, what on site services will be provided? Will individuals be allowed to call for help or will that ability be restricted to the Facility's Staff or Volunteers? Will there be a medical clinic on site? Will clients have access to basic first aid supplies, like bandaids, Neosporin, over-the-counter medicines, etc? ■ Will there be any basic medical screenings performed on site for new clients? Things like vision, hearing, blood pressure, etc. Will clients receive help signing up for Medicaid, Medicare, HIP, WIC, etc.? ■ How will clients be helped with job searches? There aren't a lot of entry level jobs in Downtown Fort Wayne. Will the Facility ever partner with any of the local temp agencies? ■ What vocational training will be provided? Will any training be provided on site? ■ Will this facility help people get their driver's license or partner with a driving school to help people get their license? There's a driver shortage and that might create a pathway forward for some individuals to become financially independent and self-sustaining? ■ Will this Facility consider utilizing an Adopt-A-Client program? Why or why not? ■ Why has the City not asked local shelters to double their sleeping capacity by allowing two (or more) shifts for bed access? ■ Will the facility meet Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliance standards and have accessible entrances, ramps, and proper bathroom layouts?		

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	■ Will the facility have designated areas just for kids? Like play space or a romper room? Or space where kids can read, color, craft, play video games, and just be kids? What about outdoor play equipment? ■ How will special needs children (Example: Autism) and special needs adults (Example: Alzheimer's) be accommodated? ■ How was the size and capacity determined? And who made these determinations? The layout must comfortably accommodate beds, 24/7 restrooms, showers, secure storage lockers, and common spaces without overcrowding. Has the Fire Marshall signed off on this? ■ How will individual young adults, individual older adults, individual aging adults, individual disabled adults be accommodated along side adult couples and families with children? ■ The property needs robust electrical, heating, cooling, plumbing, and laundry hookups to handle heavy, continuous use of a 24/7 facility. Have these factors been taken into consideration? What about a back-up generator for power outages? Has that been incorporated into this plan? ■ The Rescue Mission was just built in 2020 and now, 6 years later, it is at capacity. That doesn't seem like it was very well planned for. Plus, there's a new women's shelter, St. Joe Missions now with a new name. What is being done to actually reduce homelessness? ■ A shelter must be economically viable to acquire, open, and maintain over the long term. With that in mind, what is the current budget for Acquisition, Renovations, Furniture and Furnishings, Kitchen and Food, Laundry and Clothes, Annual Utilities, Property Maintenance and Taxes? Please break these expenditures down further between Taxpayer dollars, Donated dollars, and other Revenues? What's the financial plan to make		

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	this happen and keep this option viable? ■ Spreading facilities across different districts avoids over-concentrating poverty or services in a single neighborhood. Why is the City so determined to keep all homeless services in Downtown? Especially after spending so much money to revitalize and transform it into a destination. ■ The videos presented by Engage Fort Wayne promoting this project weren't very informative. Although they were very clearly advocating for a concentration of services in Downtown. Centralizing services has failed elsewhere. Most homeless containment policies do. LA's "Skid Row" is one of the best well-known examples of this. Where's the data that supports centralizing homeless services in a city the size of Fort Wayne actually works? ■ According to information provided by the City, the local facility and programming is being modeled after communities that are either smaller in size, like Lafayette, Indiana or larger in size, like Salt Lake City, Utah. Why isn't the Administration using homeless models that have been successful in communities the size of Fort Wayne? ■ On June 9, 2026, Sharon Tucker told Fort Wayne City Council that 23 sites had been considered. What were those sites (names and addresses)? Why were they originally considered? Why were they ultimately rejected? Who got to make those decisions (names and department or organizations)? Why wasn't a Request for Proposals (RFP) sought as to site selections? ■ The Engage Fort Wayne FAQ for this proposed Downtown Fort Wayne facility won't attract more people experiencing homelessness to it. Please explain the logic behind that statement and provide the data with source material that supports that logic. Also, how do you explain the increase in homelessness in Downtown after the new Rescue Mission		

