Housing and Homelessness Update

SONOMA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
TUESDAY, JULY 12, 2022

TINA RIVERA, DIRECTOR OF HEALTH SERVICES
DAVE KIFF, INTERIM DIRECTOR, CDC

What We'll Cover

➔ Where We Are:
   ◆ Homelessness Data
   ◆ IMDT/HEART Update
   ◆ Some Key Projects and Programs
➔ Looking Ahead: Moving to Functional Zero
   ◆ Housing
   ◆ Supports
   ◆ Collaboration
   ◆ Listening
   ◆ Data
➔ How the ARPA Funds Fit In
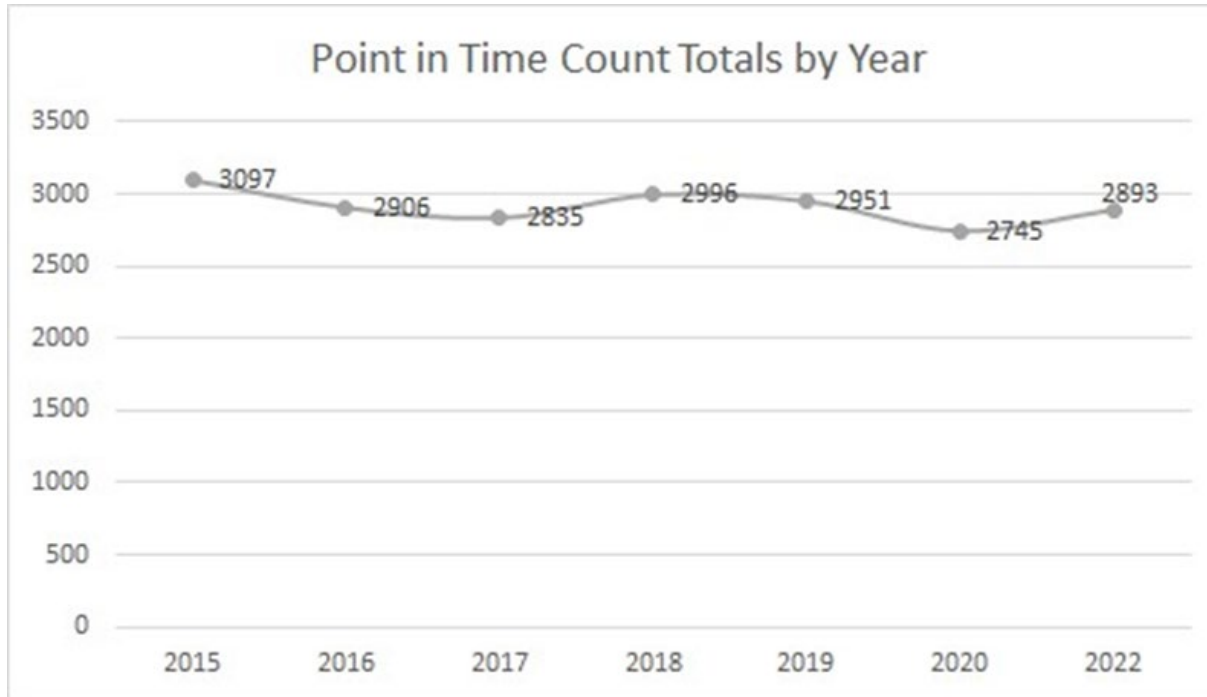➔ CARE Court concerns
➔ Recommended Actions

Where We Are

Homelessness Data - 2022 Point in Time Count

- 2,893 persons experiencing homelessness on February 25, 2022
- This is up about 5% from 2,745 in 2020.[1]
- This includes:
  - 726 persons in chronic homelessness - up 29% from 2020.
  - 48 families - down 40% from 2020.
  - 530 youth (including 23 unaccompanied children) - overall youth number is up 68% from 2020.
  - 191 Homeless veterans – up 37% from 2020

More detailed data from the PIT Count coming in August-September 2022

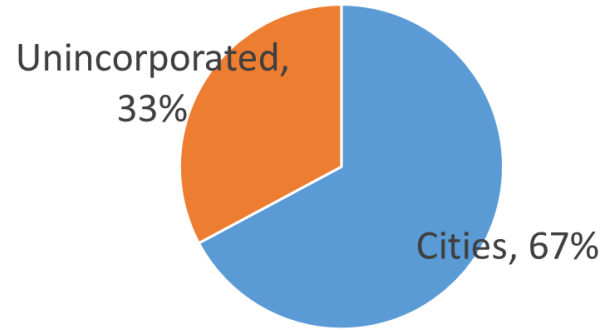[1] There was no PIT Count in 2021 due to COVID

This graph shows the Point in Time Count data in Sonoma County since 2015 through the current count in 2022. The current total is 2,893 persons unhoused.

