



Community Development Department  
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December 21, 2022

Erik Martin, County Manager  
Stephanie Miller, Drug Court and Family Recovery Court Manager  
Eric Eisenberg, Housing & Infrastructure Specialist  
Lewis County  
351 NW North St  
Chehalis, WA 98532

**RE: Land Use Compliance of 1258 SE Washington Ave., Chehalis**

Dear Mr. Martin,

I write this letter, at the County's request, to address land use compliance at 1258 SE Washington Ave. Based on your report, the County is purchasing the property for use as a form of transitional housing—a shared house for unsheltered Drug Court and Family Recovery Court participants. It has rented the house for this purpose in advance of the sale.

By city records, this house is a single family residence. We thank the County for bringing the change in use to its attention and for inquiring about how to permit it properly. As we discussed, the house could be permitted as a duplex, which would allow house-sharing with enough residents to support your program. Alternatively, under RCW 35A.21.430, transitional housing is permitted in that location if the County obtains a conditional use permit. Chehalis has already issued one such permit to a transitional housing facility; there appears to be no reason why the County could not qualify for the permit if it satisfies some achievable conditions.

The County has informed me that it will use the conditional-use pathway and has submitted the conditional use permit application and fee. Assuming the County continues to pursue and obtains the permit as expected, the County's proposed use of the property is consistent with Chehalis's Comprehensive Plan, the background law, and the local zoning code.

The City looks forward to processing the County's application and wishes it success in its intended use. If you have any additional questions please feel free to contact me at [tbaraconi@ci.chehalis.wa.us](mailto:tbaraconi@ci.chehalis.wa.us) or 360.345.2227.

Respectfully,

Tammy S. Baraconi, CFM  
Planning and Building Manager

Cc: Jill Anderson, City Manager via email  
Eric Eisenberg, Lewis County Housing and Infrastructure Specialist via email