



# **HOMELESSNESS COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA**

**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2024  
10:00 a.m.**

**CVAG Conference Room  
73-710 Fred Waring Drive, Suite 104  
Palm Desert, CA 92260**

Members of the public may use the following link for listening access and ability to address the Homelessness Committee when called upon:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87119037575?pwd=2I7bwMiBuHyhhtd2kznxFCtAz66HFy.1>

**Dial In: +1 669 900 9128 US  
Webinar ID: 871 1903 7575  
Password: 095087**

**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](mailto:cvag@cvag.org) by 5:00 p.m. on the day prior to the committee meeting. Members of the public joining the meeting by Zoom can also provide comment by using the “raise hand” feature or hitting \*9 on the phone keypad.

As a convenience to the public, CVAG provides a call-in option and internet-based option for members of the public to virtually observe and provide public comments at its meetings. Please note that, in the event of a technical issue disrupting the call-in or internet-based options, the meeting will continue unless otherwise required by law.

**THIS MEETING IS HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE. ACTION MAY RESULT ON ANY ITEMS ON THIS AGENDA. UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED, ALL ACTION ITEMS WILL BE PRESENTED TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FOR FINAL APPROVAL.**

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – Chair John Peña, Mayor Pro Tem, City of La Quinta
  
2. **ROLL CALL** –
  - A. **Member Roster** **P5**
  
3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
  
4. **PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS**

This is the first of two opportunities for public comment. Any person wishing to address the Homelessness Committee on items appearing on this agenda may do so at this time. At the discretion of the Chair, comments may be taken at the time items are presented. Please limit comments to three (3) minutes.
  
5. **CHAIR / COMMITTEE / CVAG STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS**
  
6. **CONSENT CALENDAR**
  - A. **Approve the minutes of the June 12, 2024 meeting of the Homelessness Committee** **P6**
  - B. **Approve the minutes of the September 18, 2024 joint meeting of the Homelessness and Public Safety Committees** **P9**
  - C. **Reaffirm the Executive Director’s authorities for the CV Housing First program, including resetting the CV 200 list and executing short-term leases for crisis stabilization units, such as hotels and apartments used for case management of clients** **P14**
  - D. **Receive and file the quarterly report for the CV Housing First program, representing clients served in the third quarter of 2024** **P16**
  - E. **Adopt CVAG’s Legislative Platform for the next two-year legislative cycle** **P19**

- F. **Authorize the Executive Director to execute the necessary agreements to accept \$116,094.32 in Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) funding for the CV Housing First outreach efforts** **P35**

6.1 **ITEMS HELD OVER FROM CONSENT CALENDAR**

7. **DISCUSSION / ACTION**

- A. **Good Neighbor Policy for Homelessness Coordination – Erica Felci** **P36**

**Recommendation:** Provide direction on a model resolution that reinforces the commitment to regional homelessness solutions and establishes a good neighbor policy among CVAG member jurisdictions

- B. **Annual contributions to the CV Housing First program – Erica Felci** **P41**

**Recommendation:** Authorize the Executive Director to execute memorandums of understanding with member jurisdictions to increase the CV Housing First contribution to \$125,000 in Fiscal Year 2025/26 and provide for annual inflationary adjustments

- C. **Election of Homelessness Committee Officers – Tom Kirk** **P43**

**Recommendation:** Elect a Homelessness Committee Chair and Vice Chair for Fiscal Year 2024/2025

- D. **Countywide efforts to clean up homeless encampments – Greg Rodriguez, Riverside County Housing and Workforce Solutions' Deputy Director for Government Affairs and Community Engagement** **P44**

**Recommendation:** Information

8. **INFORMATION**

- A. Attendance Record **P47**

- B. Updates from Ex Officio Members

- C. Unaudited Financial Statement for CV Housing First Program through September 30, 2024 **P48**

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

This is the second opportunity for public comment. Any person wishing to address the Homelessness Committee on items of general interest within the purview of this Committee may do so at this time. Please limit comments to two (2) minutes.

10. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The next meeting of the **Homelessness Committee** will be held on Wednesday, January 15, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. at the CVAG conference room, 73-710 Fred Waring Drive, Suite 104, Palm Desert, 92260.

The next meeting of the **Executive Committee** will be held on Monday, December 2, 2024 at 4:30 p.m. at the CVAG conference room, 73-710 Fred Waring Drive, Suite 104, Palm Desert, 92260.

11. **ADJOURNMENT**

**ITEM 2A**

**Coachella Valley Association of Governments  
Homelessness Committee  
Member Roster  
2024- 2025**



<b>VOTING MEMBERS</b>	
Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians	Tribal Councilmember John Preckwinkle III
City of Blythe	Vice Mayor Johnny Rodriguez
City of Cathedral City	Councilmember Raymond Gregory
City of Coachella	Councilmember Denise Delgado
Desert Healthcare District	Director Carole Rogers, RN
City of Desert Hot Springs	Mayor Pro Tem Jan Pye
City of Indian Wells	Councilmember Donna Griffith
City of Indio	Councilmember Waymond Fermon – <b><u>Vice Chair</u></b>
City of La Quinta	Mayor Pro Tem John Peña – <b><u>Chair</u></b>
City of Palm Desert	Councilmember Kathleen Kelly
City of Palm Springs	Mayor Pro Tem Ron deHarte
City of Rancho Mirage	Councilmember Lynn Mallotto
Riverside County – District 4	Supervisor V. Manuel Perez
Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians	Vice Chair Joseph Mirelez
<b>Ex-Officio / Non-Voting Members</b>	
Pedro S.G. Rodriguez, Executive Director, Coachella Valley Housing Coalition	
Darla Burkett, Executive Director, Coachella Valley Rescue Mission	
Vacant, Executive Director, Home Aid Inland Empire	
Samuel Hollenbeck, Chief Executive Officer, Martha's Village and Kitchen	
Vacant, The Salvation Army	
Angelina Coe, Executive Director, Shelter from the Storm	

<b>CVAG Staff</b>
Tom Kirk, Executive Director
Erica Felci, Chief Operating Officer
Candice Graff, Management Analyst

**ITEM 6A**

**Homelessness Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
June 12, 2024**



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

- 1. CALL TO ORDER** - The meeting was called to order by Homelessness Committee Chair John Peña, City of La Quinta, at 9:09 a.m. at the Palm Springs Navigation Center, 3589 McCarthy Road, in Palm Springs.
- 2. ROLL CALL** - Roll call was taken and it was determined that a quorum was present.

**Members Present**

Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians	Councilmember John Preckwinkle III
City of Desert Hot Springs	Mayor Pro Tem Jan Pye
City of La Quinta	Mayor Pro Tem John Peña, <i>Chair</i>
City of Palm Desert	Mayor Karina Quintanilla, <i>alternate</i>
City of Palm Springs	Mayor Pro Tem Ron deHarte
City of Rancho Mirage	Councilmember Lynn Mallotto
Riverside County – District 4	Public Policy Advisor Amy Cuen-McDuffie
Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians	Vice Chair Joseph Mirelez

**Members and Ex-Officios Not Present**

City of Blythe	Councilmember Johnny Rodriguez
City of Cathedral City	Councilmember Raymond Gregory
City of Coachella	Councilmember Denise Delgado
City of Indio	Councilmember Waymond Fermon, <i>Vice Chair</i>
City of Indian Wells	Councilmember Donna Griffith
Desert Healthcare District	Director Carole Rogers, RN
Coachella Valley Housing Coalition	Pedro S.G. Rodriguez
Martha's Village and Kitchen	Samuel Hollenbeck
Coachella Valley Rescue Mission	Darla Burkett
Shelter from the Storm	Angelina Coe

**3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Chair Peña led the committee in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**4. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS**

None

**5. CHAIR / COMMITTEE MEMBER/CVAG STAFF COMMENTS**

Chief Operating Officer Erica Felci welcomed everyone to the Palm Springs Navigation Center and thanked the City of Palm Springs for putting together the site tour.

Ms. Felci announced the General Assembly meeting logistics and reminded all committee members to register.

**6. CONSENT CALENDAR**

**IT WAS MOVED BY VICE CHAIR MIRELEZ AND SECONDED BY TRIBAL COUNCILMEMBER PRECKWINKLE TO APPROVE THE CONSENT CALENDAR.**

**A. Approve the May 15, 2024 Homelessness Committee Meeting Minutes**

**THE MOTION TO CARRIED WITH 8 AYES AND 6 MEMBERS ABSENT**

<b>COUNCILMEMBER PRECKWINKLE</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>COUNCILMEMBER RODRIGUEZ</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>
<b>COUNCILMEMBER GREGORY</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>
<b>COUNCILMEMBER DELGADO</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>
<b>DIRECTOR ROGERS</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>
<b>MAYOR PRO TEM PYE</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>COUNCILMEMBER GRIFFITH</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>
<b>COUNCILMEMBER FERMON</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>
<b>MAYOR PRO TEM PEÑA</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>MAYOR QUINTANILLA</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>MAYOR PRO TEM DEHARTE</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>COUNCILMEMBER MALLOTTO</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>ADVISOR CUEN-MCDUFFIE</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>VICE CHAIR MIRELEZ</b>	<b>AYE</b>

**7. DISCUSSION / ACTION**

**A. Presentation: Cooling Centers in the Coachella Valley**

Representatives Lilly Cardoza and Emilie Abraham from Riverside County Community Action Partnership (CAP) presented on cooling centers in the Coachella Valley.

Brief member discussion ensued.

No action was taken as this was an informational item.

**B. Phased Opening of the Palm Springs Navigation Center**

Palm Springs Deputy City Manager Flinn Flagg presented the staff report and discussed the timing of the navigation center’s phases.

No action was taken as this was an information item.

**C. Tour: Palm Springs Navigation Center**

Mr. Flagg, alongside the direction of the construction site manager, led the Committee on a tour of the active construction site of the navigation center.

Members then returned to the meeting room to address the remaining agenda items.

**8. INFORMATION**

**A. Attendance Record**

**B. Updates from Ex Officio Members**

None.

**C. CVAG Meeting Calendar for Fiscal Year 2024/25**

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

None

**10. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The next meeting of the **Homelessness Committee** will be held on Wednesday, September 18, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. at the CVAG conference room, 73-710 Fred Waring Drive, Suite 104, Palm Desert, 92260.

