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## NEWSLINES

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**A similar community in Marysville** has had success since it opened just over three years ago. Originally approved after a shelter crisis declaration, 14 Forward is made up of 20 tiny homes on county-owned land near the Feather River. Participants share community facilities and receive supportive services and case management, as CHAT has planned for Simplicity Village.

Chaya Galicia, Yuba County's homeless and housing project manager, said 300 people have stayed there so far, and one-third have gone on to find permanent housing. There are plans to expand, and neighboring Sutter County is embarking on a similar development.

That CHAT intends to establish a program in Chico is exciting, Galicia said. "It's always exciting for housing and shelter to be prioritized and completed," she added.

This may not be the last time the project faces detractors, however. Berry posted in a public Facebook group later that night that, "fortunately for the appellants and you all who believe in the rule of law, this is not over. The ball is back in our court."

Irrespective of a potential lawsuit, CHAT co-founder Robert Trausch said the organization plans to move forward and get Simplicity Village operating as soon as possible.

Before the meeting, Trausch told the CN&R that the nonprofit has worked with city staff for the past two years on this project, and the city has "done a heck of a job ... ensuring that something like this can go forward legally."

While CHAT's volunteers have worked on this project, they also have expanded their Housing Now program, for which they hold the master lease. They now have 120 people living in 36 houses across Chico.

In Trausch's view, either homelessness will no longer exist come June 2021, or "it's up to the City Council to extend" the shelter crisis declaration.

"We see this land as a solution for seniors," he said. "That's 45 people who won't be living on the street, who won't be in crisis. That's really important to us."

—ASHIAH SCHARAGA  
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