



Alliance supports compromise for Williston workforce housing

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Members of the 1038 Housing Compromise Alliance, composed of North Dakota's oil producers, oilfield service companies, housing providers and several statewide organizations, have united to support proposed Ordinance 1038 – which comes before the Williston City Commission March 8.

“During a meeting in early December, Williston Mayor Howard Klug and the City Commissioners discussed their willingness for a compromise that would allow certain crew camps to continue to operate, provided that there was a reduction in the number of permitted beds and that the camps could meet higher standards,” says Halliburton Senior District Manager Brent Eslinger. “Ordinance 1038, now proposed by Commissioner Deanette Piesik, is a fair and reasonable compromise that establishes long-term benefits for the city, industry, temporary workers and residents.”



Target Logistics' Williston Lodge North, North Dakota. (Image courtesy of Target Logistics)

The Alliance has received the support of industry and statewide organizations such as: Continental Resources, Whiting Petroleum, Hess, Oasis Petroleum, EOG Resources, Missouri River Royalty, Pine Petroleum, Inland Oil & Gas, Zavanna, Enerplus, Petro-Hunt, Armstrong Operating, Marathon Oil, Neset Consulting Service, Halliburton, Nabors, C&J Energy Services, Purity Oilfield Services, Steel Energy Services, Liberty Oilfield Services, Magna Energy Services, Sun Well Services, CARBO, Falcon Industries, Black Hawk Energy Services, Rogue Pressure Services, Bakken Backers, North Dakota Petroleum Council, Greater North Dakota Chamber, Laborers District Council of Minnesota and North Dakota, and Target Logistics.

“Crew camps reduce pressure on local housing, keeping it affordable and available for permanent residents while meeting specific needs of temporary oil and gas employees,” says Target Logistics Regional Vice President of Operations Travis Kelley. “For the City of Williston and its residents, crew camps mean fewer emergency calls, reduced traffic, safer travel, less pressure on city infrastructure for water and sewer services, and better options for when the industry and employment recover.”

[A study released February 16 by North Dakota State University researchers Nancy Hodur and Dean Bangsund found that 80 percent of nonresidents working in North Dakota’s oil and gas industry don’t want to put down roots in the state,](#) while those who want to relocate see housing costs as a major barrier.

“Single-family homes and apartments aren’t designed to be shared by crews of workers. The use by a temporary workforce affects the character of neighborhoods, displaces families and the elderly, and encourages high prices and excess investment,” says 1038 Housing Compromise Alliance Spokesman Rob Lindberg. “Likewise, hotels should be dedicated to travelers – conventions, meetings, business travelers, short-term workers, tourists and youth sports teams – not rotational work crews. Ordinance 1038 is a compromise where everyone wins.”

More information is available at www.housingcompromise.com.

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