The next meeting of the **Executive Committee** will be held on Monday, June 24, 2024, at 4:30 p.m. at the Desert Hot Spring Recreation Center, 11-750 Cholla Dr, Desert Hot Springs, 92240.

The next meeting of the **General Assembly** will be held on Monday, June 24, 2024, at 6 p.m. at the Desert Hot Spring Recreation Center, 11-750 Cholla Dr, Desert Hot Springs, 92240.

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Chair Peña adjourned the meeting at 10 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Elysia Regalado*  
CVAG Management Analyst

**ITEM 6B**

**Joint Meeting of the  
Homelessness and Public Safety Committees  
Meeting Minutes  
September 18, 2024**



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

**1. CALL TO ORDER OF THE HOMELESSNESS COMMITTEE**

The Homelessness Committee meeting was called to order by Chair John Peña, Mayor Pro Tem, City of La Quinta, at 10:08 a.m. at Palm Desert City Council Chambers located at 73-510 Fred Waring Drive in Palm Desert. Teleconferencing was available from 27119 Cottonwood Avenue, Building B, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, in Moreno Valley, CA.

**2. ROLL CALLOF THE HOMELESSNESS COMMITTEE**

A roll call of the Homelessness Committee was taken, and it was determined that a quorum was present. Those in attendance were as follows:

**Members Present**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| City of Desert Hot Springs              | Mayor Pro Tem Jan Pye                           |
| City of Blythe                          | Councilmember Johnny Rodriguez*                 |
| City of Cathedral City                  | Councilmember Raymond Gregory *                 |
| City of Coachella                       | Councilmember Denise Delgado                    |
| City of Indio                           | Councilmember Waymond Fermon, <i>Vice Chair</i> |
| City of La Quinta                       | Mayor Pro Tem John Peña, <i>Chair</i>           |
| City of Palm Desert                     | Councilmember Kathleen Kelly                    |
| City of Palm Springs                    | Mayor Pro Tem Ron deHarte                       |
| City of Rancho Mirage                   | Councilmember Lynn Mallotto                     |
| Riverside County – District 4           | Public Policy Advisor Amy Cuen-McDuffie         |
| Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians | Vice Chair Joseph Mirelez                       |

**Members and Ex-Officios Present**

- |                        |              |
|------------------------|--------------|
| Shelter from the Storm | Angelina Coe |
|------------------------|--------------|

**Members and Ex-Officios Not Present**

- |  |                                    |
|--|------------------------------------|
| Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians | Councilmember John Preckwinkle III |
| City of Indian Wells                   | Councilmember Donna Griffith       |
| Desert Healthcare District             | Director Carole Rogers, RN         |
| Coachella Valley Housing Coalition     | Pedro S.G. Rodriguez               |
| Martha’s Village and Kitchen           | Samuel Hollenbeck                  |
| Coachella Valley Rescue Mission        | Darla Burkett                      |

\*Arrived at Item 6

**3. CALL TO ORDER OF THE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE**

The Public Safety Committee meeting was called to order by Chair Waymond Fermon, Councilmember, City of Indio, at 10:09 a.m. at Palm Desert City Council Chambers

located at 73-510 Fred Waring Drive in Palm Desert. Teleconferencing was available from 27119 Cottonwood Avenue, Building B, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, in Moreno Valley, CA.

#### 4. **ROLL CALL OF PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE**

A roll call of the Public Safety Committee was taken, and it was determined that a quorum was present. Those in attendance were as follows:

##### **Members Present**

City of Blythe	Vice Mayor Johnny Rodriguez*
City of Cathedral City	Councilmember Raymond Gregory, <i>Vice Chair*</i>
City of Coachella	Councilmember Frank Figueroa
City of Desert Hot Springs	Mayor Pro Tem Jan Pye, <i>alternate</i>
City of Indian Wells	Mayor Pro Tem Bruce Whitman *
City of Indio	Councilmember Waymond Fermon, <i>Chair</i>
City of La Quinta	Councilmember John Peña
City of Palm Desert	Councilmember Evan Trubee, <i>alternate</i>
City of Palm Springs	Councilmember Grace Garner
City of Rancho Mirage	Councilmember Lynn Mallotto, <i>alternate</i>
County of Riverside	Assist. County Executive Officer Michelle Paradise
Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians	Tribal Vice Chair Joseph Mirezlez

##### **Ex-Officio Members Present**

Cathedral City Police	Chief of Police George Crum/Deputy Chief Rick Sanchez
Cathedral City Fire	Fire Chief Michael Contreras
Indio Police Department	Lieutenant Doug Haynes/Sergeant Abraham Plata
Palm Springs Police	Lieutenant William Hutchinson

##### **Members & Ex-Officios Not Present**

Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians	Tribal Councilmember John Preckwinkle III
Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians	Emergency Services Manager Robert Bradbury
California Highway Patrol	Commander Dennis Woodbury
Cathedral City Fire	Fire Chief Michael Contreras
Desert Hot Springs Police	Chief of Police Jim Henson
District Attorney's Office	Assistant DA Rodney Tethal
Palm Desert Sheriff's Substation	Dean Agnoletto, Captain
Palm Springs Fire	Fire Chief Paul Alvarado
Riverside County Probation	Chief Probation Officer Ron Miller
Riverside County Sheriff's Department	Sheriff Chad Bianco
Thermal Sheriff Station	Captain Michael Bianco
U.S. Customs and Border Patrol	Assistant Chief Patrol Agent David Kim

\*Arrived at item 6

#### 5. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Councilmember Evan Trubee led the committees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**6. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON JOINT COMMITTEE AGENDA ITEMS**

Christian Jelmsberg, founder of Street Life Project, commented on Item 9A and asked what the current steps are that public safety agencies are taking to assist the homeless on the street regarding case management. He also provided an update on their program efforts to build a tiny home village.

**7. HOMELESSNESS COMMITTEE CHAIR / PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE CHAIR/CVAG STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Chief Operating Officer Erica Felci thanked the City of Palm Desert for providing the Chambers for the joint meeting and provided the audience with information about the room logistics and meeting format.

**8. CONSENT CALENDAR**

**IT WAS MOVED BY COUNCILMEMBER FERMON AND SECONDED BY VICE CHAIR MIRELEZ TO APPROVE THE CONSENT CALENDAR.**

- A. Receive and file the quarterly report for the CV Housing First program, representing clients served in the second quarter of 2024**

***HOMELESSNESS COMMITTEE***

**THE MOTION TO CARRIED WITH 11 AYES AND 3 MEMBERS ABSENT**

COUNCILMEMBER PRECKWINKLE	ABSENT
COUNCILMEMBER RODRIGUEZ	AYE
COUNCILMEMBER GREGORY	AYE
COUNCILMEMBER DELGADO	AYE
DIRECTOR ROGERS	ABSENT
MAYOR PRO TEM PYE	AYE
COUNCILMEMBER GRIFFITH	ABSENT
COUNCILMEMBER FERMON	AYE
MAYOR PRO TEM PEÑA	AYE
COUNCILMEMBER KELLY	AYE
MAYOR PRO TEM DEHARTE	AYE
COUNCILMEMBER MALLOTTO	AYE
ADVISOR CUEN-MCDUFFIE	AYE
VICE CHAIR MIRELEZ	AYE

***PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE***

**THE MOTION CARRIED WITH 12 AYES AND 1 MEMBERS ABSENT.**

COUNCILMEMBER PRECKWINKLE	ABSENT
COUNCILMEMBER RODRIGUEZ	AYE
COUNCILMEMBER GREGORY	AYE
COUNCILMEMBER FIGUEROA	AYE
MAYOR PRO TEM PYE	AYE
MAYOR PRO TEM WHITMAN	AYE

<b>COUNCILMEMBER FERMON</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>COUNCILMEMBER PEÑA</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>COUNCILMEMBER TRUBEE</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>COUNCILMEMBER GARNER</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>COUNCILMEMBER MALLOTTO</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>ASSISTANT CEO PARADISE</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>TRIBAL VICE CHAIR MIRELEZ</b>	<b>AYE</b>

**9. DISCUSSION / ACTION**

The following items were presented to both committees for their consideration and approval.

**A. Regional ramifications of the Supreme Court Ruling in Grants Pass v. Johnson**

**1. Big picture overview in Riverside County**

Greg Rodriguez, County of Riverside Housing and Workforce Solutions' Deputy Director for Government Affairs and Community Engagement, provided a PowerPoint presentation of the big picture overview in Riverside County.

**2. Update from Palm Springs Police**

Palm Springs Police Lieutenant William Hutchinson provided an update regarding the City of Palm Springs' ordinance and how they have handled encampments in their city.

**3. Update from Indio Police**

Lieutenant Hayes and Sergeant Plata provided an update regarding the City of Indio regarding their policy and city ordinance.

**4. Next steps for the Coachella Valley**

Ms. Felci opened the floor for discussion from committee members to provide staff direction the approach whether they would like to create a model ordinance for the Coachella Valley that addresses homeless encampments on public property.

A lengthy and robust member discussion ensued between both Committees. Members debated the implications of an ordinance or policy approach, with members expressing mixed views on whether existing city ordinances were enough. Staff addressed questions. Based on feedback from with the members and presenters, a consensus was reached that staff explore the creation of a "good neighbor" policy to present to the committees at a future meeting date, and also bring back a model ordinance under development by Riverside County.

**10. EX OFFICIOS UPDATES**

**A. Updates from Ex Officio Members of the Homelessness Committee**

Angelina Coe, Executive Director from Shelter From The Storm, provided a program update to the committees and reports that October is Domestic Violence Awareness month and

asks that people wear Thursday's in remembrance of victims who did not survive. She is also asking people to participate in the Challenge 100 on social media in support.

B. Updates from Ex Officio Members of the Public Safety Committee

County of Riverside Assistant CEO Michelle Paradise announced on behalf of Supervisor Perez that there will be a Justice System Symposium on Thursday, October 10 at the UCR Palm Desert Campus.

11. **INFORMATION**

- A. Attendance Record for the Homelessness Committee
- B. Attendance Record for the Public Safety Committee
- C. Virtual participation in CVAG'S meetings

12. **PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

None.

13. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The next meeting of the **Homelessness Committee** will be held on Wednesday, November 20, 2024, at 10 a.m. at the CVAG Conference Room, 73-710 Fred Waring Drive, Suite 104, Palm Desert, 92260.

The next meeting of the **Public Safety Committee** will be held on Monday, November 18, 2024, at 9 a.m. at the CVAG conference room, 73-710 Fred Waring Drive, Suite 104, Palm Desert, 92260.

The next meeting of the **Executive Committee** will be held on Monday, September 30, 2024, at 4:30 p.m. at the CVAG conference room, 73-710 Fred Waring Drive, Suite 104, Palm Desert, 92260.

13. **ADJOURNMENT OF HOMELESSNESS AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEES –**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:41 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Elysia Regalado, Management Analyst*

**ITEM 6C**

**Coachella Valley Association of Governments  
Homelessness Committee  
November 20, 2024**



**STAFF REPORT**

**Subject:** CV Housing First Programming for 2025

**Contact:** Erica Felci, Chief Operating Officer ([efelci@cvaq.org](mailto:efelci@cvaq.org))

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**Recommendation: Reaffirm the Executive Director’s authorities for the CV Housing First program, including resetting the CV 200 list and executing short-term leases for crisis stabilization units, such as hotels and apartments used for case management of clients**

**Background:** In 2020, CVAG’s Executive and Homelessness Committees, at the recommendation of the CV HEART ad hoc committee, authorized the Executive Director to take the necessary steps to transition the CV Housing First from an outsourced program run by a contractor to one operated by CVAG staff. Under this in-house transition, the CV Housing First team prioritized services for unsheltered chronically homeless individuals and families, meeting a distinct need in the Coachella Valley. Outreach is conducted regularly in direct coordination with police officers to find and help the homeless people with whom they most frequently come into contact, which also helps reduce strain on stretched law enforcement resources and first responders. The program was designed to focus on the CV 200, a by-name list of chronically homeless individuals residing in desert cities that have frequent contacts with law enforcement and who are likely to be shelter resistant or who have already fallen out of housing. The list was developed in partnership with CVAG’s member jurisdictions.

More than 200 chronically homeless individuals have been permanently housed since CVAG launched its in-house program. Over the years, staff has reaffirmed the steps being taken by the Executive Director to ensure transparency of the program and confirm the approach with CVAG’s committees. This included additional authorization to refresh the client list in partnership with law enforcement and local healthcare partners, and an authorization to wind down the program based on the City of Desert Hot Springs’ 2024 decision to reallocate program funding to its city-operated shelter program.

With this staff report, staff is now recommending a reaffirmation of the authorities previously provided to the Executive Director and a continuation of the same programmatic steps in anticipation of operations in 2025.

With this reaffirmation, CVAG staff will begin the process of reaching out to all the local police departments, code enforcement and healthcare partners to identify what other individuals should be added to the list. CVAG staff will also be identifying individuals who may not need to be on the list, either because they are being helped by other programs or because they have left the Coachella Valley. When CVAG adjusted its program to end its operations in Desert Hot Springs, staff had recommended removing the City’s 25 spots from the client list. Looking ahead to 2025, staff is recommending additional spots be provided to participating jurisdictions so the list will return to the CV 200. Like it has in previous years, at least a few of the 200 spots in 2025 may

remain empty, or to be identified. This provides the CV Housing First staff some flexibility in addressing those cases throughout the calendar year, as it often gets requests from city staff and local law enforcement about chronically homeless individuals who are not on the list.

At the same time, CVAG staff is reviewing its inventory of crisis stabilization units and will be renewing leases for 2025. At the program's inception, the Executive Director was granted authority to enter in leases for the units necessary to run the program. CVAG has generally entered into short term leases, including one-year leases that then revert to month-to-month, for apartments and hotel rooms. With the CV Housing First program is now entering its fifth year of in-house operations, and because some of these leases were inherited from CVAG's prior program contractor, it should be noted that the cumulative amount paid to some landlords have or will exceed \$100,000, which is the Executive Director's signature authority limit without committee action.

These crisis stabilization units are used to house CV 200 clients for roughly 90 days while the CV Housing First team works with the client on case management and securing a permanent housing solution. The client is a guest in CVAG's unit, and the lease for each crisis stabilization unit remains in CVAG's – not the client's – name. CVAG has made it a priority to not centralize its inventory of rental units, and currently has units at scattered sites between Palm Springs to Coachella. Some of the hotel agreements allow CVAG to intermittently add extra rooms, which provides staff some flexibility based on the case load at any given time without unnecessarily paying for rents.

These recommended steps are consistent with the approach used annually to prepare for continued operations of the program. Staff also will be resetting the program metrics and tracking once the new year arrives, with reports continued to be provided each quarter to the Homelessness and Executive Committees.

**Fiscal Analysis:** The CV Housing First program is funded by contributions from member jurisdictions and grants from Riverside County. CVAG staff is also actively pursuing additional grant funding to support the program.

CVAG's Fiscal Year 2024-25 Budget anticipates the program costing \$1.73 million this year, including about \$300,000 for the rental costs of the crisis stabilization units.

**ITEM 6D**

**Coachella Valley Association of Governments  
Homelessness Committee  
November 20, 2024**



**STAFF REPORT**

**Subject:** CV Housing First’s Quarterly Report for Third Quarter of 2024

**Contact:** Candice Graff, Management Analyst II ([cgraff@cvaq.org](mailto:cgraff@cvaq.org))

**Recommendation:** Receive and file the quarterly report for the CV Housing First program, representing clients served in the third quarter of 2024

**Background:** CVAG is in its fourth year of operating the CV Housing First program with staff. The program is focused on the CV 175, a by-name list of chronically homeless individuals residing in desert cities that have frequent contacts with law enforcement and who are likely to be shelter resistant or who have already fallen out of housing. The list was developed in partnership with CVAG’s member jurisdictions and local law enforcement. It is also maintained in partnership with those agencies. Similar to previous years, CVAG staff has been meeting with the local police departments, code enforcement and other partners to identify who needs to remain on the list and who may not need to be on the list, either because they are being helped by other programs or because they have left the Coachella Valley. During these meetings, CVAG was able to confirm that one individual had resolved her own homelessness by leaving the state to live with family, one individual was successfully enrolled in drug court, and another was still incarcerated after working with the CV Housing First team to resolve his legal issues in 2023.

CVAG staff has committed to adjusting CV Housing First programming based on the data and based on available funding. Updates on the program’s metrics are provided quarterly. The CV Housing First team uses two primary methods to get clients to housing solutions: rapid resolution and crisis stabilization units, which are residential units, apartments and hotel rooms that CVAG rents to case manage CV Housing First clients. CVAG staff will continue to provide quarterly reports as it provides services in 2024.

CV Housing First Clients – By the Numbers through September 30, 2024

<b>CV 200 as of 9/30/2024</b>	<b>Q1</b>	<b>Q2</b>	<b>Q3</b>	<b>Q4</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
Clients housed in Crisis Stabilization Units (CSH)	46	38	37		121
Clients being helped through Rapid Resolution (RR)	0	0	1		1
Clients returned to the street (failures)	11	17	13		41

Clients moved into permanent housing from CSH (successes)	15	11	8		34
Clients moved into permanent housing through RR (successes)	0	0	1		1
Clients moved into permanent housing through Outreach (successes)*	0	0	4		4
<b>TOTAL HOUSED FROM LIST OF 175</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>13</b>		<b>39</b>

<b>NON CV 200 Clients as of 9/30/2024</b>	<b>Q1</b>	<b>Q2</b>	<b>Q3</b>	<b>Q4</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
Households Housed in CSH Units	0	0	3		3
Households being helped through RR	0	0	0		0

Households returned to the street (failures)	0	0	2		2
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Households moved into permanent housing from CSH (successes)	0	0	1		1
Households moved into permanent housing from RR (successes) *	0	0	0		0
<b>TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS HOUSED</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>		<b>1</b>
<b>TOTAL INDIVIDUALS HOUSED</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>		<b>1</b>

The client list started as the CV 200 list. Over the summer, CVAG began winding down services in the City of Desert Hot Springs, which is opting out of the program due to the funding being redirected to The Hub shelter program. As noted in a separate staff report, staff is recommending the list be reset as the CV 200 in 2025.

The data is divided by CV 175 clients – the by-name list of chronically homeless individuals that CVAG maintains in partnership with law enforcement and code enforcement – and non-CV 200 clients. There were three non-CV 200 homeless individuals clients that entered the CV Housing First program this quarter, and one was permanently housed. CVAG staff has set a goal of permanently housing 65 individuals this calendar year.

The total number of clients housed or returning to the streets is less than the total helped each quarter, as the grand total includes clients who may remain in their units at the end of the quarter. CVAG continues to refine its data metrics in order to be transparent about how many and how quickly individuals are housed. CVAG also tracks clients who are being permanently housed by the CV Housing First program via outreach efforts, and not case management based in the crisis stabilization units.

CVAG staff also tracks how long individuals are staying in the program before being housed or returning to the street. The goal is to exit clients within 90 days to permanent housing solutions. Over the past three years, it is not uncommon for the length of stay to exceed 100 days.

For the third quarter, the CV 175 clients who successfully exited the program into permanent housing stayed in a crisis stabilization unit on average for **40 days**. Those CV 200 clients who exited the program unsuccessfully stayed on average **39 days**. This is a notably shorter turnaround than recent quarters have shown. In many cases, clients were being case managed prior to entering a unit, which shortened the turnaround in the CV Housing First's CSH units.

**Fiscal Analysis:** The CV Housing First program, including the staffing and CV 175 program, is incorporated into the CV Housing First budget, which has been funded by contributions from cities and Riverside County grants.

