

Message to the Mayor | 2020 Report: Part 2

Appendix 2

Helpful Resources & Alternative Solutions

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Mutual-Aid Organizations

Denver/ Colorado:

Denver Alliance for Street Health Response (DASHR)

Contact: Vinnie Cervante

Denver Support Team Action Response (STAR)

Contact: Vinnie Cervante

Colorado Coalition for the Homeless

Contact: Peter Dybing

Barton Institute

Colorado Village Collaborative

State of Colorado Eviction Prevention Programs

Denver Neighborhood Equity & Stabilization (NEST)

Denver Organizations on the Front Lines (non-exhaustive):

From Allies to Abolitionists

Denver Homeless Out Loud

Headwaters Protectors

Denver Community Fridge

Help On Every Street (HOES)

Wall of Moms Denver

Mutual Aid Denver

Denver Food Not Bombs

Cats Not Cops

[Women for the Revolution](#)

[Feed The Streets Denver](#)

[Brother Jeff's Cultural Center](#)

Hope Tank

National:

[National Homelessness Law Center](#)

[The Center for Housing and Homelessness Research](#)

[Resources & Articles](#)

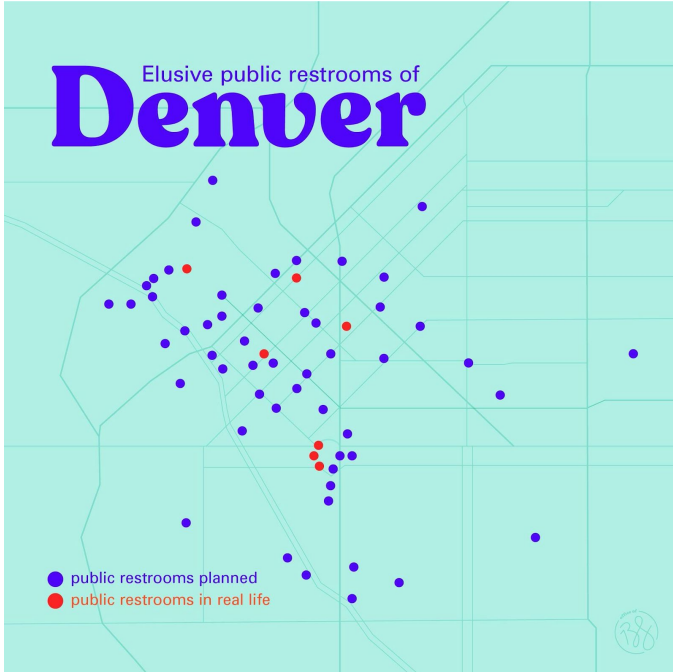
Bathrooms

Denver's efforts to provide public access to restrooms was once applauded, but, again, where have these facilities gone? Who can access them and when?

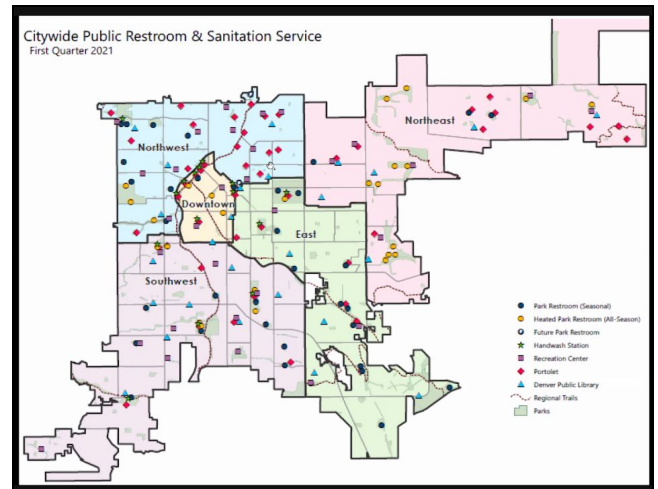
Porta-potty costs:

Regular portable toilet = \$635 28 day serviced every day

Wheelchair accessible toilet = \$687 28 day serviced every day



**Actual bathrooms open in December 2020 compared to bathrooms the city had planned to open.*



**PRAB meeting discussion with Scott Gilmore about restroom access 2/10/21 (most on this map are seasonal and not currently open).*

Success of Public Restrooms:

- [Washington Recovery Services](#)
- [San Francisco Pit Stop](#)

Breitenbach, S. (2017, September 05). Cities look to public restrooms to clean up downtowns, attract tourists. Retrieved February 11, 2021, from https://www.huffpost.com/entry/cities-look-to-public-restrooms-to-clean-up-downtowns_b_59aea6b3e4b0c50640cd61d2

Progressive Urban Management Associates. (2018, July). City of Denver Public Restrooms Pilot. Final Report. Retrieved from <https://www.denvergov.org/content/dam/denvergov/Portals/705/documents/projects/Denver-Public-Restrooms-Pilot-Final-Report-2018.pdf>.

