

Joe Rodota Trail : Emergency Outdoor Shelter and Trail Security

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Overview



- Background of Joe Rodota Trail (JRT) Emergency
- Update on current JRT conditions
- Considerations for temporary Emergency Outdoor Shelter Site
- Recommended Actions

Background on Joe Rodota Trail Encampment

Joe Rodota Trail: December 23rd Approved Actions

- A. Provided direction to staff regarding options including the purchase of congregate housing, entering into master leases, establishment of indoor -outdoor shelter (s), and the provision of behavioral health, medical, and social services.**
- B. Adopted concurrent resolution**
 - 1. Delegating authority and making findings for services contracts;**
 - 2. Making findings and enacting emergency standards for public homeless facilities; and**
 - 3. Directing staff to pursue and prioritize Low -Barrier Navigation Centers and outdoor shelter alternatives.**

Joe Rodota Trail: December 23rd Approved Actions

- C. Added 7 full -time positions for Department of Health Services**
- D. Select a site(s) consistent with the criteria set forth in Attachment 2**
- E. Approved General Fund contingencies up to \$2.1 million to finance \$20,000 of housing equipment leased spaces and \$2.08 million for indoor/outdoor multi -site preparation, support services and 1 year operations**

Joe Rodota Trail: December 23rd Approved Actions

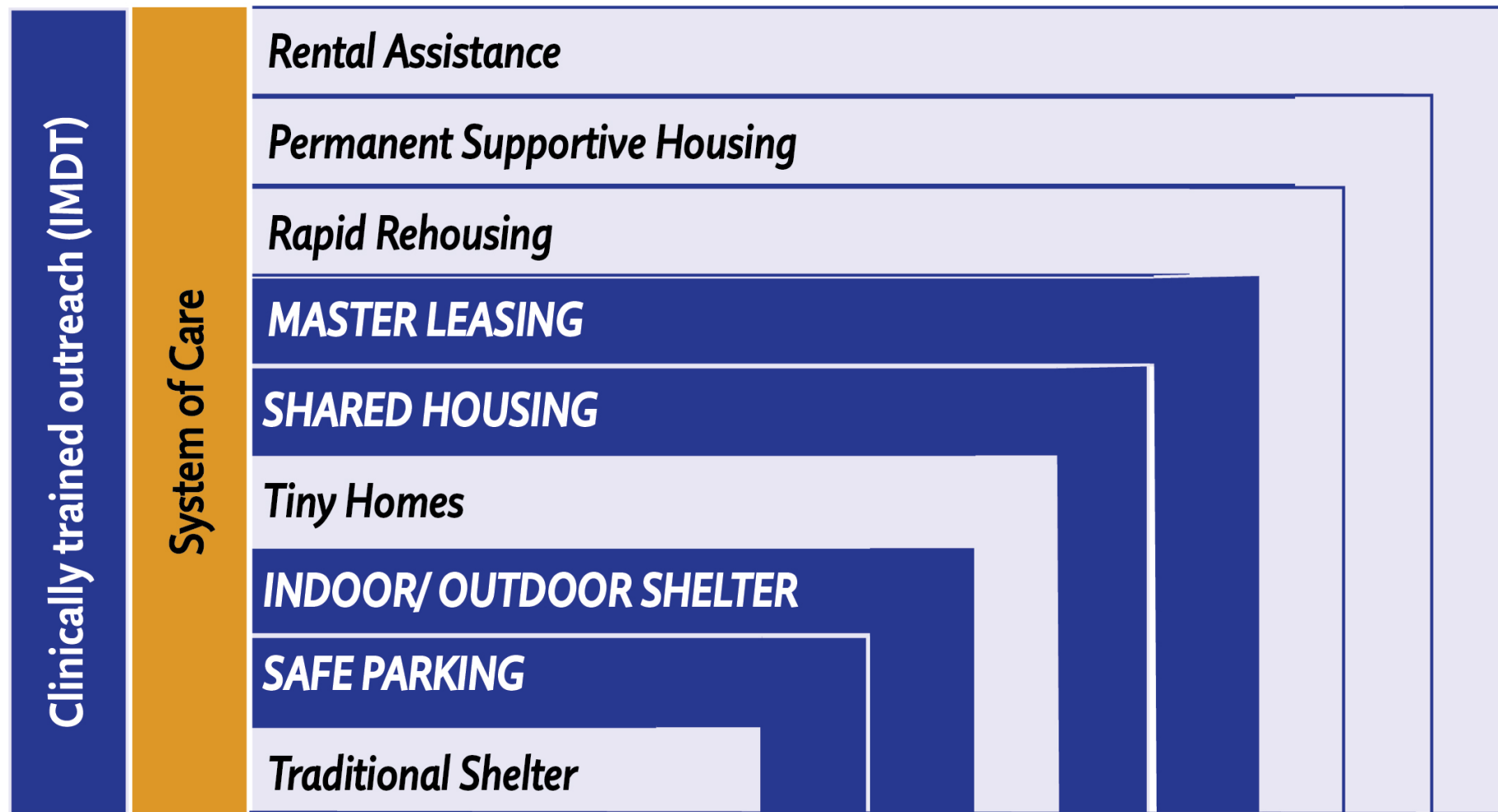
- F. Delegated authority to execute all budget appropriations increases and adjustments up to \$ 11.68 million**
- G. Delegated authority to lease and license real property and to amend real property leases for improvements of alterations pursuant to Government Code Section 25350.51**