**ITEM 6E**

**Coachella Valley Association of Governments  
Homelessness Committee  
November 20, 2024**



**STAFF REPORT**

**Subject:** Review of CVAG's Federal and State Legislative Platform

**Contact:** Emmanuel Martinez, Senior Programs Manager ([emartinez@cvag.org](mailto:emartinez@cvag.org))

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**Recommendation:** Adopt CVAG's Legislative Platform for the next two-year legislative cycle

**Transportation Committee:** Concurred (Meeting of November 4)

**Energy & Sustainability Committee:** Concurred (Meeting of November 14)

**Public Safety Committee:** This item is on the November 18 meeting agenda.

**Background:** CVAG's state and federal legislative platform serves as a key tool to advocate on issues pertinent to CVAG and its member jurisdictions. The platform provides a framework that guides CVAG's advocacy engagement on policy and funding issues of importance in Sacramento and Washington D.C. As part of this engagement strategy, the legislative platform is essential to direct and guide staff and the lobbying team to advocate positions on legislative and regulatory matters as established in the platform. Also, with adoption of a platform, CVAG can expeditiously engage and meet associated legislative committee deadlines, helping to overcome the challenge associated with CVAG's committee meeting schedule.

In February 2022, CVAG's Executive Committee adopted its first Federal and State Legislative Platform to help guide CVAG's legislative advocacy work in Washington and Sacramento. In 2023, the platform was brought back to the Executive Committee and was approved as a two-year platform intended to cover the State Legislature's biennial legislative cycle. In preparation for the next two-year legislative session, 2025-26, the platform has been reviewed by CVAG's advocacy team, the Politico Group, and by CVAG staff to ensure it captures pertinent issues to CVAG and its member agencies.

The legislative platform is divided into various issues areas, including transportation, energy and environment, homeless and affordable housing and public safety. There are no significant changes to the sections pertaining to homelessness and housing issues. The attachment highlights the areas related to transportation, energy and sustainability where updates are being recommended. The platform will be presented to all of CVAG's committees so that each may provide input on the section pertinent to their jurisdiction. Ultimately, this process will help ensure the platform is comprehensive and well vetted before it is considered by the Executive Committee for adoption in December 2024.

**Fiscal Analysis:** There are no costs to update the legislative platform. The advocacy efforts of the Politico Group are covered by a separate agreement specifically for state advocacy services.

**Attachment:** Legislative platform

# COACHELLA VALLEY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS

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Federal and State  
Legislative Platform

Updated December 2, 2024

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# Coachella Valley Association of Governments

**The Coachella Valley Association of Governments (CVAG)** is a council of governments in the Coachella Valley and eastern Riverside County that funds and delivers transportation projects, operates regional programs and coordinates government services in order to improve and address issues of regional significance. CVAG's activities include, but are not limited to, improving the regional transportation system, providing services to the chronically homeless and promoting the use of green energy and sustainability. CVAG's membership includes 10 cities, the County of Riverside and four Indian tribes. As an organization committed to addressing issues of common interest and concern of its member agencies, CVAG strives to implement regional programs and policies that advance a better quality of life and balanced growth for residents, businesses and tourists of Central and Eastern Riverside County.

The legislative platform will guide the tracking and analysis of priority legislative, budget, regulatory, and administrative issues at the federal and state levels. It will assist in providing staff and lobbyists guidance on policy-related matters that may impact the operation and implementation of the various programs and services offered by CVAG. This document will facilitate the development of a federal and state strategy and focused action plan to address the needs and priorities of CVAG and its member jurisdictions.

**Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla  
Indians**

**City of Blythe**

**Cabazon Band of Cahuilla Indians**

**City of Cathedral City**

**City of Coachella**

**City of Desert Hot Springs**

**City of Indian Wells**

**City of Indio**

**City of La Quinta**

**City of Palm Desert**

**City of Palm Springs**

**City of Rancho Mirage**

**County of Riverside**

**Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla  
Indians**

**Twenty-Nine Palms Band of  
Mission Indians**

**CVAG**

74-199 El Paseo

Suite 100

Palm Desert, CA 92260

Tel: 760-346-1127

[www.cvag.org](http://www.cvag.org)

# Key Categories



Reliable, sustainable and safe multimodal transportation infrastructure is a top priority for the Coachella Valley Association of Governments as it strives to support the transportation needs of current and future residents and visitors.



Supporting and securing funding for clean energy and energy efficiency initiatives that reduce our carbon footprint, improve air quality, and increase climate resiliency for our member agencies and our residents.



Conservation of the Coachella Valley's natural resources and maintaining and growing our rich and abundant wildlife is a focus of CVAG and our members.



Deployment of middle-mile infrastructure that can facilitate a high-speed last-mile broadband network for beneficial use among CVAG's residents, businesses, and members is key to the success and vitality of CVAG and the communities it serves.



Addressing the dual challenges of homelessness and development of affordable housing through regional solutions is critical to ensuring a high quality of life in the Coachella Valley.



Maintaining a safe and secure community, free of crime, while ensuring clean and engaging public spaces, is essential to maintaining vibrant and growing business and residential communities.

# FEDERAL

## Transportation

### *Bridges, Regional Arterials and Improved Access*

- Support regional efforts for the Coachella Valley-San Gorgonio Pass Rail Corridor Service (CV Rail), including funding opportunities to advance the preferred alternative, to support alternate transportation modes and better connect desert communities and attractions with Los Angeles, Orange County and the Inland Empire.
- Support actions by the Riverside County Transportation Commission, the Federal Railroad Administration and the California Department of Transportation that advance CV Rail.
- Support advocacy efforts by the Facilitate Equitable Deals Task Force to improve coordination and collaboration with Union Pacific Railroad (FED-UP).
- Support outside funding for CVAG's priority projects as outlined in the Transportation Project Prioritization Study (TPPS), including interchanges along the Interstate 10 corridor and State Highway Route 86, to reduce the burden on regional and local funds.
- Support legislative and regulatory efforts that increase funding for the expansion and improvement of regional arterial projects that improve public safety, encourage economic development, ease traffic congestion, address climate threats and reduce air quality and environmental impacts.
- Support efforts by Riverside County Transportation Commission, San Diego Association of Governments and the San Bernardino Association of Governments, to reduce congestion and increase mobility to and from the CVAG region, including increased funding for bypass roads, bridges and transportation improvements in the pass area.
- Support Congressionally directed spending requests for transportation projects in the Coachella Valley and in eastern Riverside County.
- Support increased funding for Tribal nations in the Coachella Valley for implementation of regional transportation projects.
- Support efforts that expand public transportation opportunities in the City of Blythe, including increased transit.
- Support National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) reform to expedite and streamline environmental review and project delivery for transportation projects.
- Support efforts that dedicate funding for goods movements projects, including grade separation projects, in eastern Riverside County.
- Oppose efforts that decrease local control and decision-making regarding local revenue sources, including, but not limited to, Measure A sales tax revenue and the Transportation Uniform Mitigation Fee (TUMF).

- Oppose efforts that would divert revenue derived from transportation sources to non-transportation related projects or activities.
- Oppose efforts to eliminate or decrease use of state and local transportation funds for capacity enhancement projects and monitor one-size-fits-all approaches regarding their use.
- Monitor implementation of programs in the federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (2021 Infrastructure Bill) and the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022 (IRA 2022), such as the Bridge Investment Program, and support funding for existing programs such as the Highway Bridge Program and the Transportation Infrastructure Financing Innovation Act (TIFIA) Program.
- Monitor regulatory and legislative changes to the Federal Highway Administration's Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) Improvement Program and oppose efforts that impose additional requirements on, or decrease funding for, CVAG or its member agencies.
- Monitor efforts that would make changes to the Clean Air Act and associated transportation programs to meet nonattainment or maintenance requirements.
- Monitor potential replacement mechanisms for the federal gasoline excise tax.

#### *Active Transportation*

- Support policies and programs that provide funds for regional projects identified in CVAG's Active Transportation Plan.
- Advocate for increased federal funding to the state's Active Transportation Program, including opportunities to augment the program through the Reconnecting Communities and the Neighborhood Access and Equity grant programs.
- Monitor legislative and regulatory activity related to new mobility devices, such as scooters and automated vehicles, to ensure adequate safety compatibility with active transportation systems.

#### *Intelligent Transportation Systems*

- Identify and pursue funding opportunities that support, expand or leverage intelligent transportation systems, including CVAG's synchronization (CV Sync) traffic signal program.
- Monitor legislative and regulatory changes to funding sources for intelligent transportation systems, including the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality program, and oppose efforts to decrease funding for non-attainment areas.

## **Energy and Environment**

- Support legislation and programs that invest in projects that achieve environmental benefits, including improved air and water quality, water and energy conservation, and urban greening initiatives in the region.
- Support programs that fund implementation of the Coachella Valley Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan and that support habitat restoration in the Coachella Valley.
- Support Salton Sea Authority efforts related to Salton Sea projects and legislation that provides funding for the restoration and revitalization of the Salton Sea, including the Phase One: 10 Year Plan.
- Support legislation that facilitates environmentally sensitive renewable energy development at the Salton Sea Known Geothermal Resource Area, including lithium extraction.
- Support legislation that provides funding for electric vehicle infrastructure and incentives for early adoption of electric vehicles.
- Monitor federal legislative, regulatory, and administrative activities that may impact the Coachella Valley Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan and the Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan.
- Monitor legislative and regulatory actions that may impact Property Assessed Clean Energy programs.
- Identify programs and support legislation that provides funding for clean energy, energy efficiency, decarbonization and green building programs.
- Monitor and support funding opportunities for wildlife crossing structures to increase habitat connectivity and decrease wildlife-vehicle collisions in areas where populations are fragmented by highways and interstates.
- Support policies and funding that expand access for rooftop solar to households of all incomes. Monitor issues related to Net Energy Metering and initiatives that impact availability and affordability of rooftop solar.

## **Broadband**

- Support and advocate for funding for open access middle-mile infrastructure to facilitate last-mile connections and leverage existing networks and construction projects to build networks, when possible.
- Support efforts and funding that prioritize connectivity to unserved and underserved communities and community anchor institutions.
- Support and identify programs that support middle-mile and last-mile broadband infrastructure and that leverage dig-once opportunities such as CVAG's CV Sync project.

- Monitor actions by the Federal Communications Commission related to broadband and implementation of the broadband investments as authorized in the 2021 infrastructure Bill.

### **Homeless and Affordable Housing**

- Identify and advocate for opportunities for CVAG’s member agencies to secure funding that assists in building affordable housing and increasing housing opportunities for low-, moderate-, and workforce housing.
- Monitor and support programs and funding for CVAG’s CV Housing First program and regional solutions to addressing homelessness.

