

HOMELESSNESS COMMITTEE VOTING MEMBERS WILL RECEIVE A UNIQUE PANELIST LINK BY EMAIL. PLEASE USE THIS LINK TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS MEETING.



Pursuant to Governor Newsom's Executive Order N-29-20 (March 18, 2020), the Homelessness Committee meeting will only be conducted via video/teleconferencing.

HOMELESSNESS COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 16, 2021
10:00 a.m.**

INSTRUCTIONS FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Members of the public may use the following link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89193566223?pwd=RDd4UjcwMENUTnJZak1ZZjdjUWI6Zz09>

Password: 558801

One Tap Mobile: +16699009128,,89193566223#

Dial In: +1 669 900 9128

Webinar ID: 891 9356 6223

Password: 558801

This will provide listening access and ability to address the Homelessness Committee when called upon.

IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO CONNECT VIA DIAL IN OPTION, PLEASE CALL 760-346-1127.

Public comment is encouraged to be emailed to the Homelessness Committee prior to the meeting at cvag@cvag.org by 5:00 p.m. on the day prior to the committee meeting. Comments intended to be read aloud should be no more than 300 characters.

**THIS MEETING IS HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE.
ACTION MAY RESULT ON ANY ITEMS ON THIS AGENDA.**

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – Chair Christy Holstege, Mayor, City of Palm Springs

2. **ROLL CALL**
 - A. **Member Roster** **P4**

3. **PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS**

This is the time and place for members of the public to address the Homelessness Committee on agenda items. At the discretion of the Chair, comments may be taken at the time items are presented. Please limit comments to three (3) minutes.

4. **CHAIR / COMMITTEE / CVAG STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS**

5. **CONSENT CALENDAR**
 - A. **Approve the May 19, 2021 Homelessness Committee Meeting Minutes** **P5**

6. **DISCUSSION / ACTION**
 - A. **CV Housing First: Update on 2021 Progress – Tom Cox** **P10**

Recommendation: Information
 - B. **CV Housing First's Use of the Palm Springs Boxing Club – Greg Rodriguez** **P11**

Recommendation: Authorize the Executive Director to execute a no-cost lease extension with the City of Palm Springs for the Palm Springs Boxing Club for use by the CV Housing First program
 - C. **Funding Agreements for the CV Housing First Program – Erica Felci** **P13**

Recommendation: Authorize the Executive Director to negotiate and execute Memorandums of Understanding with member jurisdictions to secure multi-year funding commitments for the CV Housing First program
 - D. **Summer Cooling Centers – Greg Rodriguez** **P15**

Recommendation: Information

7. **INFORMATION**
 - A. **Attendance Record** **P16**
 - B. **Ex Officio Updates**
 - C. **Financial Support for CV Housing First** **P17**
 - D. **Member Survey on CVAG Meetings in Post-COVID Environment** **P19**

8. **PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

This is the time and place for members of the public to address the Homelessness Committee on items of general interest within the purview of this committee. Please limit comments to two (2) minutes

9. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Upcoming Meetings:

The next meeting of the **Homelessness Committee** will be held on Wednesday, September 15, 2021, at 10 a.m. either via Zoom webinar or in-person.

The next meeting of the **Executive Committee** will be held on Monday, June 28, 2021, with closed session at 4 p.m. and regular session at 4:30 p.m. via Zoom webinar.

The next meeting of the **General Assembly** will be held on Monday, June 28, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. via Zoom webinar.