Demographics of Trail occupants

Representative sample of the trail occupants - about 70 people

- 43% female, 57% male
- 66% reported emotional, physical, psych, or sexual abuse contributing to homelessness
- 44% reported mobility limitations (i.e. wheelchair, amputation, unable to climb stairs)
- 62% are diagnosed with chronic physical or mental health conditions, substance use disorder conditions or developmental disability
- 53% reported using drugs or alcohol nearly daily over the preceding 30 days
- 55% engaged in risky behavior such as exchange sex for money, selling drugs, etc.

Homeless System of Care



Current JRT operations

- Sharps containers
- Nighttime security
- Trash removal
- Restrooms
- Pest control

Hazard requiring emergency action

Mitigation actions

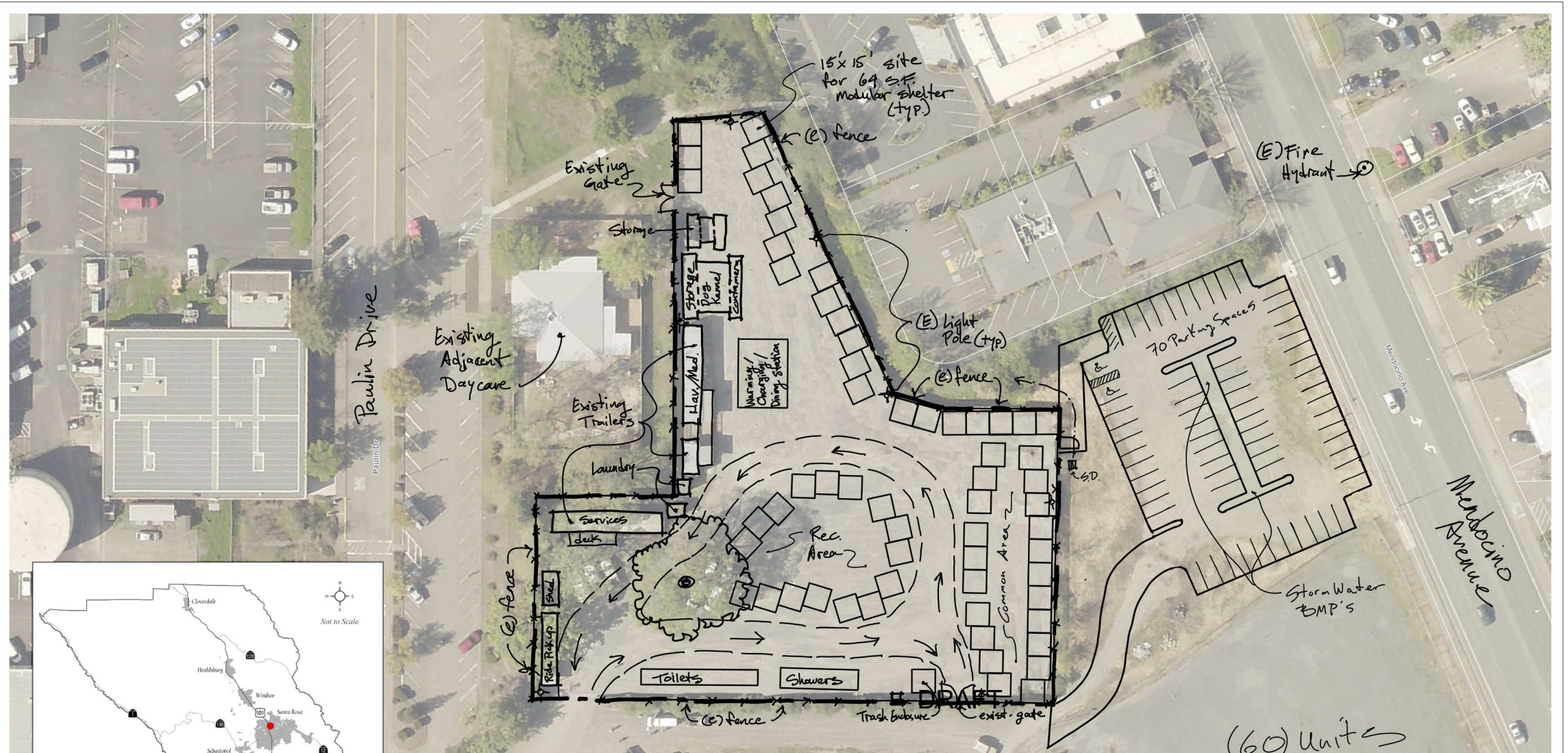
1. Create and open a managed emergency outdoor shelter site
2. Close the trail and assist occupants transition
3. Restore trail