### **Public Safety**

- Identify, monitor and support legislation that provides funding for operations, maintenance, and updates to early earthquake warning systems.
- Identify funding opportunities for member jurisdictions to mitigate and reduce the incidents of green waste fires.
- Monitor legislation and administrative actions related to race, diversity and inclusion policies as it pertains to law enforcement.
- Monitor and support funding opportunities that will assist in the reduction of the spread of COVID-19 and other public health and safety concerns, to assist public entities in their response.

# STATE

## Fighting for Fairness and Funding

- Support legislative efforts that improve funding opportunities for the Coachella Valley in the state's Cap-and-Trade program and oppose policies that disproportionately disadvantage the CVAG region to compete for funding.
- Support policies that allow for a diverse set of social equity metric measuring tools to qualify and compete for Cap-and-Trade funded programs including, but not limited to, household income and the AB 1550 low-income definition and oppose efforts that would limit use to, or increase reliance on, the CalEnviroScreen in grant programs.
- Support legislative and regulatory changes to the Transformative Climate Communities program to allow eligible and qualifying planning grant recipients to also be eligible and qualify to apply for implementation grants.
- Support policy changes to funding programs that use the CalEnviroScreen tool that would broaden eligible competitive areas and that better reflect the diversity in the Coachella Valley.
- Oppose legislative and regulatory actions that utilize CalEnviroScreen and high-housing density criteria, which favor large urban centers, to determine allocation of state grant funds and would decrease funding competitiveness for areas such as the Coachella Valley.
- Oppose program guidelines that use transit oriented development standards, such as the Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities program, that disproportionately favor large urban centers and do not reflect the reality of growth and development in the Coachella Valley, therefore decreasing funding opportunities for the CVAG region.
- Advocate for policy changes that allow for regional variances related to transit quality, transit frequency and density related to housing oriented development, to allow the CVAG region better compete for funding in the state's Cap-and-Trade program.
- Monitor legislative reauthorization of the state's Cap-and-Trade program, which is set to expire in 2030.

## Transportation

### *Bridges, Regional Arterials and Improved Access*

- Support regional efforts to increase passenger rail service between Los Angeles and the Coachella Valley, including funding opportunities and actions by the Facilitate Equitable Deals task force to improve coordination and collaboration with Union Pacific Railroad (FED-UP).
- Support legislation that increases funding opportunities for bridges, interchanges and regional arterials in the Coachella Valley.

- Support increased investments of the state GHG reduction funds toward transportation projects to reduce transportation related GHG emissions.
- Support policies, programs, and funding for electric vehicle charging infrastructure and increased use of electric vehicles in the region.
- Support efforts by the California Department of Transportation, Riverside County Transportation Commission, San Diego Association of Governments and the San Bernardino Association of Governments, to implement congestion projects identified in the Inland Empire Multimodal Corridor Plan that increase mobility to and from the CVAG region, including increased funding for bypass roads, bridges and transportation improvements in the pass area.
- Support California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) reform to expedite and streamline project delivery for transportation projects.
- Support and advocate for actions that increase transportation resources in the City of Blythe and local Tribal Nations, to address historic underinvestment and improve mobility, economic development opportunities and quality of life.
- Monitor the state’s road charge pilot program and other potential replacement mechanisms for the state gasoline excise tax, and support efforts to ensure that future funding tools that convert or supplement the gas tax continue to support existing multimodal state funding programs, including SB 1 competitive grant programs, and existing eligible uses.
- Monitor legislative changes to Senate Bill 1 (Statutes 2017); oppose efforts to divert funding to non-transportation related uses, such as housing, or otherwise qualifying eligibility of SB 1 funds on non-transportation related goals and objectives.
- Monitor implementation of the Californai Action Plan for Transportation Infrastructure (CAPTI) and opposed policies that decrease funding opportunities for the Coachella Valley.
- Oppose legislative changes that create or strengthen a nexus between the availability of transportation funding and local jurisdictions’ ability to meet their requirements under the Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) numbers.
- Oppose legislative or regulatory policies that decrease local decision-making authority regarding use of local funds for priority transportation projects.
- Monitor legislation that would increase voter approval thresholds for the creation, extension, or increase of local transportation tax measures and support efforts to establish a sub-regional funding mechanisms to advance local priority projects.

### *Active Transportation*

- Support increased funding for the Active Transportation Program (ATP) to address the backlog of applications and increase the program’s funding capacity.

- Support increased investment in active transportation infrastructure as a component of other state-funded transportation programs that increase access and opportunities for walking, biking, and complete streets that connect the multimodal transportation system.
- Support policies and programs that promote increased use of active transportation infrastructure and systems.
- Support efforts that streamline project delivery, build local capacity such as additional technical assistance, and provide increased flexibility to innovate and strategically invest funds to meet local needs.
- Oppose legislative, regulatory, and administrative efforts to score ATP applications on non-transportation related criteria, such as housing-related policies, CalEnviroScreen and policies which would hinder low density areas like the Coachella Valley and the City of Blythe.
- Oppose changes to the ATP that would decrease CVAG's competitiveness, such as the elimination of leveraged funding and other categories that are advantageous to CVAG and its members jurisdictions.

#### *Intelligent Transportation Systems*

- Support programs that leverage technology to improve mobility, increase goods movement efficiency, reduce emissions and help to mitigate environmental impacts.
- Identify state programs and funding that supplement CVAG's CV Sync project.
- Monitor legislation that incorporates innovative technologies into the state transportation system, such as zero or near-zero emission vehicles, autonomous vehicles, and small electric mobility devices that improve transportation accessibility, efficiency and reduce environmental impacts.

#### **Energy and Environment**

- Support legislative and regulatory efforts to increase the flexibility of funding programs from the California Air Resources Board's Cap-and-Trade Program to ensure the Coachella and Palo Verde Valleys get their fair share, including taking into account regional variances related to growth, housing, and greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction strategies.
- Support investments in Cap-and-Trade funded programs, such as the Clean Vehicle Rebate Program, Single-Family Energy Efficiency, and Low-income Weatherization programs.
- Advocate for changes in the CalEnviroScreen mapping tool that reflect the socio-economic realities of the diverse communities in the Coachella Valley and Palo Verde Valleys, or the use of alternative tools such as household income.

- Support policies that ensure criteria for defining disadvantaged communities and environmental justice areas accurately represent eastern Riverside County, including those that mirror AB 1550 community mapping, to ensure the region can compete for funding opportunities.
- Support efforts that provide necessary resources for implementation of the Coachella Valley Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan as well as resources for desert communities to prepare and adapt to changing climate and natural disasters, such as the Climate Resiliency programs.
- Support funding for programs that support local planning and response measures to extreme heat events, including nature-based solutions, to protect critical infrastructure, habitat and public health and safety.
- Support legislation that provides funding for the restoration and revitalization of the Salton Sea to limit regional impacts to air quality, wildlife habitat, and health of communities, including the Phase One: 10 Year Plan.
- Support efforts at the Salton Sea that facilitate economic development, such as lithium extraction.
- Support policies related to increasing representation on electrical service matters for the communities served by the Imperial Irrigation District, including but not limited to, the creation of a joint powers authority.
- Monitor actions related to the 1934 Agreement of Compromise between Imperial Irrigation District and the Coachella Valley Water District and support Coachella Valley Energy Commission efforts to achieve a permanent service option and governance structure between Coachella Valley stakeholders and IID post-2033.
- Identify programs and support legislation that provides funding for clean energy, energy efficiency, decarbonization, and green building programs.
- Monitor legislative and regulatory efforts related to vehicle electrification and building decarbonization that would add new requirements to local governments, including Title 24 building standards.
- Monitor implementation of the state's climate resiliency efforts and efforts related to environmental justice communities and AB 617 (Statutes of 2017) emission reduction funding programs.
- Support policies and funding that expand access for rooftop solar to households of all incomes. Monitor issues related to Net Energy Metering and initiatives that impact availability and affordability of rooftop solar.

## **Broadband**

- Support funding and implementation of the Coachella Valley’s middle-mile broadband project and the programs to assist with last-mile connections that bridge the digital divide in the Coachella Valley.
- Support and identify programs that support digital equity in the Coachella Valley, such as the state’s Digital Equity Plan.
- Monitor legislative and regulatory actions related to SB 156 (Statutes of 2021) and related actions by the California Department of Technology and the Office of Broadband and Digital Literacy.
- Monitor the California Middle-Mile Advisory Committee and its recommendations regarding implementation of middle-mile infrastructure.
- Monitor the California Public Utilities Commissions proceedings related to broadband infrastructure implementation, such as Rulemaking (R.) 20-09-001 and Rulemaking proceeding, R.20-08-021.