10. **ADJOURNMENT**

ITEM 2A

**Coachella Valley Association of Governments
Homelessness Committee
Member Roster
2020- 2021**



VOTING MEMBERS	
City of Blythe	Councilmember Johnny Rodriguez
City of Cathedral City	Councilmember Mark Carnevale
City of Coachella	Mayor Pro Tem Josie Gonzalez
City of Desert Hot Springs	Councilmember Jan Pye
City of Indian Wells	Councilmember Kimberly Muzik
City of Indio	Mayor Pro Tem Waymond Fermon
City of La Quinta	Councilmember John Peña – <u>Vice Chair</u>
City of Palm Desert	Councilmember Sabby Jonathan
City of Palm Springs	Mayor Christy Holstege – <u>Chair</u>
City of Rancho Mirage	Mayor Pro Tem Charles Townsend
Riverside County – District 4	Supervisor V. Manuel Perez
Desert Healthcare District	Director Carole Rogers, RN
Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians	Councilmember John Preckwinkle III
Cabazon Band of Mission Indians	Unassigned
Ex-Officio / Non-Voting Members	
Alice Salinas, Executive Director, Coachella Valley Housing Coalition	
Darla Burkett, Executive Director, Coachella Valley Rescue Mission	
Julie Reay, Executive Director, Home Aid Inland Empire	
Linda Barrack, Executive Director, Martha’s Village and Kitchen	
Vacant, The Salvation Army	
Angelina Coe, Executive Director, Shelter from the Storm	
Additional Support Staff	
Carrie Harmon, Assistant Director Housing, Homelessness Prevention and Workforce Solutions	Dr. Conrado Bãrzaga, CEO, Desert Healthcare District
Tanya Torno, Principal Development Specialist, Housing, Homelessness Prevention and Workforce Solutions	Marcus Cannon, Behavioral Health Services Supervisor, Riverside University Health System-Behavioral Health

CVAG Staff	
Tom Kirk, Executive Director	
Erica Felci, Assistant to the Executive Director	
Greg Rodriguez, Contract Staff	
Tom Cox, Management Analyst	

Updated: 05/13/21

ITEM 5A

**Homelessness Committee
Meeting Minutes
May 19, 2021**



The audio file for this meeting can be found at: <http://www.cvag.org/audio.htm>

- 1. CALL TO ORDER** - The May 19, 2021 meeting was called to order by Homelessness Committee Chair Christy Holstege, City of Palm Springs, at 10 a.m. on Zoom videoconference, pursuant to Gov. Newsom's executive order governing how public meetings are held during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- 2. ROLL CALL** - Roll call was taken and it was determined that a quorum was present.

Members Present

City of Blythe	Councilmember Johnny Rodriguez
City of Cathedral City	Councilmember Mark Carnevale
City of Coachella	Councilmember Denise Delgado
City of Desert Hot Springs	Councilmember Jan Pye
City of Indian Wells	Councilmember Kimberly Muzik
City of Indio	Mayor Pro Tem Waymond Fermon <i>(during Item 5)</i>
City of La Quinta	Councilmember John Peña, Vice Chair
City of Palm Desert	Councilmember Sabby Jonathan
City of Palm Springs	Mayor Christy Holstege, Chair
City of Rancho Mirage	Mayor Pro Tem Charles Townsend
Riverside County- District 4	Assistant Director Carrie Harmon
Desert Healthcare District	Board Director Carole Rogers, RN
Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians	Councilmember John Preckwinkle III <i>(during Item 5)</i>

Ex-Officio Members Present

Shelter from the Storm	Angelina Coe
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Ex-Officios Not Present

Coachella Valley Housing Coalition	Alice Salinas
Coachella Valley Rescue Mission	Darla Burkett
Home Aid Inland Empire	Julie Reay
Martha's Village and Kitchen	Linda Barrack

Others Present

CVAG	Tom Kirk
	Erica Felci
	Joanna Stueckle
	Tom Cox
	Peter Satin
CVAG/ Riverside County	Greg Rodriguez
City of La Quinta	Mayor Linda Evans

Desert Healthcare District/ Foundation	Gil Villapando
	Conrado Barzaga
	Donna Craig
Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians	Vice Chair Joseph Mirelez
Individuals	Myrel Cabezon
	Jessica Cortez
	Reyna Camarena
	Chris Gerry
	Two others joined video conference
	without full names listed

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

None.