Emergency Outdoor Shelter Site

Only part of the overall solution set and a new option for trail occupants

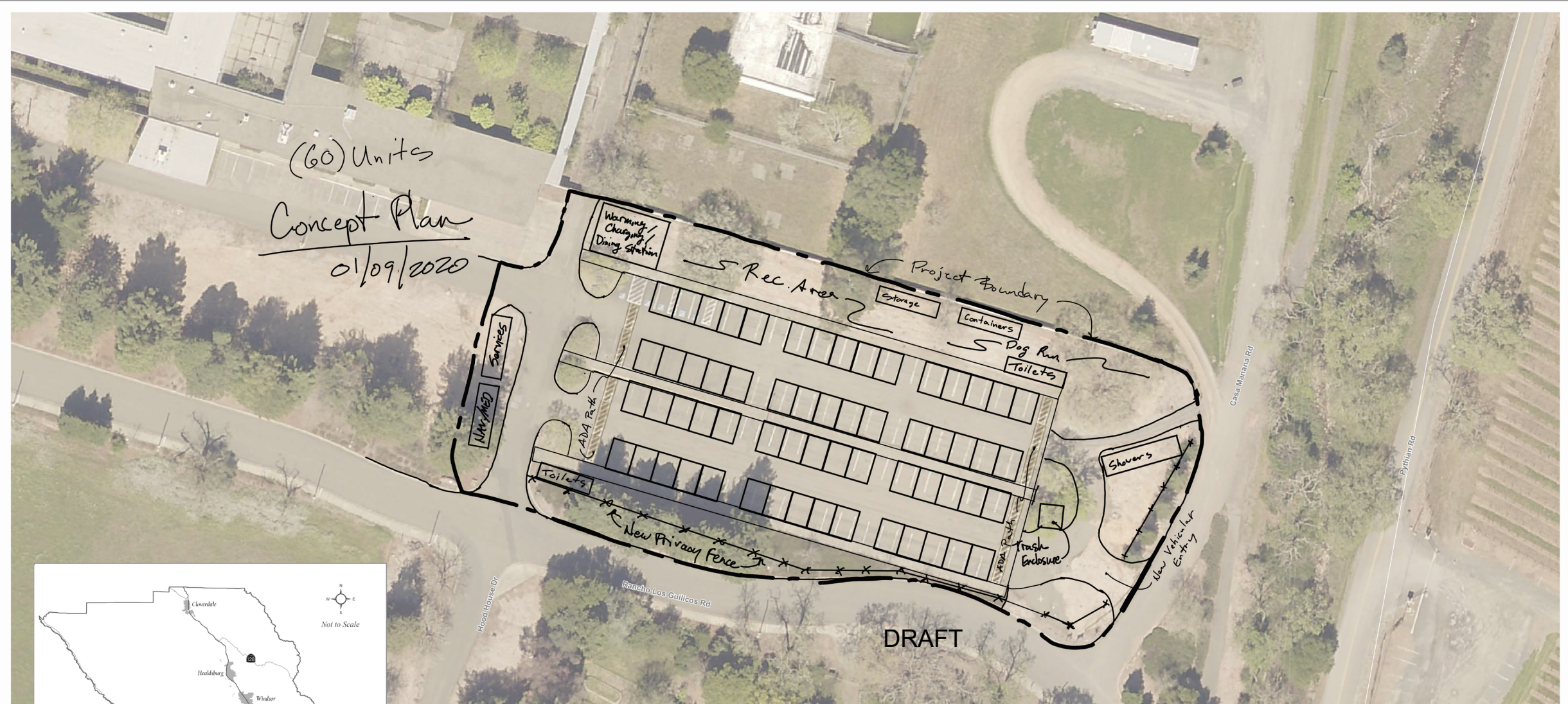
Joe Rodota Trail

Potential Site Plan: Sonoma County Campus



Joe Rodota Trail

Potential Site Plan: Los Guilicos



Joe Rodota Trail

- **Concept for clearing trail**
- **Coordinating actions**

Recommended Actions

- A. Receive an update about increasingly hazardous conditions on and around the Joe Rodota Trail; and**
- B. Find that the conditions on and around the Joe Rodota Trail constitute an immediate hazard requiring emergency action; and**
- C. Approve the recommended temporary Emergency Outdoor Shelter Site; and**

Recommended Actions

- D. Delegate authority to the Director of General Services to execute a revocable license agreement in a form approved by County Counsel with the Community Development Commission for no monetary rent or fees in exchange for the Commission providing for up to 60 people on an Emergency Outdoor Shelter Site, to provide and arrange for emergency sheltering accommodation and services needed for persons experiencing homelessness, and to provide for all site needs as determined by the Director, including for provision of utilities, security, and waste management; and**

Recommended Actions

- E. Receive a report on and designate the location of the temporary Emergency Outdoor Shelter Site to be located on either the County of Sonoma Campus at 600 Administration Dr. # 104J, Santa Rosa (APN 180 -030-012), or at the County of Sonoma Los Guilicos Campus at 171 N Pythian Rd, Santa Rosa (APN 054020-060), commencing as soon as practicable and terminating on or about April 30, 2020; and**
