



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media contact:

Amy Brown, 503.341.3795

PORTLAND BUSINESS LEADER TIM BOYLE PLEDGES \$1.5M TO CONSTRUCT A NAVIGATION CENTER TO AID THE CITY'S HOMELESS POPULATION

Oregon Harbor of Hope to Lead Fundraising and Development of the Transitional Shelter Facility, Opening in Fall 2018

PORTLAND, Ore. – *April 10, 2018* – The nonprofit Oregon Harbor of Hope today announced plans to bring a 100- to 120-bed navigation center to downtown Portland. Construction of the new transitional facility for the homeless is being made possible through public-private partnerships led by a \$1.5 million-dollar donation from Portland businessman and philanthropist Tim Boyle, CEO of Columbia Sportswear.

"I care about Portland. I grew up here, our business is here, we're trying to attract more employees to the city, to our place of business, and that's why I decided it's important to invest in a project that addresses such a critical issue in our community," said Boyle.

The navigation center is proposed to open on city-owned land near the western end of the Broadway Bridge by early fall 2018. The [structure](#), a composite membrane shell, equipped with HVAC and basic resources, can be constructed in two-months. Similar structures are currently in use in San Diego and San Francisco as part of those cities' strategies for transitioning their homeless populations.

"First and foremost, shelters are not the solution to our homeless problem, but they're part of the path off the street and a humane step to help those in crisis," said Homer Williams, founder of Oregon Harbor of Hope. "This navigation center will offer a safe place to sleep, eat, shower, do laundry, see a medical professional and get connected with social services they need and position them to graduate to permanent housing.

Oregon Harbor of Hope committed to raising an additional \$1.5-\$2 million dollars from private sector businesses and individuals to cover the cost of operating the navigation center. The nonprofit will collaborate with local government, social service organizations, police and universities to develop a comprehensive plan to operate this 24-7 facility.

Visit www.oregonharborofhope.com to learn more about Oregon Harbor of Hope programs, make a donation or to volunteer.

About Oregon Harbor of Hope (OHOH)

The mission of OHOH is to motivate the private sector of Portland and region to assume a leadership role in meeting the many challenges of homelessness and lack of a broad range of housing choices for all people. Founded in 2016 by longtime Portland developer Homer Williams, OHOH is an Oregon non-profit public benefit corporation, recognized as a 501(c)(3) entity by the Internal Revenue Service and registered with the Charities Division of the Office of the Oregon Attorney General. OHOH is funded entirely by private sector donations and loans.

###