4. CHAIR / COMMITTEE MEMBER/CVAG STAFF COMMENTS

None

5. CONSENT CALENDAR

IT WAS MOVED BY COUNCILMEMBER PENA AND SECONDED BY MAYOR PRO TEM TOWNSEND TO:

A. Approve the April 21, 2021 Homelessness Committee Meeting Minutes

B. Authorize the Executive Director to negotiate and execute Amendment #2 to the agreement between CVAG and Riverside County for strategic planning and implementation of regional homelessness services, extending the term of the contract for Government Affairs and Public Policy Advisor Greg Rodriguez through June 30, 2022, with an optional second year, for an additional \$30,000 annually

As part of the consent calendar vote, several members acknowledged the work by Mr. Rodriguez and expressed appreciation for the continued collaboration between CVAG's Housing First program and the County.

THE MOTION CARRIED WITH 13 AYES.

Councilmember Johnny Rodriguez	AYE
Councilmember Mark Carnevale	AYE
Councilmember Denise Delgado	AYE
Councilmember Jan Pye	AYE
Councilmember Kimberly Muzik	AYE
Mayor Pro Tem Waymond Fermon	AYE
Councilmember John Peña	AYE
Councilmember Sabby Jonathan	AYE
Mayor Christy Holstege	AYE
Mayor Pro Tem Charles Townsend	AYE

Assistant Director Carrie Harmon	AYE
Director Carole Rogers	AYE
Councilmember John Preckwinkle III	AYE

Before continuing to the next agenda item, Chair Holstege acknowledged the Homelessness Committee’s newest member, Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians Councilmember John Preckwinkle III. Councilmember Preckwinkle introduced himself. Chair Holstege then had the entire committee and CVAG staff introduce themselves as for as part of the welcome.

6. DISCUSSION / ACTION

A. Appointment of Regional Representative to SCAG Policy Committee – Peter Satin

Peter Satin provided an overview to CVAG’s appointment process to SCAG policy committees. Councilmember Jan Pye, current representative to SCAG’s Community, Economic, and Human Development Committee, explained she wanted to provide another member an opportunity to serve. Member discussion ensued about the SCAG meeting schedule. Mayor Pro Tem Waymond Fermon expressed interest in serving, and Cathedral City Councilmember Mark Carnevale said he would serve as an alternate.

IT WAS MOVED BY CHAIR HOLSTEGE AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMEBR JONATHAN TO NOMINATE INDIO MAYOR PRO TEM WAYMOND FERMON TO SERVE AS THE CVAG REPRESENTATIVE, AND FOR CATEHDRAL CITY COUNCILMEMBER MARK CARNEVALE TO SERVE AS ALTERNATE, TO SCAG’S COMMUNITY, ECONOMIC AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE.

THE MOTION CARRIED WITH 13 AYES.

Councilmember Johnny Rodriguez	AYE
Councilmember Mark Carnevale	AYE
Councilmember Denise Delgado	AYE
Councilmember Jan Pye	AYE
Councilmember Kimberly Muzik	AYE
Mayor Pro Tem Waymond Fermon	AYE
Councilmember John Peña	AYE
Councilmember Sabby Jonathan	AYE
Mayor Christy Holstege	AYE
Mayor Pro Tem Charles Townsend	AYE
Assistant Director Carrie Harmon	AYE
Director Carole Rogers	AYE
Councilmember John Preckwinkle III	AYE

B. Expanded Partnerships for the CV Housing First Program – Tom Cox

Tom Cox provided an update on proposed memorandums of understanding with organizations that can provide additional services to CV Housing First clients at no cost to CVAG. Member discussion ensued. Mr. Cox also answered related

questions about the progress made on the CV Housing First program, including an update on the CV 200 clients being helped to permanent housing and the coming launch of the mobile access center. Members suggested CVAG staff look into additional memorandums, including agreements with cities, in the future.

IT WAS MOVED BY MAYOR PRO TEM FERMON AND SECONDED BY DIRECTOR ROGERS TO AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO NEGOTIATE AND EXECUTE NO-COST MEMORANDUMS OF UNDERSTANDING WITH CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, SAN BERNARDINO; INLAND COUNTIES LEGAL SERVICES INC; INLAND EMPIRE HEALTH PLAN; JEWISH FAMILY SERVICES OF THE DESERT; AS WELL AS OTHER PROVIDERS WHO CAN EXPAND THE SERVICES TO ASSIST THE CV HOUSING FIRST PROGRAM.

