



City of Medical Lake Planning Department
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STAFF REPORT TO THE CITY COUNCIL

File: Periodic Update: MLMC Specialized Housing

Date of Staff Report: June 11, 2026

Date of City Council Workshop: May 5, 2026

Date of City Council Hearing: June 16, 2026

Staff Planner: Elisa Rodriguez 509-565-5019 or erodriguez@medical-lake.org

SEPA: Determination of Non-Significance was made on March 25, 2026

60-Day Intent to Adopt: Submitted to the Department of Commerce on April 20, 2026

Procedure: This proposal requires a legislative review, therefore, the Planning Commission has held a public hearing and made a recommendation to the City Council. The City Council will hold a public hearing to consider an ordinance to adopt the amendments to the Medical Lake Municipal Code. The complete process can be found in the Medical Lake Municipal Code (MLMC), Section 19.270.050 – Type IV Reviews.

Proposal: It is proposed to amend the municipal code to add provisions for:

1. Transitional housing, permanent supportive housing, emergency housing, and emergency shelters pursuant to RCW 35.21.683.
2. Safe parking, encampments, temporary small houses, and emergency shelters that are provided by religious organizations pursuant to RCW 35.21.915.
3. Affordable Housing provided by religious organizations pursuant to RCW 36.70A.545.

Date of Planning Commission Hearing: May 28, 2026

Planning Commission Recommendation: The proposed amendment to the Medical Lake Municipal Code is for the purpose of allowing transitional housing, permanent supportive housing, and emergency housing, in Medical Lake. The amendments also allow certain housing controlled by religious organizations. The proposed amendments are consistent with the Comprehensive Plan, the Countywide Planning Policies, and the Growth Management Act. The amendments do not adversely affect land, uses, or services within the City. Therefore, the Planning Commission unanimously recommends approval of the proposal.

Attached: Staff report to the Planning Commission, dated May 21, 2026 (includes proposed language)