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	was built? It seems like this is a classic case of "if you build it, they will come." ■ The FAQ makes unsubstantiated claims as to what the economic impact will be to Downtown Fort Wayne. Essentially, it provides numbers that seem to correlate with economic development (especially real estate development) instead of actually answering the question what the economic impact will be. Economic impact and economic development are two different things. With that in mind, where did the numbers provided come from? How did you get them? Who provided the numbers? Was an actual feasibility study performed to determine the economic impact? If so, when? By whom? Will that feasibility study be released to the public? If no feasibility study has been performed, why not? Will one ever be performed? ■ Where will new clients be transitioned to after their stay at the proposed new facility if they: * Have mental health problems? * Have behavioral health problems? * Have substance abuse problems? * Have dual diagnosis issues, such as abusing substances to cover up trauma? * Have a criminal incarceration record? * Have aged out of the foster care system? * Are retired, aged, or disabled and have expenses that exceed their fixed income? * Have none of the above situations, but is just an adult or family down on their luck? ■ How long will clients be permitted to stay at the proposed new facility before they are expected to transition to more stable, more permanent housing?		

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	■ According to the FAQ, this facility is going to provide job training and employment. Who are the Service Providers and Facility Partners going to be for that? This information wasn't listed. Where are the trade unions? The universities? The military recruiters? The employment agencies? ■ According to the FAQ, this facility is going to provide Housing, but it only lists one Service Provider for this function - Forgotten Stones. Where are the other Community Partners? Without more housing partners, isn't this space just going to be a warehouse for human beings? Where's BrightPoint? InAsMuch Ministries? Habitat for Humanity? Etc.? ■ How will the facility stay clean? Who's doing the cleaning? A third-party service provider? On-site staff? Volunteers? Clients? If Staff, Volunteers or Clients - will they be properly trained and properly outfitted according to OSHA standards, especially in cases of human waste and other biohazards? Will regularly scheduled Board of Health inspections take place as to food prep areas, restrooms, and areas with bedding. Specifically to check for bed bugs, cockroaches, mice, mold and mildew and to ensure proper health and safety protocols are followed as to food prep and laundry - towels and bedding use and reuse. (NOTE: Being asked by a former paid Staff member of the Rescue Mission, whom wishes to remain anonymous.) ■ How will the new facility prevent cross contamination from the current Rescue Mission facility of bed bugs, cockroaches, and other infestations as well as health contagions such as athletes foot, head lice and scabies. ■ Will there be a mechanism in place for clients to report unsanitary conditions, unsatisfactory conditions, favoritism or staff/volunteer abuse such that clients can safely report problems without fear of retaliation or expulsion from the facility? ■ Why not purchase a local hotel currently on the market for this project - one that is already renovated and fully or mostly furnished? Besides the		

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	Ramada Inn, has this even been considered? If so, which hotels were considered? And why were they rejected? ■ According to the FAQ, the real estate purchase limit is \$2 million dollars for the facility at 333 E. Washington Blvd. plus renovations. Downtown Fort Wayne/DID has suggested using another City-owned facility in another location. Why not use what the City already has and invest the \$2 million dollars in renovating that? If the reason is costs, please provide a cost comparison with breakdowns for property acquisition, renovations, and furnishings.		
527	What resources and services will be provided, exactly.	The Anchor will provide coordinated entry, housing navigation, referrals to emergency shelter and treatment, showers, restrooms, laundry, mail services, phone charging, storage, meals and basic necessities through community partners, and space for partner agencies to provide services. Community partners are expected to provide services such as primary and behavioral healthcare, substance use treatment, peer recovery support, employment assistance, benefits enrollment, legal assistance, and case management. Organizations that have expressed interest in partnering include healthcare providers, behavioral health agencies, employment providers, recovery organizations, and nonprofit service agencies. The final mix of partners, services, and operating procedures will be established by the Anchor Board prior to opening.	46807
528	I am in favor of using the downtown building for a homeless center.	Thank you for your input.	46808
529	I do not think this center should be located in the heart of downtown. It is too close to St. Paul's Lutheran School and the FWCS Career Academy. I believe it will have a negative effect on businesses downtown. I do believe Fort Wayne needs a center, but a different location needs to be found.	Thank you for your input.	46815
530	I support helping people who are experiencing homelessness, but I have concerns about locating another homeless resource center in the heart of downtown. Fort Wayne has invested heavily in making downtown a place where families, visitors, businesses, and events can thrive. I believe we should	Thank you for your input.	46806