THE MOTION CARRIED WITH 13 AYES.

Councilmember Johnny Rodriguez	AYE
Councilmember Mark Carnevale	AYE
Councilmember Denise Delgado	AYE
Councilmember Jan Pye	AYE
Councilmember Kimberly Muzik	AYE
Mayor Pro Tem Waymond Fermon	AYE
Councilmember John Peña	AYE
Councilmember Sabby Jonathan	AYE
Mayor Christy Holstege	AYE
Mayor Pro Tem Charles Townsend	AYE
Assistant Director Carrie Harmon	AYE
Director Carole Rogers	AYE
Councilmember John Preckwinkle III	AYE

C. CV Housing First’s Use of the Palm Springs Boxing Club – Greg Rodriguez

Greg Rodriguez provided an update on the Palm Springs Boxing Club, a city-owned facility that CVAG uses to headquarter the CV Housing First program. Chair Holstege also updated the committee on the City’s conversation about the facility’s future use, which may be used to house Well in the Desert and its services to the homeless.

There was no action as this was an informational item.

D. Summer Cooling Centers – Greg Rodriguez

Mr. Rodriguez provided an update on Riverside County’s consideration of operating cooling centers in the western part of the Coachella Valley this summer, and explained the program was dependent on securing the necessary funding and finalizing the operations. Member discussion ensued.

There was no action as this was an informational item.

7. INFORMATION – The following items were provided for the Committee’s information, and the Acting Chair asked ex officio members for input on 7B:

A. Attendance Record

B. Ex-Officio Updates

None were presented during the meeting.

C. Financial Support for CV Housing First

D. Update on Alan Seman Bus Pass Program

E. Meeting Reimbursements for Elected Committee Members

F. CVAG’s participation in the Institute for Local Government’s BOOST Program

Erica Felci addressed members’ questions about resuming the Alan Seman Bus Pass program, including the logistics of coordinating with SunLine Transit Agency and getting passes to homeless individuals.

8. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

None.

9. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Upcoming Zoom Meetings:

Homelessness Committee – Wednesday, June 16, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.

Executive Committee – Monday, June 7, 2021 at 4:30 p.m.

Ms. Felci also noted the CVAG General Assembly would be held at the end of June.

10. ADJOURN - The meeting was adjourned at 10:49 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Erica Felci

CVAG Assistant to the Executive Director

ITEM 6A

**Coachella Valley Association of Governments
Homelessness Committee
June 16, 2021**



Staff Report

Subject: CV Housing First: Update on 2021 progress

Contact: Tom Cox, Management Analyst (tcoc@cvag.org)

Recommendation: Information

Background: In September 2020, the CVAG Executive Committee authorized the Executive Director to transition the CV Housing First program from an outsourced program to one operated by CVAG staff for 2021. This transition gave CVAG an opportunity to refine its program and bring increased responsiveness and capacity in the Coachella Valley, particularly as it pertains to assisting local law enforcement and public health workers with homeless services. The transition to an in-house program has also given CVAG an opportunity to focus its efforts on clients who might not be able to get help elsewhere.

CVAG staff has provided the Homelessness and Executive Committees with several updates on the progress that the CV Housing First team. This has included an overview of the program's focus on the CV 200 and a quarterly update on how many of those clients have exited to permanent housing solutions. CVAG staff has also been making presentations to individual cities' City Councils about the program and its impact in the community.

CVAG is nearly six months into its transition. At the June 16 meeting of the Homelessness Committee, staff will be sharing testimonials from the CV 200 clients who have been helped by the CV Housing First program. A formal, second quarter update will be provided in the fall, providing detailed data on the progress being made to help the CV 200 and other clients who enter the CV Housing First program.

Fiscal Impact: The CV Housing First program, including the staffing and CV200 program, is incorporated into the 2021 CV Housing First budget, which has been funded by contributions from cities, Riverside County, the Desert Healthcare District/Foundation, and grants.