IMDT/HEART Information
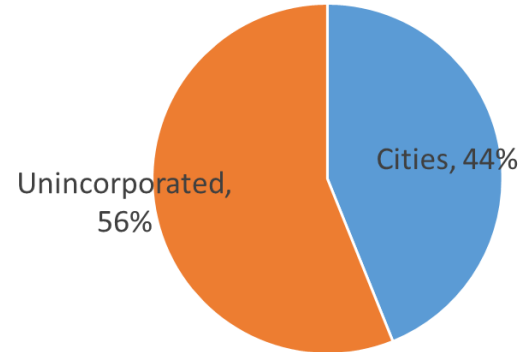
From July 1, 2021 to June 6, 2022:

- 41 encampments addressed with…

- 564 persons

Incorporated v Unincorporated (by encampment population)

This pie chart shows that 33% of encampment assists were in the unincorporated area, and 67% in cities (by encampment **population** – i.e. 564 persons)

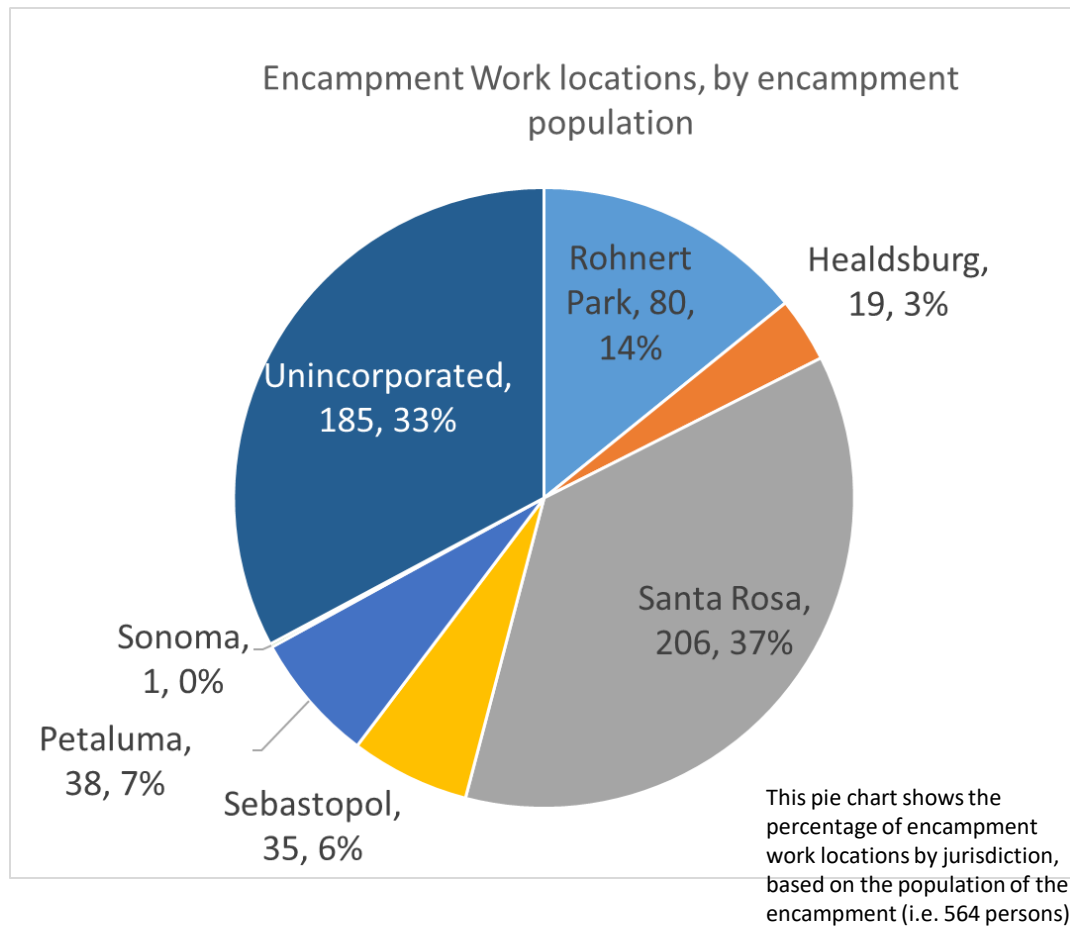- Unincorporated, 33%
- Cities, 67%

Encampments Addressed - Incorporated v Unincorporated (by encampment quantity)