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	carefully consider whether concentrating additional homeless services downtown is the best long-term approach. My biggest concern is that we continue expanding shelters without putting equal emphasis on helping people permanently leave homelessness. I would rather see the City invest in transitional housing, addiction recovery, mental health treatment, job training, and employment partnerships with local businesses and staffing agencies. One idea would be to create a small transitional housing community where residents can live safely while working toward independence. Those who are able to work could be expected to actively seek employment or participate in job training, while also receiving the support they need to overcome addiction, mental health challenges, or other barriers. The goal should be to move people into permanent housing and stable employment—not simply provide another place to stay. I want Fort Wayne to be known as a city that is compassionate while also creating lasting solutions that benefit both those experiencing homelessness and the community as a whole.		
531	I have no question to ask, only support for the proposed center and its plan. The "not in my neighborhood" reasoning for blocking this endeavor is preposterous. The homeless families are already on the street. in their neighborhood. This low barrier shelter will help remedy the situation by giving them a place to stay and resources to move forward.	Thank you for your input.	46802
532	How will this impact our downtown in terms of safety and desirability? Will people feel safe moving to Fort Wayne? Will businesses want to open up in the downtown area? Is there a more secluded spot appropriate for this project? I drive through downtown all the time from the south side of town to the north side of town for work. I definitely agree that we need more resources for people in need/homeless, however, I think it will greatly harm our city if our downtown area is not kept clean and have a low crime profile. I do not see this project as aiding that goal. I see people on the street sleeping at all hours. During daytime hours and nighttime hours I've noticed people wandering the streets who clearly have life struggles and may have mental illness. Is this the reputation we	The goal of the Anchor is to improve safety and quality of life by providing a centralized location where people experiencing homelessness can access services, shelter referrals, and housing assistance rather than remaining on sidewalks or in public spaces. The facility is being designed with security measures, 24/7 staffing, and a Good Neighbor Agreement to support both guests and the surrounding neighborhood. The City selected the downtown location because it provides access to transportation, existing service providers, employment opportunities, and other community resources. Operational and security procedures will continue to be refined by the Anchor Board prior to opening.	46807

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	want in the downtown area of Fort Wayne? Is this safe for our children? Is it safe for a businesses?		
533	A subsidy usually results in creating more of the thing being supported, namely more people who are not eligible for care elsewhere. If the current problem of limited access for those who are addicted or mentally ill who deny or refuse treatment continues, then where will those persons be housed until some facility will accept the transfer? When "sifting" results in more at this site, will it not be even more difficult to close the facility to new applicants? Will ever more expansions make this "temporary" facility become by default, the permanent site? Why not create replacements for the several now closed custodial facilities or use the current jail for such a site when the new jail is built.	The Anchor is not intended to be a long-term housing facility or a replacement for psychiatric hospitals, treatment facilities, or correctional institutions. It is a resource center that provides stabilization, coordinated entry, and connections to appropriate shelter, treatment, healthcare, and housing. Individuals who cannot immediately access another placement will receive ongoing case management and referral assistance while appropriate options are pursued. Any future changes to the scope or capacity of the Anchor would require approval by the nonprofit board and available funding. Operational procedures for referrals and length of stay will be finalized by the Anchor Board prior to opening.	46814
534	Throughout history theoretical ideas turn out disastrous in practice. I fear that while good meaning, a homeless center in a major intersection of our city will have unintended negative consequences that far outweigh the positives. Please consider a decentralized model.	Thank you for your input.	46802
535	Horrible idea. Downtown is already plagued with enough homeless people. I was threatened by one and called slurs by them just the other day. keep them away.	Thank you for your input.	46815
536	I fully support the use/renovation of the building at 333 E. Washington Blvd for a homeless resource center. It makes sense to put this additional service in a location where the people who need it also have additional services already in place. The price of this building seems reasonable as opposed to other possible locations. As a community we need to support those who are in need of help, many of whom can with that help, return to a more productive life in our city. Thank you for your time, Michele Morris	Thank you for your input.	46815
537	I fully support the original plan as envisioned by the Mayor's team and the City. I've emailed my support of this project to City Council. I will be very opposed to any attempts to relocate this project to the 46803 zip code. The services are needed exactly where this project is planned, and any attempt to push the homeless issue off to the southeast side is wrong.	Thank you for your input.	46807
538	Our homeless problem in Ft. Wayne will not be solved by Anchor Resource Center. Our community has had in influx of homeless people outside our city being transported here. We do not need to encourage more of this.	Thank you for your input.	46815

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539	I do not support the location for the homeless resource center. It is proposed to be located by a major intersection of our city.	Thank you for your input.	46804