ITEM 6B

**Coachella Valley Association of Governments
Homelessness Committee
June 16, 2021**



STAFF REPORT

Subject: CV Housing First's Use of the Palm Springs Boxing Club

Contact: Greg Rodriguez, County Government Relations and Public Policy Advisor (GRodrigu@rivco.org) and Erica Felci, Assistant to the Executive Director (efelci@cvag.org)

Recommendation: Authorize the Executive Director to execute a no-cost lease extension with the City of Palm Springs for the Palm Springs Boxing Club for use by the CV Housing First program

Background: At the May 2021 meeting, the CVAG Homelessness Committee was provided an update on the former Palm Springs Boxing Club, which the City of Palm Springs has been leasing to CVAG at no cost in order to have a base of operations for the CV Housing First program. The building, located on South El Cielo near the Palm Springs International Airport, allows for CVAG to deploy its outreach teams and is the central location for services to the CV 200. However, under the transition of the CV Housing First program to one that is operated in-house, the main contact with clients is in the field, not at the access center.

The current facilities use agreement expires on July 1, 2021.

In recent months, the City of Palm Springs City Council has provided direction to City staff that the building may be utilized for Well in the Desert, which is another service provider that is based in the City. Well operates daytime services, such as meals and showers, but has faced concerns from neighbors at its existing facility about its operations.

Due to the different logistics of both programs, CVAG staff has let the City know that CVAG would not seek to renew its facilities use agreement once the Well is relocated to the Boxing Club.

At the June 10 meeting, the Palm Springs City Council was provided an update on the City's plans to relocate Well in the Desert, which is also working with Martha's Village on possible programming opportunities. City staff have identified a number of site changes that would be necessary for such a move to occur, including the addition of modular buildings, portable bathrooms and portable showers. City staff are also incorporating steps recommended by Palm Springs Police, who have expressed concerns about the increase in the calls for service near Well in the Desert's current location.

Based on the latest update to City Council, it is apparent that it will take additional time to finalize any transition of Well in the Desert to the Boxing Club. As such, City staff have expressed a willingness to let CVAG remain in the facility under a no cost, month-to-month lease agreement. At the same time, CVAG staff continues to work on contingency plans for new office locations and

will be prepared to vacate the Boxing Club. CVAG staff is also working to deploy its new, grant-funded mobile access center to assist with program operations.

Fiscal Analysis: There is no cost for CVAG to lease the Boxing Club space. Administrative costs associated with operating an access center, such as office supplies and internet service, have been incorporated into the program's budget.

ITEM 6C

**Coachella Valley Association of Governments
Homelessness Committee**

June 16, 2021



STAFF REPORT

Subject: Funding Agreements for the CV Housing First Program

Contact: Erica Felci, Assistant to the Executive Director (efelci@cvag.org)

Recommendation: Authorize the Executive Director to negotiate and execute Memorandums of Understanding with member jurisdictions to secure multi-year funding commitments for the CV Housing First program

Background: In May 2021, at the recommendation of the CVAG Homelessness Committee, the CVAG Executive Committee authorized the Executive Director to negotiate and enter into no-cost memorandums of understanding (MOU) that allow CVAG staff to work with other providers on client services. Some of those partners include California State University, San Bernardino; Inland Counties Legal Services Inc.; Inland Empire Health Plan; and Jewish Family Services of the Desert, who had formerly been the operator at Roy's Desert Resource Center when CVAG operated an emergency overnight shelter program.

The MOU concept was unanimously supported, but it also prompted a discussion by the Homelessness Committee about entering into MOUs with member jurisdictions.

Since 2008, CVAG has funded its regional homelessness programs – first Roy's Desert Resource Center, and then later programs that evolved into CV Housing First – by contributions from member jurisdictions. This process has involved CVAG staff sending a request to each city and tribe as well as the County of Riverside. Sometimes the jurisdictions approve the request as part of the annual budget; other times, it is done through a separate action. The current requests are for \$100,000 a year.

After the homeless services at Roy's Desert Resource Center closed in 2017, the Desert Healthcare District/Foundation became a significant funding partner. Its initial dollar-for-dollar matching program encouraged broad funding support for the program. The current agreement, which was approved in April 2021, means the District/ Foundation will be providing \$500,000 for the program for the period of April 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022. This agreement is slightly different than the previous dollar matching program that the District/ Foundation has previously done. However, it does come with a clause that CVAG needs to demonstrate a continued commitment of current funding levels from the CVAG member agencies.