## **Homelessness and Affordable Housing**

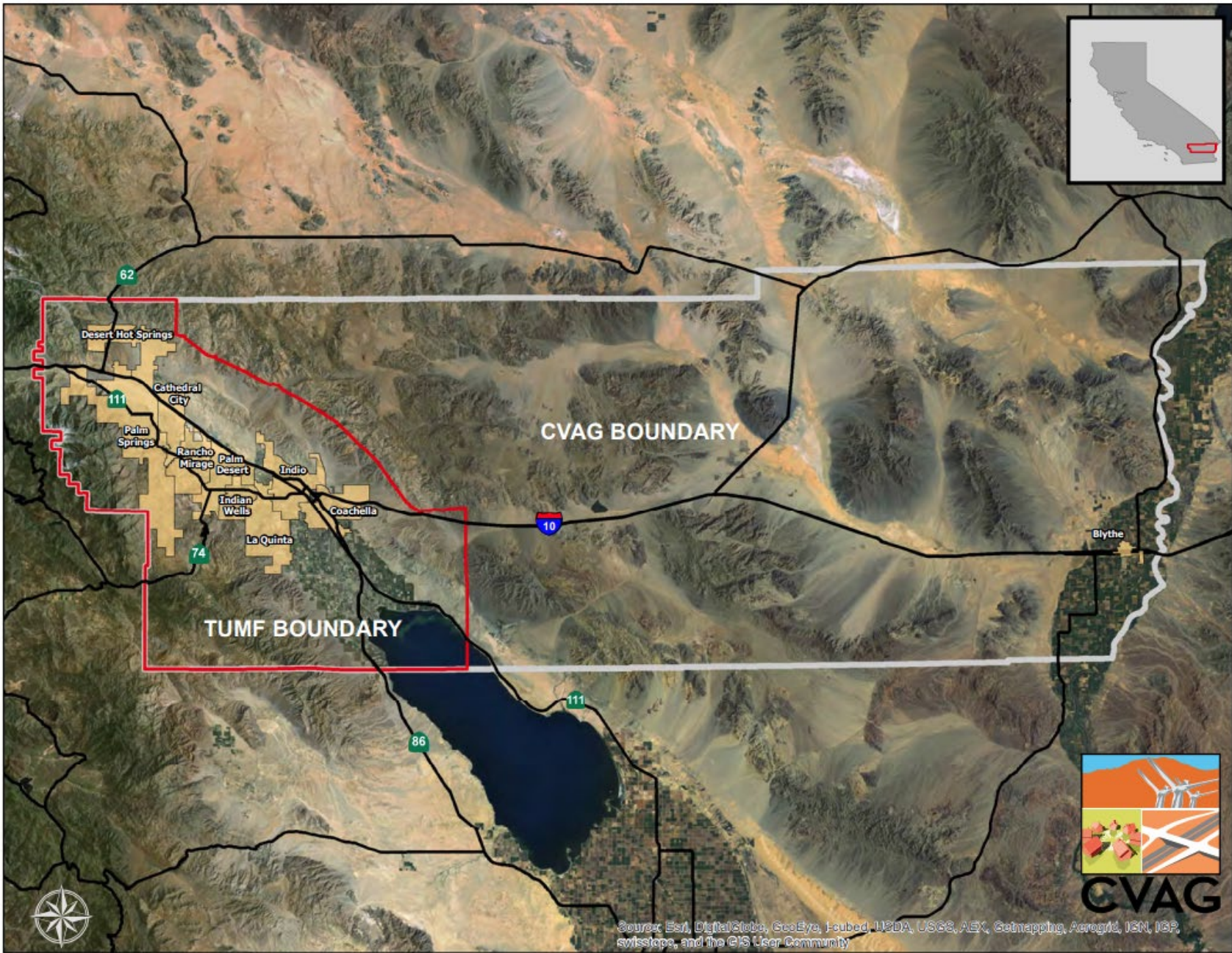
- Support increased investment in, and creation of, programs that assist local governments, counties and regional collaborations to address the challenges associated with homelessness.
- Support legislative efforts that allow for sustainable financing options, as outlined in CVAG’s Regional Early Action Plan (REAP) and member jurisdictions’ Local Early Action Plans (LEAP), in order to address housing shortages and provide affordable housing options.
- Support efforts by Lift to Rise to establish the Coachella Valley Housing Catalyst Fund to increase housing production in the Coachella Valley and create homeownership opportunities for low- and very-low income families, permanent supportive housing for the homeless and address unpermitted mobilehome park issues.
- Support CEQA reform to streamline the delivery of housing projects.
- Monitor the Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities Program and advocate for increased flexibility and changes that ensure a greater share of funding is available to areas that don’t have Transit Oriented Developments (TOD) and thereby more accurately account for unique community characteristics and growth patterns in the Coachella Valley.
- Support the extension of state-funded solutions, including Project RoomKey and Project HomeKey, with an emphasis on ensuring those investments are used in the Coachella Valley.
- Support legislative efforts that would allow local jurisdictions to implement, if they choose, programs and ordinances that require unsheltered individuals to accept housing and treatment solutions.

- Support efforts to establish homeless courts that can help local jurisdictions provide additional solutions and services for homeless individuals.
- Support legislative efforts that would allow local jurisdictions to implement, if they choose, programs and ordinances that increase the available housing units and/or require unsheltered individuals to accept housing solutions and treatment solutions so long as there are adequate housing units available.

### **Public Safety**

- Support programs and policies that provide funding for the CVAG region to obtain, enhance, operate, maintain and update early earthquake warning systems.
- Monitor legislation and executive orders related to the COVID-19 pandemic and other public health and safety emergencies and support programs that provide assistance to negatively impacted communities in the Coachella Valley.
- Monitor legislation impacting race, diversity, and inclusion policies as it pertains to local law enforcement.

DRAFT



**ITEM 6F**

Coachella Valley Association of Governments  
Homelessness Committee  
November 20, 2024



**STAFF REPORT**

**Subject:** Grant funding for CV Housing First's outreach efforts

**Contact:** Candice Graff, Management Analyst ([cgraff@cvag.org](mailto:cgraff@cvag.org))

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**Recommendation:** Authorize the Executive Director to execute the necessary agreements to accept \$116,094.32 in Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) funding for the CV Housing First outreach efforts

**Background:** The Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention Program (HHAP) is a state-funded grant program administered by the Riverside County Continuum of Care (COC) to support regional coordination and expand or develop local capacity to address immediate homelessness challenges throughout California. In September 2024, Riverside County released a request for proposals in order to distribute nearly \$4.6 million in available HHAP funding. Funding was available for street outreach, emergency shelter services, rapid rehousing programs, service coordination, and diversion services. Of the total, about \$441,000 was set aside for youth-specific activities such as emergency shelter and diversion services. The county intended to distribute each category of funding based on the most recent Point in Time count, with 31 percent allocated to Riverside County's Fourth District.

The County received 39 proposals, which were scored by an independent review panel based on factors such as the county's coverage needs and the applicant's ability and capacity to perform. Applicants needed to demonstrate they could work collaboratively to provide a streamlined process that helps homeless individuals move from temporary or emergency shelter and into permanent housing solutions.

On November 14, the COC Board of Governance awarded \$116,094.32 to CVAG for the CV Housing First street outreach efforts. This award accounts for half of the HHAP funding that is coming to the Fourth District for outreach efforts, with the other half awarded to Jewish Family Services. The Board also awarded funds to the Coachella Valley Rescue Mission, Galilee Center and Equitable Social Solutions for programs across the Fourth District. The agreements now go to the County Board of Supervisors before being finalized with recipients.

Staff is recommending the Executive Director be authorized to take the necessary steps to accept the HHAP award, including entering into any contracts with the COC.

**Fiscal Analysis:** CVAG has been awarded \$116,094.32 in HHAP funding.

The HHAP award will help support outreach services for 18 months, including mental health assessments for homeless individuals, outreach supplies, staff time and various expenses related to the CV Housing First mobile access center. CVAG's application was for \$226,078, so CVAG staff will be working with the County to review the proposed metrics based on the partial award.

## **ITEM 7A**

Coachella Valley Association of Governments  
Homelessness Committee  
November 20, 2024



### **STAFF REPORT**

**Subject:** Good Neighbor Policy for Homelessness Coordination

**Contact:** Erica Felci, Chief Operating Officer ([efelci@cvag.org](mailto:efelci@cvag.org))

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**Recommendation:** Provide direction on a model resolution that reinforces the commitment to regional homelessness solutions and establishes a good neighbor policy among CVAG member jurisdictions

**Public Safety Committee:** This item will be discussed at the November 18 meeting and staff will provide a summary.

**Background:** In September 2024, CVAG’s Public Safety and Homelessness Committees held a joint meeting to discuss the regional ramifications of the U.S. Supreme Court’s landmark ruling in the case of City of Grants Pass v. Johnson, which effectively set a new standard on how local municipalities can address homeless encampments on public property. The case stemmed from the enforcement of anti-camping laws in Grants Pass, Oregon, which had led to fines and penalties for homeless individuals camping on public property. As noted in the joint meeting, the Court’s ruling prompted Gov. Gavin Newsom to issue an executive order that immediately changed how California’s state agencies addressed encampments and it prompted at least two Coachella Valley to update their own ordinances.

The local ordinances and approaches prompted a lengthy discussion at the September 18 meeting of the Homelessness and Public Safety Committees. At the time, CVAG staff sought direction on whether to create a model ordinance for the Coachella Valley that addresses homeless encampments on public property. It was noted in the staff report that having a cohesive approach across the region could be beneficial to cities, agencies or service providers seeking future grant opportunities. It also could create a cohesive approach to regional, public spaces, including active transportation projects like CV Link and open spaces managed by the Coachella Valley Conservation Commission. Committee members were divided on the concept of a model ordinance, with some members noting that their cities are satisfied with the ordinances that already exist. Instead, staff was directed to return with any model ordinance under development by Riverside County and consider how to promote a collaborative approach through a memorandum of understanding or a “good neighbor” policy.

The Grants Pass v. Johnson ruling was a 6-3 decision. In reversing the Ninth Court ruling, the Supreme Court held that anti-camping ordinances did not violate the Eighth Amendment when they were applied in a manner that targeted the conduct of camping in public spaces and not the status of being homeless. The Court also acknowledged there was interest in maintaining public health, safety, and welfare, which in this case included preventing hazards at public spaces in order to have them accessible for the general public.

Staff with Riverside County's Executive Office continue to evaluate the ruling and determine whether a countywide ordinance will be brought forward or whether the existing ordinances are sufficient. As of early November, County staff indicated this process was still in the discussion stage and no decision had been made about what next steps may be coming forward. Should an ordinance move forward, staff notes that it would require some time to determine details such as how to handle citation fines and logistics such as how to cover the costs of storing any items collected during an encampment cleanup.

CVAG staff will continue to monitor the County's efforts. In the meantime, staff is seeking feedback on a proposed model resolution that would reaffirm the region's commitment to collaboration on addressing homelessness, particularly in terms of cleaning up encampments. In developing this resolution, CVAG staff reached out to the City of Corona as it had been lauded at the September meeting for its work on prompting collaboration and coordination in homelessness services. Corona has a memorandum of understanding with other southwest Riverside County cities to share resources and address areas such as the Santa Ana riverbed. Corona also has a "good neighbor policy" that is used in contracts with services providers to address concerns from businesses and residents about the potential negative impacts from a homeless shelter and/or affordable housing developments. It has been adopted by the Riverside County's Continuum of Care and was used to inspire the proposed CVAG resolution.