- F. Make findings in accordance with Government Code section 26227 that the services provided by the licensee will serve public purposes and that the property subject to the license to be used for such public purposes will not be needed for County purposes during the time of the licensee 's possession; and**

Recommended Actions

- G. Find that selection and operation of the proposed Emergency Outdoor Shelter Site is a Low Barrier Navigation Center as defined in Government Code Section 65660(a) that is statutorily exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Government Code Sections 65660(b) and 65583; and**
- H. Find that action to secure and address the public health and safety hazards on the Joe Rodota Trail is statutorily exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), pursuant to CEQA Guidelines § 15269, exempting specific actions taken to mitigate an emergency, and additionally categorically exempt from CEQA pursuant to CEQA Guidelines § 15308, exempting actions taken by regulatory agencies to assure the maintenance, restoration, or protection of the environment.**

Recommended Actions

- I. **Adopt a Minute Order directing the Permit and Resource Management Department (Permit Sonoma) and County Counsel to prepare an amendment to Sonoma County Code, Chapter 7.13(C) to modify California Building Code Appendix O Emergency Housing; and directing the Permit and Resource Management Department not to pursue any violation complaints related to the placement or occupancy of emergency housing units on County property until such time as the Sonoma County Code, Chapter 7.13(C) is amended.**

Discussion