Support for the CV Housing First program, and the transition to in-house operations, has been significant. The County of Riverside has been instrumental in helping CVAG secure additional funds and, for the first time, the City of Indian Wells approved a financial contribution to the program. Cities are also indicating continued support, including a vote by the City of Desert Hot Springs City Council to include the Housing First program in its two-year budget.

Two cities – Cathedral City and La Quinta – have authorized this year’s funds through MOUs that require CVAG to provide regular updates on the program’s progress. CVAG staff is now recommending the Executive Director be authorized to negotiate and execute MOUs with all its member jurisdictions to secure funding of \$100,000 annually for a three-year period. This will ensure financial stability for the program, and avoid the uncertainty – and significant staff time – that comes with the traditional process of asking cities for funds each year.

Staff is recommending the MOUs have a three-year timeframe so that future Councils would have an opportunity to review the program and commitments as well. CVAG staff has consulted with Legal Counsel, who notes that there is no legal impediment to cities entering into a multi-year commitments. Additionally, the California Constitution debt limit only prohibits a multi-year contract where the funds to pay the full contract are not on hand, and that the amount of this proposed MOU does not appear large enough to create that concern.

Continuity in funding will ensure that the CV Housing First program continues to grow and evolve, making a significant impact in the community by addressing the chronically homeless individuals on the CV 200 list. While the initial data demonstrates the program’s success, staff notes that the Executive Committee’s authorization for the program was for 2021 and that the program will need the Executive Committee’s further approval to continue. This condition would be included in the MOUs, and allow for the funding to be redirected to any modified version of the CV Housing First program.

Fiscal Analysis: The CV Housing First program, including the staffing and program operations, is funded by contributions from cities, Riverside County, the Desert Healthcare District/Foundation, and grants. CVAG’s city and tribal member jurisdictions are each asked to contribute \$100,000 a year for the operations.

ITEM 6D

**Coachella Valley Association of Governments
Homelessness Committee
June 16, 2021**



STAFF REPORT

Subject: Summer Cooling Centers

Contact: Greg Rodriguez, County Government Relations and Public Policy Advisor
(GRodrigu@rivco.org)

Recommendation: Information

Background: At the May 2021 meeting, members of the CVAG Homelessness Committee were provided an update on plans for a cooling center program during the summer months. It was reported that the County was leading ongoing negotiations with possible sites as well as budgeting conversations with Coachella Valley Rescue Mission (CVRM), who has been contracted in the past for the program.

Since the Committee's last meeting, Riverside County staff have finalized the funding needed to launch the program. The County also negotiated a couple of locations in the western Coachella Valley. However, the County has since been informed by CVRM that there may be a lack of capacity to run the program this summer.

County staff will provide an update to the CVAG Homelessness Committee at the June 16 meeting. The goal was to provide an operation similar to the previous two summers, when Riverside County operated three overnight cooling centers in the cities of Palm Springs, Cathedral City and Desert Hot Springs. The services were open from 7 p.m. until 7 a.m. daily in 2019 and from 5 p.m. to 7 a.m. in 2020, which provided homeless individuals with overnight shelter, showers and meals. Some resources were dedicated to getting clients access to services; due to the hours of operation, the success level of those efforts were minimal.

Fiscal Analysis: The funding for cooling centers is determined by the County, and not CVAG.

Previous funding for these programs came from special funding allocations from Riverside County. In 2019, under authorization from the CVAG Executive Committee and with support from the Homelessness Committee, CVAG acted as the fiscal agent for the program. In 2020, the fiscal responsibility was handled by the Emergency Operations Center at the County due to the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Desert Healthcare District (DHCD) also provided funding to cover the utility expenses at both sites in 2019 and 2020. The DHCD Board, at its April 27, 2021 Foundation Board meeting, approved an allocation for the same funding in anticipation of possible summer shelters for 2021.

