



Mayor's Youth Council & Youth Lead the Change

PROJECT OVERVIEW AND DESCRIPTION:

Boston Shelters

Youth Proposal Developers:

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Year of Proposal: 2019

Number of votes: 5,476

SHORT DESCRIPTION:

To invest in the Woods Mullen Shelter, and enhance the physical space for everyone with new furniture, facilities, and entertainment for those experiencing homelessness in order to create a better stay.

INSPIRED BY IDEA(S):

- Idea number 140
- Idea number 363

WHY IS THIS NEEDED?

Improvements in homeless shelters are needed to support Massachusetts "Right To Shelter" policy. Currently, there is an estimate of around 6,000 people who are homeless in Massachusetts; this is an increase of 33%. Many of the homeless shelters are limited on resources and space and are challenged in supporting Massachusetts homeless population. Allowing people to have a safe, sheltered place to sleep provides stability and reduces stress, and this statistically leads to more recidivism of homelessness.

LONG DESCRIPTION

The goal of this project is to invest in the capital construction of the Woods Mullens Shelter. This investment would include capital improvements, such as new beds, new TVs, and painting murals to amplify the value, residence, and comfort of the shelter. One way this can be achieved is by creating designated areas and beds for those who have service animals, and charging stations will be added to beds to support those who use technology in their jobs and day to day life for those who need it. Another way is by renovating the bathrooms to make them more usable for those with physical disabilities with rails and ramps, adding more counter space per person, and by improving the facilities in general. Buying new, comfier, more viable furniture like chairs and beds will create more comfort and is highly valuable. This includes outside furniture for guests as well. Furthermore, a more advanced, efficient, and environmentally friendly water filtration system will be a great benefit to everyone. The above investments should increase the comfort level of those residing at the Woods Mullens Shelter, accommodate most requirements of the residents, and boost



morale. Therefore, these additions will provide residents the support they need during their stay, and will have benefitted them greatly by the time they leave.

DATA AND RESEARCH USED

<https://www.wbur.org/news/2018/12/18/homelessness-massachusetts-hud-report>

<https://www.denverpost.com/2017/12/11/denver-rescue-mission-holly-center-new-homeless-shelters/>

PICTURES



LOCATIONS



Woods Mullen Homeless Shelter

CITY DEPARTMENT RESPONSIBLE

- Capital Construction
- Public Facilities Department
- Department of Public Health

FUNDING ALLOCATION

333K

Implementation Requirements

1. The Youth Lead the Change committee must be involved in the following:
 - a. Contractor selection
 - b. Project design proposal
 - c. Community input process
 - d. Final design selection, schematics, and implementation.
 - e. The spending of all allocated funds
2. Once the project is completed MYC / YLC must approve the following:
 - a. Change of use
 - b. Any policies that infringe upon a student's rights to use the space
3. This project must be implemented at a Boston Housing Authority space