Staff would note that, CVAG's member jurisdictions generally collaborate on homelessness issues, as evidenced by the success seen with the CV Housing First program. But this collaboration has been the result political leadership, not formal policy. Having each member jurisdiction adopt a resolution will help ensure that the practice is codified and continues into the future. The resolution would set an expectation and requirement of communication between neighbors, meaning that a city's police or code enforcement would be notified anytime another jurisdiction is relocating a homeless individual into their jurisdiction for temporary housing, emergency shelter or even a permanent relocation. This requirement would apply to city agencies as well as homeless providers, including CVAG's own CV Housing First program.

Staff is seeking feedback on the model resolution from the Homelessness Committee and the Public Safety Committee, which meets on November 18. Staff will incorporate the feedback before bringing a model resolution to the Executive Committee for endorsement and direction on sharing it with member jurisdictions for their consideration of adoption.

**Fiscal Analysis:** There is no cost to CVAG for this update. Work related to the draft resolution is covered under existing staff resources.

**Attachments:**

- Fact sheet from California Interagency Council on Homelessness
- Draft Resolution

# Grants Pass Supreme Court Decision: How it affects California



July 26, 2024

## How is California responding to the Supreme Court's ruling?

In response to the Supreme Court ruling, Governor Newsom issued [Executive Order N-1-24](#) on July 25, 2024. This Order directs state agencies and departments to move with urgency and compassion in addressing encampments on state property.

As the state's leader in ending and preventing homelessness, the California Interagency Council on Homelessness (Cal ICH) will continue to support agencies and departments in their design and implementation of policies, funding and programs that serve people experiencing homelessness, including those described in Executive Order N-1-24. To ensure state and local partners incorporate evidenced-based practices in their respective encampment responses, Cal ICH will host a series of webinars throughout the month of August 2024.

Furthermore, per [Welfare and Institutions Code \(WIC\) section 8256](#), Cal ICH will continue supporting state agencies and departments in adopting guidelines and regulations that incorporate the core components of Housing First into, "any programs a California state agency or department funds, implements, or administers for the purpose of providing housing or housing-based services to people experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness."

## What is the City of Grants Pass v. Johnson case?

The City of Grants Pass v. Johnson is a federal court case brought by unhoused persons in Grants Pass, Oregon, who argued that the City's practice of ticketing unhoused individuals for camping in public violated the Eighth Amendment of the United States Constitution, which prohibits the government from imposing "cruel and unusual punishment" on criminal defendants. The Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, which includes California, upheld the decision.

On June 28, 2024, the Supreme Court ruled that enforcing laws that prohibit camping on public property is not cruel and unusual punishment. As a result, local governments across the country may freely enforce laws regulating camping on public property.

## **How does this ruling impact cities and counties in California?**

Cities and counties will have more flexibility to address encampments and enforce laws regulating public camping. However, to ensure the safety, wellness, and dignity of persons experiencing homelessness, Cal ICH remains committed to supporting state and local partners in using person-centered, trauma-informed, and evidence-based approaches to address homelessness. Cal ICH will continue to identify and share resources to support local planning efforts and encourages local partners to incorporate these elements when addressing the housing and services needs of persons experiencing unsheltered homelessness. Additional emerging, promising, and evidence-based best practice resources can be found on Cal ICH's newly relaunched Resource Library.

The Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) will be making additional funding available for the Encampment Resolution Fund (ERF) program. The program provides competitive grant funding to assist local jurisdictions in providing services and supports to people experiencing homelessness in encampments and to provide meaningful paths to safe and stable housing. Eligible applicants include counties, Continuums of Care (CoCs), and cities of any size. Please contact [hpddhomelessnessgrants@hcd.ca.gov](mailto:hpddhomelessnessgrants@hcd.ca.gov) for more information.

Cal ICH encourages all state and local partners to reach out with any questions on best practices for working with people experiencing unsheltered homelessness. All questions can be directed to [calich@bcsh.ca.gov](mailto:calich@bcsh.ca.gov).

Resolution No: XXXX-XXXX

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY/ COUNTY/ TRIBAL NATION OF \_\_\_\_\_  
REINFORCING A COMMITMENT TO REGIONAL HOMELESSNESS SOLUTIONS AND  
ESTABLISHING A GOOD NEIGHBOR POLICY FOR CITY AGENCIES AND PROGRAMS

WHEREAS the Coachella Valley Association of Governments (CVAG) is comprised of member jurisdictions, including the City/ County/ Tribal Nation of \_\_\_\_\_, that recognize the importance of regional solutions to addressing homelessness because the issue does not start or end at any one jurisdiction's border; and

WHEREAS CVAG has spent more than two decades facilitating a coordinated approach to address homelessness in the Coachella Valley, including the CV Housing First model that focuses services on helping the chronically homeless individuals who frequently interact with law enforcement, code enforcement and local emergency rooms; and

WHEREAS addressing homelessness requires the CV Housing First program and other providers to communicate with and work collaboratively with local public safety departments, particularly in difficult situations where homeless individuals may be averse to accepting services; and

WHEREAS the U.S. Supreme Court's 2024 ruling in *Grants Pass v. Johnson* held that anti-camping ordinances did not violate the Eighth Amendment and acknowledged encampment cleanups helps maintain public health and safety in order to have public spaces accessible for the general public; and

WHEREAS CVAG's member jurisdictions also recognize that a one-size-fits-all approach is not the solution to solving this crisis, and have financially supported a range of multi-disciplinary programs from many providers with the goal of moving individuals out of homelessness and into permanent housing opportunities; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that City/ County/ Tribal Nation of \_\_\_\_\_ wants to establish itself as a good neighbor in regional solutions to addressing homelessness.

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that the City/ County/ Tribal Nation will require its agencies, including law enforcement, and all homeless service providers receiving its funding support to bolster its communication with neighboring jurisdictions by requiring that notification is provided to neighboring public safety partners or another city agency whenever a homeless individual from this jurisdiction is transported to another jurisdiction for temporary housing, emergency shelter and/or a permanent relocation within their jurisdiction.

The foregoing Resolution was passed by the City/ County/ Tribal Nation this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2024.

APPROVED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor/ Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
City/ County/ Tribal Manager

**ITEM 7B**

**Coachella Valley Association of Governments  
Homelessness Committee  
November 20, 2024**



**STAFF REPORT**

**Subject:** Annual contributions to the CV Housing First Program

**Contact:** Erica Felci, Chief Operating Officer ([efelci@cvag.org](mailto:efelci@cvag.org))

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**Recommendation: Authorize the Executive Director to execute memorandums of understanding with member jurisdictions to increase the CV Housing First contribution to \$125,000 in Fiscal Year 2025/26 and provide for annual inflation adjustments**

**Background:** Since 2009, 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 Tribal Nation 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. Some have done this based on calendar year, and others on fiscal year – adding to additional record keeping at CVAG.

Over all this fifteen year span, the annual contribution requests to cities have remained consistent around \$100,000 and have not increased with the rates of inflation. In 2021, at the recommendation of the CVAG Homelessness Committee, the CVAG Executive Committee authorized the Executive Director to negotiate and execute Memorandums of Understanding (MOU) with member cities to secure multi-year funding commitments for the CV Housing First program. Many jurisdictions opted to approve the agreements with CVAG, and other cities opted to continue the annual invoice from CVAG. The County of Riverside, which has been instrumental in helping CVAG secure additional funds through grants, has an agreement for general fund contributions through Fiscal Year 2025/2026.

The MOUs with partnering cities have had varying end dates, and CVAG’s existing agreements are set to expire in June 2025. Until Fiscal Year 2023/24, CV Housing First operations were fully funded by these contributions, including a now-ended contribution from the Desert Healthcare District/ Foundation, as well as occasional grants. This allowed CVAG to develop a fund balance and start planning for future needs. But the program now is operating at a deficit, as rents of the crisis stabilization units continue to increase and other costs go up.

In anticipation of reaching out to member jurisdictions about extending financial support of the program in the form of a multi-year MOU, CVAG staff is recommending that the Homelessness and Executive Committees consider increasing the requested contribution to \$125,000 a year and incorporating an annual increase into the agreement, similar to the approach CVAG uses with its other programs and its membership dues.

This additional funding is necessary to maintain current levels of service, including a dedicated program staff of six full time employees and a conservative approach to the number of crisis stabilization units being rented. Without additional revenue, CVAG will continue to draw down on the program's financial reserves. This additional funding is not about expanding the program, which has proven to be consistently successful in securing permanent housing solutions for the hardest-to-serve chronically homeless individuals. While some cities have expressed interest in CVAG expanding its services, staff remains reluctant to agree to a program expansion until the availability of vouchers and affordable housing units would allow CVAG to also increase the number of homeless individuals permanently housed each year.

Long-term funding agreements 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. CVAG staff has consulted with Legal Counsel, who notes that there is no legal impediment to cities entering into a multi-year commitment. 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.

**Fiscal Analysis:** The recommended action would increase the annual contribution request to cities to \$125,000 starting in Fiscal Year 2025/26. This would be the first time in more than 15 years that CVAG has increased the requested amount, which at one point was set at \$103,000 when Roy's Resource Center was open. It would generate an additional \$200,000 if approved by all cities currently participating in the program.

The CV Housing First program, including the staffing and program operations, is funded by contributions from member jurisdictions and grants. Riverside County's contribution through June 2026 is for \$359,711 annually. CVAG's Fiscal Year 2024/25 Budget anticipates a \$1,733,687 operating budget, with a \$388,941 deficit being covered by the program's fund balance. CVAG continues to seek grant opportunities, such as the Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) funding that is detailed in a separate staff report. CVAG projects there will be a \$2.163 million fund balance after this fiscal year's deficit-driven reduction. If this pattern continues and no additional funding is secured, the deficit will likely be depleted within three to five years.

The recommended action would also endorse the incorporation of an annual inflation adjustment into the MOUs. The inflation factor shall be the same one utilized to budget other CVAG programs, which is based on the Riverside-San Bernardino-Ontario Area Consumer Price Index (CPI). Such CPI will be identical to the one reviewed by the Finance and Executive Committees when considering an increase to membership dues during the budget process.