ITEM 7A

COACHELLA VALLEY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
HOMELESSNESS COMMITTEE
ATTENDANCE RECORD
FY2020-2021

Voting Members	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	ATTENDED
City of Blythe	●	●	○		●			●		●	●		6 out of 7
City of Cathedral City	●	●	●		●			●		●	●		7 out of 7
City of Coachella	●	○	○		●			●		●	●		5 out of 7
City of Desert Hot Springs	●	●	●		●			●		●	●		7 out of 7
City of Indian Wells	●	●	●		○			●		●	●		6 out of 7
City of Indio	●	●	●		●			○		●	●		6 out of 7
City of La Quinta	●	●	●		●			●		●	●		7 out of 7
City of Palm Desert	●	●	●		●			●		●	●		7 out of 7
City of Palm Springs	●	●	●		●			●		●	●		7 out of 7
City of Rancho Mirage	●	●	●		●			●		●	●		7 out of 7
Riverside County	●	●	●		●			●		●	●		7 out of 7
Desert Healthcare District	●	●	●		●			●		●	●		7 out of 7
Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians	*	*	*		*			*		*	●		1 out of 1
Total Attendance Per Meeting	12	11	10		11			11		12	13		

Ex Officio / Non-Voting Members	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	ATTENDED
Coachella Valley Housing Coalition	○	●	●		●			○		○	○		3 out of 7
Coachella Valley Rescue Mission	●	●	●		●			●		●	○		6 out of 7
HomeAid Inland Empire	○	●	●		●			●		●	○		5 out of 7
Martha's Village and Kitchen	●	●	●		●			○		●	○		6 out of 7
The Salvation Army (vacant)	*	*	*		*			*		*	*		0 out of 7
Shelter From the Storm	●	●	●		●			○		●	●		6 out of 7
Total Attendance Per Meeting	3	5	5		5			2		4	1		

Scheduled Dark Month
 Vacant *
 Present ●
 Absent ○

ITEM 7C

**Coachella Valley Association of Governments
Homelessness Committee**

June 16, 2021



STAFF REPORT

Subject: Financial Support for CV Housing First

Contact: Erica Felci, Assistant to the Executive Director (efelci@cvag.org)

Recommendation: Information

Background: At its April 24 meeting, the CVAG Executive Committee authorized the Executive Director to execute a Memorandum of Understanding with the Desert Healthcare District/ Foundation to accept \$500,000 for the CV Housing First program operations. The District/ Foundation has also been instrumental in funding CVAG's CV Housing First Program, and CVAG staff echoes the appreciation expressed at the Homelessness and Executive Committees about the continued support.

With this agreement, the District/ Foundation will be providing \$500,000 for the program for the period of April 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022. The MOU is slightly different than the previous dollar-for-dollar matching program that the District/ Foundation has previously done. However, it does come with a clause that CVAG needs to demonstrate a continued commitment of current funding levels from the CVAG member agencies.

CVAG has made a request that all member jurisdictions contribute \$100,000 for its 2020/2021 share, and staff is in the process of presenting a program update to every City Council. CVAG has also reached out to cities that had previously indicated their support, but had not sent the check. CVAG staff understands that submitting the contributions may have been overlooked or delayed due to the work-from-home conditions experienced during the COVID-19 pandemic, and in the future, will issue formal invoices to ensure there is no lag in revenue.

Staff will be providing an update at the Homelessness Committee meetings so members can track this revenue. It also will be reflected on the unaudited financial contribution report, which is provided to the CVAG Homelessness Committee on at least a quarterly basis.

City	FY 19/20	FY 20/21
Cathedral City	\$50,000	Payment via MOU terms
Coachella	\$100,000	Awaiting confirmation
Desert Hot Springs	\$100,000	Confirmed/ awaiting payment
Indian Wells	-	Confirmed/ awaiting payment

City	FY 19/20	FY 20/21
Indio	\$100,000	Awaiting confirmation
La Quinta	\$83,333	\$100,000
Palm Desert	Confirmed/ awaiting payment	Confirmed/ awaiting payment
Palm Springs	\$100,000	\$100,000
Rancho Mirage	\$100,000	\$100,000

Fiscal Analysis: The CV Housing First program, including the staffing and program operations, is funded by contributions from cities, Riverside County, the Desert Healthcare District/Foundation, and grants.