This pie chart shows that 56% of encampment assists were in the unincorporated area, and 4% in cities (by encampment **quantity** – i.e. 41 encampments)

- Cities, 44%
- Unincorporated, 56%

Encampment Work Locations

- July 1, 2021 to June 6, 2022

- By population in encampments

Encampment Work locations, by encampment population

- Rohnert Park, 80, 14%
- Healdsburg, 19, 3%
- Unincorporated, 185, 33%
- Santa Rosa, 206, 37%
- Sonoma, 1, 0%
- Petaluma, 38, 7%
- Sebastopol, 35, 6%

This pie chart shows the percentage of encampment work locations by jurisdiction, based on the population of the encampment (i.e. 564 persons)

Service/Housing Acceptance/Placement

- About 121 of the 564 persons accepted services (21.4%)
  - Of the 121 individuals, 68 (56%) were placed. This is 12% of the 564.
  - Of the 68, 44 persons (65%) were placed using a portion of the Board's **Emergency Flexible Funds** (EFF)
  - The EFF went to support:
    - 31 Hotel Placements
    - 12 Sober Living Environment (SLE) Placements
    - 1 KOA campground placement
    - 1 private residence room rental
    - 4 gas fill ups
    - 1 vehicle towing
    - 5 registration for vehicles
    - 3 insurance for vehicles

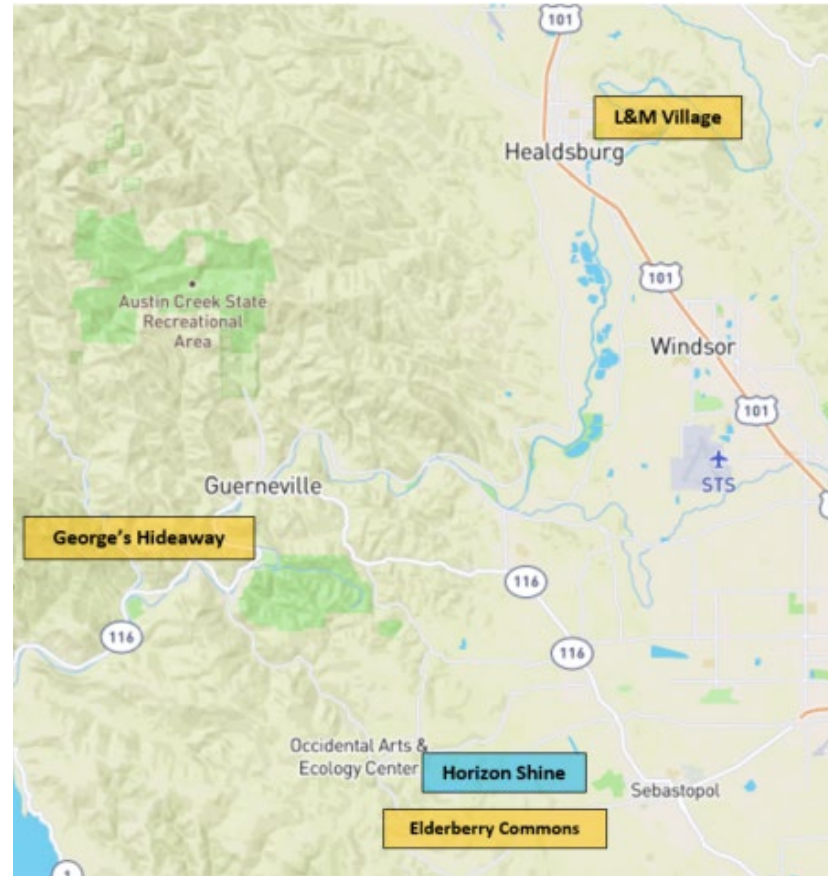   *EFF has been an important tool in securing services and placement*

Key Projects and Programs

North & West County

- L&M Village (Homekey-2 - $950K*)
  - 21 Interim Units (Reach for Home, Burbank)
  - Open in August-Sept 2022

- George's Hideaway (Homekey-2 - $800K+*)
  - 21 PSH (West County Community Services, County)
  - Award Pending

