



**DENVER**  
THE MILE HIGH CITY

# 2024-2025 Denver Cold Weather Sheltering Plan

Maintained By:  
City and County of Denver



# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>TABLE OF CONTENTS</b> .....	<b>1</b>
<b>SECTION 1: INTRODUCTION</b> .....	<b>2</b>
<b>1.1. Purpose</b> .....	<b>2</b>
<b>1.2. Thresholds</b> .....	<b>2</b>
<b>1.2.1 Cold Weather Shelter Overflow</b> .....	<b>2</b>
<b>1.2.2 Daytime Warming Centers</b> .....	<b>2</b>
<b>SECTION 2: STAFFING</b> .....	<b>3</b>
<b>2.1.1 Cold Weather Shelter Overflow</b> .....	<b>3</b>
<b>SECTION 3: LOCATIONS</b> .....	<b>3</b>
<b>3.1. Priority Sites</b> .....	<b>3</b>
<b>3.1.1 Sites to Be Used First</b> .....	<b>3</b>
<b>3.1.2 Sites to Be Used Second</b> .....	<b>3</b>
<b>3.1.3 Sites To Be Used Third</b> .....	<b>3</b>
<b>SECTION 4: MAINTENANCE</b> .....	<b>3</b>

## SECTION 1: INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 PURPOSE

This is a plan for how the city will provide shelter to our unsheltered persons experiencing homelessness (PEH) population on nights that certain cold weather thresholds are met. Cold Weather Shelter will operate as 24-hour shelter when activated.

### 1.2 THRESHOLDS

#### 1.2.1 COLD WEATHER SHELTER OVERFLOW

Cold Weather Shelter will be activated when capacity is exceeded in the existing shelter system AND one of the below criteria is met:

- Cold Weather Advisory, Extreme Cold Watch, or Extreme Cold Warning issued by the NWS
- Forecasted **overnight low** temperature of 25 degrees or below
- Two inches or more of snow forecasted for Denver (Existing snow accumulation will also be taken into account and activation will depend on amount and city's ability to clear snow from roads, sidewalks, and bus stops)

Refer to the Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) for implementation procedures.

#### 1.2.2 DAYTIME WARMING CENTERS

If one or more of the below thresholds are met, warming centers should be opened at recreation centers, libraries, and other public facilities during normal business hours:

- Cold Weather Advisory, Extreme Cold Watch, or Extreme Cold Warning issued by the NWS
- Forecasted **daytime high** of 20 degrees or below
- Two inches or more of snow forecasted for Denver (Existing snow accumulation will also be taken into account and activation will depend on amount and city's ability to clear snow from roads, sidewalks, and bus stops)

Refer to the EOP for implementation procedures.



## SECTION 2: STAFFING

### 2.1.1 COLD WEATHER SHELTER OVERFLOW

- The Denver Department of Housing Stability (HOST) has contracted with Bayaud Enterprises to provide staffing and operations of Cold Weather Shelter for individuals and couples. HOST has a contract with US Motels to provide motel vouchers for families with children.

## SECTION 3: LOCATIONS

### 3.1 PRIORITY SITES

#### 3.1.1 SITES TO BE USED FIRST

- Sites within the existing shelter system will open additional overflow capacity. This overflow activation varies from site to site.

#### 3.1.2 SITES TO BE USED SECOND

The following sites are to be used when thresholds are met, and the above sites are full:

- 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue Shelter
- South Zuni Shelter
- Stone Creek Shelter
- Contracted hotel for families

#### 3.1.3 SITES TO BE USED THIRD

Recreation Centers may be used for short-term, overnight emergency use during extreme winter weather events when the above sites are full. The city maintains a list of operational recreation centers and considers each site for use at different times throughout the winter depending on existing programming and level of need.

## SECTION 4: MAINTENANCE

Date	Description of Change
September 22, 2023	Plan approved by CWS multi-disciplinary/multi-agency working group
October 24, 2023	Updates to thresholds to include daytime warming centers and reference to implementation procedures.
October 29, 2024	Update for 2024-2025 season and published on HOST website.

*Table 1. Maintenance Schedule*