ITEM 7D

Coachella Valley Association of Governments
Homelessness Committee
June 16, 2021



Staff Report

Subject: Member Survey on CVAG Meetings in Post-COVID environment

Contact: Erica Felci, Assistant to the Executive Director, (efelci@cvag.org)

Recommendation: Information

Background: CVAG's committees have been meeting via video/teleconferencing since March 2020, when Governor Newsom issued an Executive Order to address public meeting procedures during the COVID-19 pandemic. This has proven to be an efficient way to conduct business for CVAG, which covers an expansive geographic area across eastern Riverside County. Committee meetings have been well attended, leading to thoughtful and robust conversations on CVAG's policies, projects and programs. The 2020 General Assembly – which was held via Zoom – had a record-setting attendance among elected officials. The use of both videoconference and telephone access has also fostered public engagement, as people can join the meetings from a convenient location instead of driving to CVAG's Palm Desert conference room.

State officials recently announced that – as of June 15, 2021 – California will officially reopen and will no longer require social distancing. This will be in line with U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's new mask guidelines, which state it is safe for fully vaccinated people to skip face coverings and social distancing in nearly all situations, except for crowded indoor locations such as airplanes or public transit.

It remains unclear how the state's new guidance will impact the way public meetings are held. There are certainly benefits to meeting in person, particularly the personal connections and discourse that can occur when everyone is sitting around the same table. However, CVAG has 19 member jurisdictions, so it has a much larger committee membership than most agencies. Its meeting room is relatively small, especially when put in comparison to a city council chamber. CVAG's meeting room is also not set up for the hybrid format that some cities have initiated, with Council members meeting in person and general public participating via telecast or videoconference. Continued use of video conferencing also allows CVAG to help reduce vehicle miles traveled to its meetings, a practice that has demonstrated air quality and other environmental impacts in the last year.

CVAG staff anticipates that the June 2021 meetings will continue to be held virtually, which are the last meetings held before the standing committees go dark for the summer. CVAG staff will, in coming weeks, be seeking feedback from members on meeting formats that could be implemented this fall. CVAG staff will be circulating a survey to gather this input, including exploring the options of continuing with at least some form of videoconferencing, and plans to provide a summary report in September 2021.

Fiscal Analysis: CVAG does not anticipate any costs for the survey.

**COACHELLA VALLEY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS
FISCAL YEAR 2021/2022**



CVAG STANDING COMMITTEES	DAY	TIME	JULY (Dark)	AUG (Dark)	SEPT	OCT (Dark)	NOV	DEC (Dark)	JAN	FEB	MAR (Dark)	APR	MAY	JUN
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE	Last Monday	4:30 p.m.	-	-	27	-	H Dec 6	-	31	28	-	25	H June 6	27
TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE	1 st Monday	10:00 a.m.	12	-	H Aug 30	-	1	-	3	7	-	4	2	6
COACHELLA VALLEY CONSERVATION COMMISSION	2 nd Thursday	10:30 a.m.	-	-	9	-	H Nov18	-	13	10	-	14	12	9
DESERT COMMUNITY ENERGY	3 rd Monday	2:30 p.m.	19	16	20	18	15	-	H Jan 10	H Feb14	21	18	16	20
ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE	2 nd Thursday	12:00 p.m.	-	-	9	-	H Nov18	-	13	10	-	14	12	9
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE	2 nd Monday	9:00 a.m.	-	-	13	-	8	-	10	14	-	-	9	13
HOMELESSNESS COMMITTEE	3 rd Wednesday	10:00 a.m.	-	-	15	-	17	-	19	16	-	20	18	15
GENERAL ASSEMBLY	Last Monday in June	6:00 p.m.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	27

H = Holiday * = Special Meeting

AGENDAS CAN BE FOUND AT: www.cvag.org.

UPDATED: June 1, 2021

PLEASE NOTE: When it becomes necessary to have a special meeting or to change the date of a meeting, committee members will be alerted and the change will be noted on the CVAG website calendar.