- Horizon Shine (Safe Parking - $440K*)
  - 25 RV and Tent (SAVS, City, County)
  - Opened in Feb 2022

- Elderberry Commons (Homekey-1)
  - 25 Interim -> 25 PSH (DEMA)

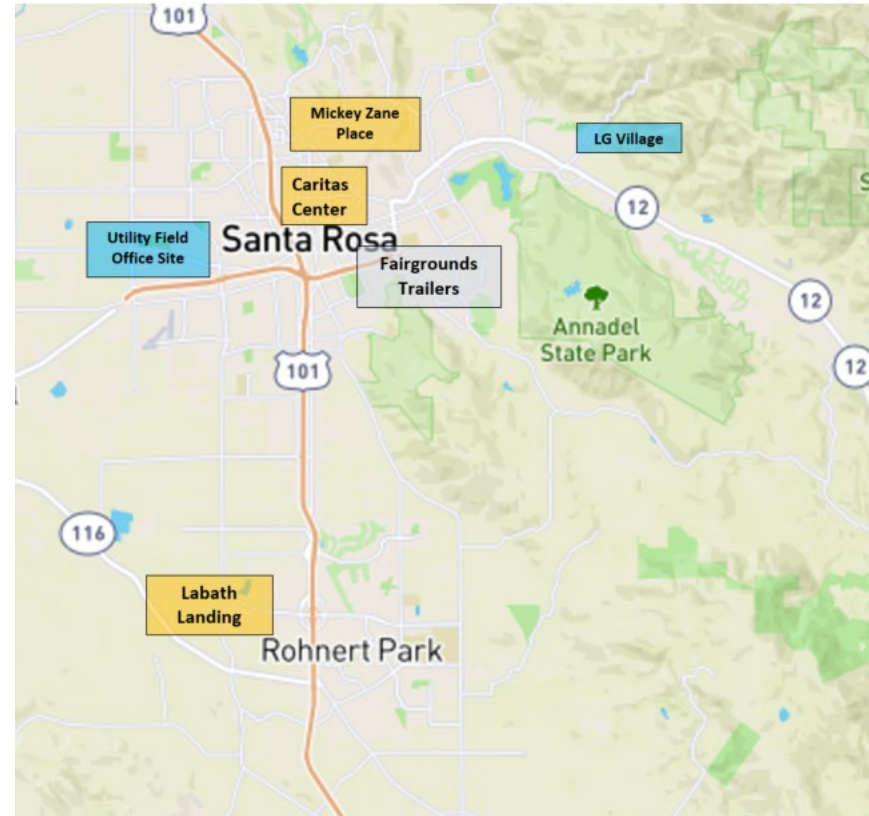* Denotes amount of recent support from County or County-directed funds

The above diagram shows three Project Homekey sites in gold, and one Safe Parking site in blue North and West County

Central County

- Labath Landing (Homekey-2)
  - 60 Interim Units – HomeFirst, Dignity Moves
  - Broke Ground June 2022

- Caritas Center (Homekey 2 + more - $950K*)
  - 83 new Interim Beds – Catholic Charities
  - Opens Fall 2022

- Utility Field Office (UFO) Site (Safe Parking - $500K*)
  - 50 spaces – Catholic Charities
  - Opened March 2022

- Los Guilicos Village ⟶ **Rec Actions C&D:** LG Village Lease Agreement & RFP
  - 60 Interim/NCS beds
  - Open since Jan 2020

- Fairgrounds Trailers
  - COVID-19 ACS site
  - 34 RVs → **Rec Action E:** Authorization to dispose / release
  - Ending Soon

- Mickey Zane Place (Homekey-1)
  - 31 Interim -> 31 PSH (DEMA)

* Denotes amount of recent support from County or County-directed funds

The above diagram shows three Project Homekey sites in gold, one Safe Parking site in blue, LG Village, and the Fairgrounds Trailers in Central County

South County & Sonoma Valley

- Studios @ Montero Place (Homekey-2 - $600K*)
  - 60 PSH (COTS, Burbank, City)
  - Will Open November 2022

- People's Village (Safe Parking/NCS Shelter - $750K*)
  - 25 NCS Shelter spaces (COTS, City, Co)
  - Opened March 2022

- Homeless Action Sonoma (Safe Parking, Homekey-3 - $400K*)
  - 33 PSH, or possible Interim
  - Still in planning/permitting stages