**ITEM 7C**

Coachella Valley Association of Governments  
Homelessness Committee  
November 20, 2024



**STAFF REPORT**

**Subject:** Election of Homelessness Committee Officers

**Contact:** Tom Kirk, Executive Director ([tkirk@cvag.org](mailto:tkirk@cvag.org))

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**Recommendation: Elect a Homelessness Committee Chair and Vice Chair for Fiscal Year 2024/2025**

**Background:** Each fiscal year, the Homelessness Committee considers the election of a Chair and Vice Chair. The Committee does not have a formal officer rotation, or a set policy for how to select the Chair and Vice Chair. Because of the joint meeting with the Public Safety Committee in September, this item is coming forward at the November meeting.

The Homelessness Committee has often re-elected the same Chair over many years. Indio Councilmember Lupe Ramos Amith was Chair from the Homelessness Committee's formation in 2006 until 2016. Palm Desert Mayor Pro Tem Sabby Jonathan served as Chair from 2016 until June 2019, when Palm Springs Councilmember Christy Holstege became Chair.

In September 2022, the Committee elected La Quinta Mayor Pro Tem and then-Vice Chair John Peña to serve as Chair and Indio Councilmember Waymond Fermon to serve as Vice Chair. They are the Committee's current officers.

Staff recommends that the Homelessness Committee provide nominations and elect its officers for the fiscal year.

**Fiscal Analysis:** There is no additional cost to the budget as Homelessness Committee officers receive the same per diem as other committee members.

**ITEM 7D**

**Coachella Valley Association of Governments  
Homelessness Committee  
November 20, 2024**



**STAFF REPORT**

**Subject:** Countywide efforts to clean up homeless encampments

**Contact:** Erica Felci, Chief Operating Officer ([efelci@cvag.org](mailto:efelci@cvag.org))

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**Recommendation: Information**

**Background:** In September 2024, CVAG’s Homelessness Committee and Public Safety Committee held a joint meeting to discuss the issue of homeless encampments and how local cities are addressing them in the wake of the U.S. Supreme Court ruling in *City of Grants Pass v. Johnson*. In the landmark decision, the Court held that anti-camping ordinances did not violate the Eighth Amendment when they were applied in a manner that targeted the conduct of camping in public spaces and not the status of being homeless.

At its November meeting, the Homelessness Committee’s agenda will include two items related to encampments. The first is an update on an influx of grant funding, which will be presented by Greg Rodriguez, Riverside County Housing and Workforce Solutions’ Deputy Director for Government Affairs and Community Engagement.

Riverside County and the City of Palm Springs were among the 18 local governments that received funding from the State in October to clear homeless encampments and provide shelter, care, and support. The funds are from California’s Department of Housing and Community Development’s Encampment Resolution Funds, which the Governor’s office says is designed to help communities address “dangerous encampments.” Riverside County received more than \$12.6 million, which will be spent on cleanups in western Riverside County. The City of Palm Springs received about \$5.1 million.

The funding is aimed at helping clean up encampment sites and ensuring the homeless individuals are connected to a housing solution. In announcing the funds, the Governor’s Office also stressed the awardees must also adhere to all state housing and homeless laws, including compliance with their Housing Elements, or else the State could take back the funding.

**Fiscal Analysis:** There is no cost to CVAG for this informational update.

**Attachment:** Housing and Community Development announcement of grant funding, October 4



[Grants & Funding \(/grants-and-funding\)](/grants-and-funding)

[Manufactured & Mobilehomes \(/manufactured-and-mobilehomes\)](/manufactured-and-mobilehomes)

[Building Standards \(/building-standards-hcd\)](/building-standards-hcd)

[Planning & Community Development \(/planning-and-community-development\)](/planning-and-community-development)

[Policy & Research \(/policy-and-research\)](/policy-and-research)

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> [Governor Awards \\$130.7 Million to Help 18 California Communities House People Living in Encampments](#)

# Governor Awards \$130.7 Million to Help 18 California Communities House People Living in Encampments

October 4, 2024

**SACRAMENTO, CA** — Governor Gavin Newsom today announced nearly \$130.7 million in Encampment Resolution Funding (ERF) program grants to help 18 cities, counties, and Continuums of Care (CoCs) resolve critical encampment concerns and address the housing and health and safety needs of 3,364 people living in encampments, and permanently house 1,565 people.

"We're supporting local communities' efforts to get people out of encampments and connected with care and housing across the state. It's important and urgent work that requires everyone to do their part. The state has committed more than \$27 billion to help local governments tackle the homelessness crisis — and we want to see \$27 billion worth of results," said Governor Newsom.



According to the Governor's [Executive Order N-1-24](https://www.gov.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2024/07/2024-Encampments-EO-7-24.pdf) (<https://www.gov.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2024/07/2024-Encampments-EO-7-24.pdf>), 123,000 people in California experienced unsheltered homelessness on any given night in 2023, living The [ERF program \(/grants-and-funding/programs-active/encampment-resolution-funding-program\)](/grants-and-funding/programs-active/encampment-resolution-funding-program) supports implementation of the Executive Order, which directs state agencies to address encampments in the state with urgency and with dignity for those living in encampments. It is a competitive grant program for which awardees must demonstrate a clear connection to permanent housing solutions. Projects must be person-centered and tailored to address the needs of the specific individuals experiencing unsheltered homelessness and living in encampments.

"These grants will ensure local communities take a person-centered, trauma-informed approach as they help their most vulnerable residents transition to safe and stable housing," said Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency Secretary Tomiquia Moss. "The Encampment Resolution Fund grants are infusing critical resources in communities up and down California so that unhoused Californians can access the essential housing and supportive services they need to achieve long-term stability."

"Our team is energized by this opportunity to help bring people-centered, Housing First solutions to Californians who are unsheltered throughout the state," said Gustavo Velasquez, Director of the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD), which has administered ERF since the start of the 2024-25 fiscal year. "Combined with the investments in permanent supportive housing made possible by voter approval of Proposition 1, the state has unprecedented momentum to make monumental progress on a crisis of homelessness that has been growing for decades."

To date, ERF has invested \$736,789,510.95 in 109 projects or encampments across 21 counties, 41 cities, and 5 CoCs to help 20,888 people transition out of homelessness. The awards announced today utilize all remaining FY 2023-24 ERF funds. An additional appropriation of \$150 million in the FY 2024-25 State Budget allowed HCD to award all eligible ERF Round 3, Window 2 applicants. The budget also included \$100 million

in ERF funds for FY 2025-26, bringing to \$1 billion this investment to address encampments through proven housing solutions.

The awards announced today will provide stable, safe housing for individuals living in encampments in their respective communities. The awarded proposals will assist individuals living in encampments with compassion and dignity by providing a range of housing solutions: permanent housing; interim housing for individuals seeking coordinated entry system resources or housing vouchers; housing navigation services and rapid rehousing subsidies; support for accessing permanent housing by providing security deposits and other moving expenses; and allowing awardees to acquire property for housing.

Below are the 12 cities, four counties, and two CoCs awarded:

- City of Antioch - \$6,812,686
- City of Berkeley - \$5,395,637
- City of Carlsbad - \$2,994,225
- City of Los Angeles (total for two ERF awards) - \$11,351,281
- City of Palm Springs - \$5,106,731
- City of Petaluma - \$8,098,978
- City of Redlands - \$5,341,800
- City of Richmond - \$9,336,746
- City of Sacramento (total for two ERF awards) - \$18,199,661
- City of San Jose - \$4,821,083
- City of Victorville - \$6,365,070
- City of Visalia - \$3,000,000
- County of Contra Costa - \$5,708,516
- County of Riverside - \$12,612,779
- County of San Bernardino - \$11,000,000
- City and County of San Francisco - \$7,975,486
- Humboldt County CoC - \$3,784,294
- Pasadena CoC - \$2,772,801

For a detailed list of awards from ERF Round 3, Window 2, click [here \(/sites/default/files/docs/grants-and-funding/calich/erf-3r-window-2-website-awardee-list.pdf\)](#).

Contact Details:

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[Governor Awards \\$130.7 Million to Help 18 California Communities House People Living in Encampments \(/about-hcd/newsroom/governor-awards-1307-million-to-help-18-california-communities-house-people-living-encampments\)](#)

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**ITEM 8A**

COACHELLA VALLEY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS  
HOMELESSNESS COMMITTEE  
ATTENDANCE RECORD  
FY2024-2025

Voting Members	JUL	AUG	*SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	ATTENDED
Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians			○										0 out of 1
City of Blythe			●										1 out of 1
City of Cathedral City			●										1 out of 1
City of Coachella			●										1 out of 1
Desert Healthcare District			○										0 out of 1
City of Desert Hot Springs			●										1 out of 1
City of Indian Wells			○										0 out of 1
City of Indio			●										1 out of 1
City of La Quinta			●										1 out of 1
City of Palm Desert			●										1 out of 1
City of Palm Springs			●										1 out of 1
City of Rancho Mirage			●										1 out of 1
County of Riverside			●										1 out of 1
Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians			●										1 out of 1
<b>Total Attendance Per Meeting</b>			<b>11</b>										

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

\* This is a joint meeting with the Public Safety Committee

No Meeting   
 Vacant \*\*  
 Present ●  
 Absent ○

**COACHELLA VALLEY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS  
HOMELESS & BUS PASS PROGRAM  
UNAUDITED STATEMENT OF REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES  
FOR THE PERIOD FROM JULY 1, 2024 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2024**

**REVENUES**

CONTRIBUTIONS	\$ 341,950
TOTAL REVENUES	<u>341,950</u>

**EXPENDITURES**

SALARIES AND BENEFITS	238,793
BUILDING LEASE MAINTENANCE/RENT	77,602
PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	11,325
MISC SUNDRIES/HOUSING ESSENTIALS	-
RAPID RESOLUTIONS	2,161
LEGAL SERVICES	3,424
PROJECT COSTS/OTHER EXPENSES	51,655
ELECTRIC (UTILITIES)	19,824
OFFICE SUPPLIES	1,142
LOCAL MEETINGS/STAFF MILEAGE	3,708
MOBILE ACCESS CENTER (MAC)	608
ADVERTISING	-

TOTAL EXPENDITURES	<u>410,241</u>
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NET INCOME (DEFICIT)	<u>(68,291)</u>
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<b>FUND BALANCE AT THE BEGINNING OF THE YEAR</b>	<u>2,478,488</u>
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<b>PRELIMINARY FUND BALANCE AS AT SEPTEMBER 30, 2024</b>	<u>\$ 2,410,197</u>
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