

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is the Safe Parking Network?

The Salem Safe Parking Network provides safe and legal places for people who are unsheltered to sleep in vehicles or campers on the property of local community partners.

How are sites selected?

Safe Parking sites can be located on property owned or leased by public entities, nonprofits, businesses, or religious organizations. Property owners may grant permission for up to 10 vehicles to be onsite. City code allows legal parking for cars, campers, and RV's through this project.

Who operates the sites and who pays for the program?

All safe parking sites are managed by Church@thePark. There are also churches, non-profits, and businesses who host and oversee their own safe parking sites. The City of Salem provides funding for the Safe Parking Network operated by Church@thePark through a contract agreement. Funds are used to supply the portable restrooms, trash service, and case management for all Safe Parking participants. Hosts who are not part of Church@thePark pay their own program costs.

How are the sites kept healthy and safe?

Safe Parking sites must have sanitary facilities, garbage disposal services, and a storage area for parkers to store any personal items so that they are not visible from any public street. This is included at no cost to the host site. Church@thePark screens all applicants and assigns parking locations based on location preference and need.

How does someone get on the waiting list?

Families and individuals experiencing homelessness may apply on the Church@thePark website.

Where can I find more information about becoming a host site?

Church@thePark manages Safe Parking sites at no cost to the host.

Individuals or businesses who are interested in more information about their program can visit https://www.Church-at-the-Park.org or contact the Navigation Director, Matt Herbert, at 503-508-3959; matt@church-at-the-park.org.

All sites must fill out the registration form found by following the link below: https://www.cityofsalem.net/Pages/register-your-non-proft-public-or-commercial-property-to-host-car-camping-location.aspx