* Denotes amount of recent support from County or County-directed funds

The above diagram shows two Project Homekey sites in gold, and one Safe Parking/NCS site (in blue) in South County and the Sonoma Valley

Looking Ahead

Moving to Functional Zero

- Functional Zero (FZ):
  - Where homelessness is brief, one-time, and rare.
  - No persons experience chronic homelessness
  - 14 communities/regions have achieved FZ for vets' homelessness or chronic homelessness. Four communities within the 14 have achieved FZ both veterans and chronic.
- What does it take?
  - Enough system capacity/flow - **housing** units/solutions/prevention interventions, including important **supportive services** (including funding and staffing)
  - **Collaboration** and focus at all levels
  - A focus on **equity** & **lived experience**
  - Real-time **data**
  - Commitment to continuously achieve it (it's not a one-time thing)

This diagram shows how housing, supports, collaboration, listening, data, and adjustment are all key to reaching Functional Zero homelessness

The *All Home California 1-2-4* Model

SYSTEM FLOW requires:

ONE interim housing unit (emergency shelter, NCS shelter) "Bring people indoors"

TWO housing solution units (PSH, flexible subsidies and any housing solution) "Allow families to heal, rebuild, and plan for the future…"

FOUR prevention interventions (rental assistance, cash assistance, case management, assistance applying for benefits, financial coaching, and more). "Keep at risk families housed through interventions like financial assistance coupled with housing problem solving, and legal services"

-- All Home California

What do we need?

Using the All Home 1-2-4 Model:

Type of Housing/Intervention	Number Needed	Percent of Total	Model		Current Tally	Gap
Interim Housing Units	1,300	14.3%	1		1112	188
Housing Solutions Units	2,599	28.6%	2		1598	1,001
Prevention Interventions	5,198	57.1%	4		Unknown	Unknown
Total Needed =	9,097	100.0%				

Preliminarily, we need about 188 units of interim housing and over 1,000 units of supportive or other permanent housing. This table uses the 1-2-4 All Home model to project the units, using a base of 9,097 persons experiencing homelessness in Sonoma County over an annualized period. *The 9,097 is different from the Point in Time Count, which expresses homelessness on one winter day (Feb 25, 2022)*

Functional Zero

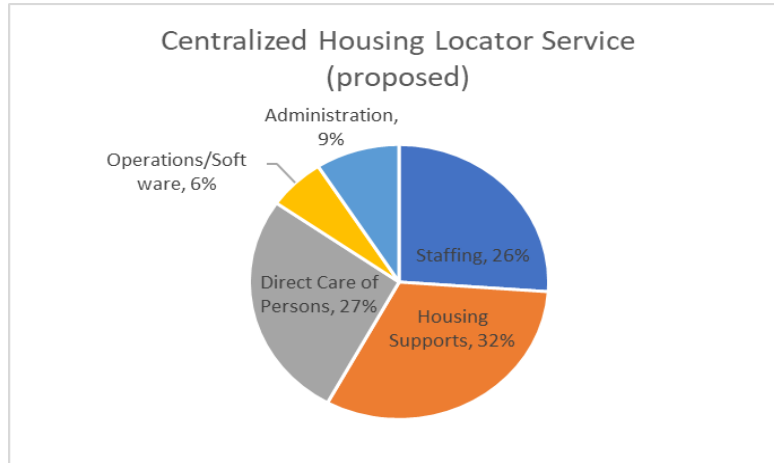| H – Housing	S – Supports	C - Collaborate	L - Listen	D - Data

• 1-2-4 Goals (close on # of Interim)
• Centralized Housing Location Service
• Vouchers:
  ○ *Project-Based (PBVs)*
  ○ *Emergency Housing (EHVs)*
  ○ *Housing Choice*
  ○ *Veterans' (VASH)*
• Homekey
• CDC Efforts
	• Quality Service Providers
	• IMDT/HEART
	• Emergency Flexible Funds (EFF)
	• Homekey Cohort
	• Supportive Services like:
	  ○ *Case Management*
	  ○ *Substance Use Disorder*
	  ○ *Behavioral Health*
		• Street Outreach & Encampments
		• Coordinated Entry
		• Case Conferencing
		• Strategic Planning
		• Homekey Cohort
		• Homekey Generally
		• Better CoC-County-City integration
			• Lived Experience Advisory & Planning (LEAP) Board
			• Youth Advisory Board (YAB)
			• Increasing use of equity principles in funding decisions
				• Real-time data
				• Public facing data
				• Data used for decisions:
				  ○ *System Level*
				  ○ *Program Level*
				  ○ *Provider Level*

How the ARPA Funds Fit In

(Staff's Recommendations – ==Recommended Action "B"==)

As a response to the COVID-19 pandemic's impacts on households and communities, the US Treasury Final Rule use of funds includes projects addressing homelessness and emergency programs or services for homeless individuals, including temporary residences for people experiencing homelessness.

