

Media update – Work continues to stabilize Camp Hope

WSDOT, in partnership with fellow state agencies the Department of Commerce and the Washington State Patrol, continues working with local resource providers in Spokane to make visible progress towards stabilizing Camp Hope while we work towards the longer-term shared community goal of closing the encampment as part of the statewide [Right of Way Safety Initiative](#).

Fencing

WSDOT's contractor installed privacy screening to the fence that was placed around Camp Hope's perimeter late last week. The fence, which was inspected by the Spokane city fire marshal and supported by those living within the encampment, is an important first step to help address safety and security challenges felt both within and outside of the encampment. The privacy screening also offers an additional buffer zone for the community.

Identification

An identification badge system has been acquired by service providers. Once the added private security hired by WSDOT is onsite, service providers will start creating and distributing Camp Hope identification badges with the purpose of having a clear census of how many people are living at the encampment. The unofficial ID badges also are a tool to aid in security measures to determine who should/shouldn't be at the encampment, identify who wants to take a positive next step toward stabilization and help create a sense of order and engagement at the site.

Security

WSDOT is contracting with a security company to provide 24/7 perimeter patrol that will collaborate with Camp Hope staff to control access at each entry gate. WSDOT hopes to have this security on site by or before Oct. 15.

Quiet Time Hours

Jewels Helping Hands has implemented a quiet time at Camp Hope between 8 p.m. and 8 a.m. During this time, those living at the encampment are allowed to leave, but will be stopped at the entry gate and their status verified upon returning to Camp Hope. Those who wish to re-enter cannot bring outside visitors, nor will individuals who are not already living at the encampment be permitted to enter. Residents also must agree to follow a Good Neighbor agreement – respecting neighbors both in and outside of the encampment – to stay at the site.

It's important to highlight the shared cooperation between those living homeless within Camp Hope, our service providers and WSDOT, Commerce and WSP as it represents mutual collaboration to improve conditions for those within and outside of Camp Hope. We continue to work with the city and local partners to identify viable housing solutions for all of those living homeless within Camp Hope.

This work doesn't happen overnight, and it is because of discussions and funding that began this spring that we're at these new milestones. We look forward to more productive meetings with local leaders to continue these efforts.

Please refer to our [blog](#) for more details on the state's Right of Way Safety Initiative.

Camp Hope milestones