Quirk, M. B. (2017, Sept. 5). The Future of Tourism is Public Toilets. Retrieved from <https://consumerist.com/2017/09/05/the-future-of-tourism-is-public-toilets/>

General Background Information

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Delinger, D (April 4, 2018). Poor People's Campaign. The Last March of Martin Luther King Jr. <https://www.theatlantic.com/politics/archive/2018/04/mlk-last-march/555953/>.

Geneva Academy. (2014 August). *Academy briefing No. 6. What amounts to 'a serious violation of international human rights law?* Geneva Academy of International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights. Retrieved from https://www.geneva-academy.ch/joomlatools-files/docman-files/Publications/Academy%20Briefings/Briefing%206%20What%20is%20a%20serious%20violation%20of%20human%20rights%20law_Academy%20Briefing%20No%206.pdf

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Ritchie, M. (2020, December 21). We will remember: homeless death review. Colorado Coalition for the Homeless. Retrieved from https://www.coloradocoalition.org/sites/default/files/2020-12/Homeless%20Death%20Review%202020_FINAL%2012-14-2020.pdf

Burton B, Pollio DE, North CS.(2018, Nov). *A longitudinal study of housing status and crime in a homeless population*. Ann Clin Psychiatry. National Library of Medicine, (4):280-288. PMID: 30372505. Retrieved from <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/30372505/>

Criminalization of Homelessness and Traumatic Displacements

Journal Articles and Studies:

Hoffman, R. (2014, Spring). Survival behaviors and the criminalization of homelessness in Santa Cruz. [Senior Capstone Project] California State University Monterey Bay. Retrieved from https://www.academia.edu/5201213/Survival_Behaviors_and_the_Criminalization_of_Homelessness_in_Santa_Cruz_California

Smith, D.M. (1994) A theoretical and legal challenge to homeless criminalization as public policy. Yale Law & Policy Review. 12(2):487-517.

Westbrook, M. & Robinson, T. (2020). Unhealthy by design: health & safety consequences of the criminalization of Homelessness. The Journal of Social Distress and Homelessness. Retrieved from <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/10530789.2020.1763573>

News Sources:

Beaty, K. (2020, August 08). Denver sweeps of unhoused people often push campers to nearby blocks while continuing a cycle of trauma. Denverite. Retrieved from <https://denverite.com/2020/08/07/denver-sweeps-of-unhoused-people-of-ten-push-campers-to-nearby-blocks-while-continuing-a-cycle-of-trauma/>

Bryson, D. (2020, July 10). Homelessness encampment near a Denver middle school concerns staff preparing to start classes. Denverite. Retrieved from <https://denverite.com/2020/07/08/homelessness-encampment-near-a-denver-middle-school-concerns-staff-preparing-to-start-classes/>

Bryson, D. (2020, July 30). Colorado, Denver authorities sweep people camping away from park near Capitol. Retrieved February 08, 2021, from <https://denverite.com/2020/07/29/colorado-denver-authorities-sweep-people-camping-away-from-park-near-capitol/>

Bryson, D. (2020, August 06). City sweeps encampment near Morey middle school. Retrieved from <https://denverite.com/2020/08/05/city-sweeps-encampment-near-morey-middle-school/>

Bryson, D. (2020, September 23). An encampment clean-up in Curtis Park delayed by snow started Tuesday before sunrise. Denverite. Retrieved from <https://denverite.com/2020/09/22/an-encampment-clean-up-in-curtis-park-delayed-by-snow-started-tuesday-before-sunrise/>

McCormick-Cavanagh, C. (2020, December 16). Denver, homeless residents heading to court today over sweeps. Westword. Retrieved December 27, 2020, from <https://www.westword.com/news/denver-homeless-sweep-federal-lawsuit-colorado-11862250>

McCormick-Cavanagh, C. (2021, January 30). Federal judge puts restrictions on Denver homeless sweeps. Westword. Retrieved February 08, 2021, from <https://www.westword.com/news/federal-judge-grants-notice-denver-homeless-sweeps-preliminary-injunction-11888171>