Proposal for the ARPA Funds:

- $2,165,000[1] for an aggressive Centralized Housing Location (CHL) system, including new software, marketing, landlord incentives (signing bonuses, repairs funds, unit holds, security deposits, move-in packages, more)

[1] This amount includes $100,000 from the Board of Supervisors' allotment for a similar function under the countywide strategic plan.

Centralized Housing Locator Service (proposed)

Administration, 9%

Operations/Software, 6%

Staffing, 26%

Direct Care of Persons, 27%

Housing Supports, 32%

Relates most to:

HOUSING & COLLABORATION

The pie chart shows how costs of the Centralized Housing Locator Service would be broken down, with 26% going to staffing, 32% to housing supports, 27% to direct care, 6% to software, and 9% to administration

Proposal for the ARPA Funds:

- $620,000 for a countywide Peer Support Program (Transitions to Housing) use lived experience peers to help get homeless individuals ready for placement in housing. Peer navigation is among the best ways to build system trust and system placement amongst persons who are unhoused; **SUPPORTS**

- $250,000 to improve how Sonoma County 2-1-1 helps clients with intervention and prevention strategies; **SUPPORTS**

- $200,000 to implement recommendations from the Jan - July 2022 Front Door Assessment (case conferencing, street outreach, coordinated entry, by names lists, more) **COLLABORATION**

Proposal for the ARPA Funds:

- $865,000 in **EFF** to expand **housing units** and **rapid support,** allocated as:
  - $200,000 to continue the **EFF program** started by the Board of Supervisors in FY 21-22 that enables outreach and other teams to quickly help those in need of solutions that may involve **small amounts of funds or short-term services** (and work towards making it a regional resource);
  - $665,000 for flexible support (on a competitive basis) that fills portions of **housing unit shortfalls** (viewed through the All Home 1-2-4 model) that will be identified in the current Homebase/CoC/County strategic planning effort.

Relates most to:

SUPPORTS & COLLABORATION

The CARE Court Program

Community Assistance, Recovery, and Empowerment (CARE) Court

- SB 1338 authorizes specified persons to "petition a civil court to create a voluntary CARE agreement or a court-ordered CARE plan and implement services, to be provided by county behavioral health agencies
- Includes "stabilization medication, housing, and other enumerated services to adults who are suffering from schizophrenia spectrum and psychotic disorders and who meet other specified criteria."
- All counties across California will be required to participate in the CARE Court under the proposal.
- Monetary sanctions (daily) for non-compliance.
- Public Defender and the Department of Health Services will require additional capacity in order to implement the requirements of this program.
- Proposed letter to our state legislators supports a tiered or phased-in implementation and requests consideration for additional funding stream (all per CSAC requests). Recommended Action "F"

Today's Recommended Actions

A. Receive Homelessness Update, offer guidance to staff as to strategies;

B. Provide guidance to, accept the recommendations of, and direct the Director of the Department of Health Services and the Interim Executive Director of the Community Development Commission to return to the Board with Results-Based Accountability metrics for the proposed uses of $4 million American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds previously designated by the Board for homelessness programs and solutions;

C. Authorize the interim Executive Director of the Community Development Commission, or their designee, to execute the professional services agreement with St Vincent de Paul for the operations of Los Guilicos Village for Fiscal Year 2022-2023, as well as authorize the Interim Executive Director of the Sonoma County Community Development Commission to file Notices of Exemption in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act;

D. Direct staff to prepare a Request for Proposals (RFP) for the future operations of Los Guilicos Village for FY 23-24;

E. Authorize the Interim Executive Director of the Community Development Commission to donate or otherwise dispose the temporary housing trailers at the Sonoma County Fairgrounds with a preference towards assigning them to non-profits in service to our unhoused neighbors; and

F. Authorize the Board Chair to send a letter to the Governor and California state legislators advocating for a phased-in approach regarding SB 1338 and the CARE Court program (CARE Act).

Comments and Questions