McCormick-Cavanagh, C. (2020, August 06). Mayor Hancock mum on when Morey encampment will be swept. Retrieved from <https://www.westword.com/news/denver-mayor-refuses-to-say-when-city-will-sweep-controversial-camp-11763613>

Swanson, C. (2021, January 19). Denver's homeless sweeps cost hundreds of thousands of dollars, invoices show. Denver Post. Retrieved from <https://www.denverpost.com/2021/01/19/denver-homeless-sweeps-cost-2/?fbclid=IwAR2dfKg5ElpejntE-03qrFlz4nn5WvwH8eiXEY5sEQUYH2KLT EQ44XwSGIA>

Homelessness and COVID-19

Journal Articles and Studies:

Benavides, A. D., & Nukpezah, J. A. (2020). How local governments are caring for the homeless during the COVID-19 pandemic. *American Review of Public Administration*, 50(6-7), 650-657. doi:10.1177/0275074020942062

CDC Guidelines. Interim Guidance on Unsheltered Homelessness and Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) for Homeless Service Providers and Local Officials. Retrieved from <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/homeless-shelters/unsheltered-homelessness.html>

Fenley, V. M. (2020) Everyday citizenship and COVID-19: “Staying at home” while homeless, *Administrative Theory & Praxis*, DOI: [10.1080/10841806.2020.1825600](https://doi.org/10.1080/10841806.2020.1825600)

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<https://poverty.ucdavis.edu/post/greater-resources-required-protect-people-experiencing-homelessness-covid-19>

Rodger, K. (2020, June 26). Sweeps Of Homeless Camps Run Counter To COVID Guidance And Pile On Health Risks. Kaiser Family Foundation Retrieved from [https://khn.org/news/sweepsPeople Experiencing Homelessness | COVID-19-of-homeless-camps-run-counter-to-covid-guidance-and-pile-on-health-risks/..](https://khn.org/news/sweepsPeople Experiencing Homelessness | COVID-19-of-homeless-camps-run-counter-to-covid-guidance-and-pile-on-health-risks/)

News Sources:

Alvarez, A. (2020, Jun 15). Denver extends contracts for temporary homeless shelters at Coliseum, National Western Complex. Colorado Politics. Retrieved December 31, 2020, from https://www.coloradopolitics.com/denver/denver-extends-contracts-for-temporary-homeless-shelters-at-coliseum-national-western-complex/article_b2031acc-af4f-11ea-9f99-d36b59655474.html

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Bryson, D. (2020, May 07). Staff members at Denver's National Western Complex shelter have tested positive for the disease caused by the new coronavirus. Denverite. Retrieved from <https://denverite.com/2020/04/30/at-least-seven-staff-members-at-the-national-western-complex-shelter-have-tested-positive-for-covid-19/>

Bryson, D. (2020, June 11). All negative: COVID-19 testing among people experiencing homelessness in Five Points. Denverite. Retrieved January 02, 2021, from <https://denverite.com/2020/06/11/all-negative-covid-19-testing-among-people-experiencing-homelessness-in-five-points/>

Kenney, A. (2020, December 24). Colorado won't prioritize homeless shelters for vaccines. CPR News. Retrieved January 15, 2021, from <https://www.cpr.org/2020/12/24/colorado-wont-prioritize-homeless-shelters-for-vaccines/>

McCormick-Cavanagh, C. (2020, December 16). Denver legal motion claims CDC guidance allows encampment sweeps. Retrieved December 27, 2020, from <https://www.westword.com/news/denver-argues-cdc-advice-allows-homeless-encampment-sweeps-11841268>

McCormick-Cavanagh, C. (2020, December 17). Denver homeless with COVID more likely to be hospitalized. Westword. Retrieved January 04, 2021, from <https://www.westword.com/news/denver-homeless-with-covid-at-much-higher-risk-of-hospitalization-11859660>

McCormick-Cavanagh, C. (2021, January 06). Colorado moves up homeless shelter staffers on vaccine priority list. Westword. Retrieved January 15, 2021, from <https://www.westword.com/news/homeless-shelter-staffers-get-boost-on-colorado-vaccine-priority-list-11871882>

Sakas, M. E. (2020, May 15). Coronavirus closed Denver's libraries, leaving the City's homeless disconnected. Retrieved January 02, 2021, from

<https://www.cpr.org/2020/05/14/coronavirus-closed-denvers-libraries-leaving-the-citys-homeless-disconnected/>

City of Denver

Current Policy & Spending

Alvarez, A. (2020, December 14). Denver takes next steps with passage of homeless resolution tax 2B. Retrieved from

https://www.coloradopolitics.com/denver/denver-takes-next-steps-with-passage-of-homeless-resolution-tax-2b/article_8476f788-1f87-11eb-8af1-b3fc25ad8456.html

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OpenPayrolls.com. (2021). *Evan Farrell Dreyer*. OpenPayrolls. Retrieved from

<https://openpayrolls.com/employee/evan-farrell-dreyer-549>

Revised Municipal Code, City and County of Denver (Nov 5, 2020) *ARTICLE IV. - PROHIBITION OF DISCRIMINATION IN EMPLOYMENT, HOUSING AND COMMERCIAL SPACE, PUBLIC ACCOMMODATIONS, EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS AND HEALTH AND WELFARE SERVICES*: Intent of Council [Chapter 28 - HUMAN RIGHTS | Code of Ordinances | Denver, CO](#).

Retrieved from

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Solutions

Cost Comparisons: Apartment vs. SOS Sites vs. Shelters

| | Colorado Village Collaborative SOS | Interfaith Alliance SOS | New 200 Bed Shelter Warehouse | 5 Shelters/40 beds in each |
|---|------------------------------------|--|---|---|
| Per Person per night | \$25.62 | \$42 | \$38 | \$106 |
| Per Person per year | \$9,351 | \$15,330 | \$14,021 | \$38,886 |
| Whole Cost per year Immediate housing for 50 -60 people | tb tallied | \$350-400K -includes 10 staff, shelters, laundry, 3 meals, electricity, wifi, access to service connections | \$2,804,261 -includes one night bed, security guards, transportation , 1-2 meals, connection to services *based on numbers from Portland Maine: retrieved from | \$7,777,255 -includes one night bed, security guards, transportation , 1-2 meals, connection to services *based on numbers from Portland Maine: retrieved from |



\$250,000

Average Cost To Build One Unit of Affordable Housing in Denver



\$15,000

Average Cost to To Build One CVC Tiny Home

| | | |
|--|----|---|
| \$19,741 to sweep three blocks (Oct. 6/7/8 displacement) | or | House 4 people in a 2 bedroom apartment for 1 year (\$1580/mth) |
| Pay for 1 security guard at a displacement for 4 hours | or | House 1 person at a Safe Outdoor Space for 6.5 days (\$42/night) |
| Spend \$400,000+ for one contractor to conduct displacements | or | House 26 people for a full year at an SOS |
| Pay \$1,300 for EHSI invoicing fees* | or | Provide an accessible porta potty for 2 months (based on \$687 cost per month) |

*To date, the research team has received less than 500 documents, representing a cost of \$2.30 per document. To improve transparency and public access to information, we specifically ask that the Denver City & County government:

- Audit the full costs of the displacements conducted by the City itself
- Track displacement costs by all City departments going forward
- Reform the City's open records processes in order to provide equitable accessibility
- Publish all department budget items and invoices to [Denver Open Data](#)
- Offer more assistance in determining a targeted CORA document's label and location
- Provide a mechanism for citizens to determine where department money is being spent without a CORA request
- Set CORA fees at less than the statutory maximum permitted by law.

Our experience highlights the imperative need for these measures. We are happy to share the documents we collected with the public, media, and other advocates; please contact fromalliestoabolitionists@gmail.com.

News Sources on Tiny Home Villages, SOS Sites, and Unhoused Services:

Bryson, D. (2020, December 04). *A tiny home village opened Thursday in the Cole neighborhood*. Retrieved February 11, 2021, from <https://denverite.com/2020/12/03/a-tiny-home-village-opened-thursday-in-the-cole-neighborhood/>

Haarer, R. (2021, January 6). 'It's been really an inspiring month': Denver's sanctioned campsites enter month 2 for people experiencing homelessness. *9 News*. Retrieved January 15, 2021, from <https://www.msn.com/en-us/money/realestate/its-been-really-an-inspiring-month-denvers-sanctioned-campsites-enter-month-2-for-people-experiencing-homelessness/ar-BB1cvqVk>

Hauck, G. (2021, February 08). Denver successfully sent mental health professionals, not police, to hundreds of calls. *USA Today*. Retrieved from

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Niedringhaus, C. (2019, June 17). Once-controversial, Boulder housing CO-OPS proving worth in affordability, community. *Denver Post*. Retrieved February 11, 2021, from

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