

**HOMELESS SERVICES OVERSIGHT COUNCIL  
HSOC ENCAMPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING  
OCTOBER 1 2020, 2PM  
Zoom call**

<b>MEMBERS PRESENT</b>		<b>MEMBERS ABSENT</b>	<b>STAFF &amp; GUESTS</b>
Anne Robin Caro Hall Grace McIntosh Janna Nichols Jeff Al-Mashat Kristen Barneich Lois Petty Mariam Shah Nicole Bennett Steve Martin Susan Funk		Jeff Smith Tim Waag Toby Depew	Abby Lassen Ann Gillespie Anne George Solis John DiNunzio Kate Ballantyne Laurel Weir Lee Chaves Leon Shordon Lois Petty Michael Azevedo Russ Francis Steve Martin Vic Brown Wendy Lewis Yael Korin
<b>AGENDA ITEM</b>			<b>CONCLUSIONS/ACTIONS</b>
1. Call to Order and Introductions of Guests	Mariam called the meeting to order at 2pm.		
2. Public Comment	None		
3. Consent: Approval of Minutes			Grace made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Janna. The motion passed with none opposed and no abstentions.

4. Action/Information/Discussion		
4.1 Discussion Item: Update on Safe Parking and sanctioned encampments programs	<p>Grace reported that 40 Prado's Safe Parking program is running well, all participants are in case management. This program typically requires proof of registration and insurance, but this has not been required in the last few months. CAPSLO (Community Action Partnership of San Luis Obispo) does however work with clients to update their information and acquire these documents if they do not have them.</p> <p>Janna shared that 5CHC (5Cities Homeless Coalition) have secured temporary approval for a pilot program for four parking spaces at a church in South County. The plan is for the program to begin on Thursday, October 8. The church has asked initially for families and women. The church has set up a portable bathroom facility and hand washing station, and will be providing oversight. 5CHC will be recommending clients to the program and providing case management and supportive services. This program requires clients to provide their license, registration and insurance documentation.</p> <p>Laurel reported on the site at Paso Robles, which has a small number of people camping and using the Safe Parking program at night. Lois reported that the Syringe Exchange Program were at the site three weeks ago and were told that the shower wasn't working, the handwashing station was empty, trash was not being emptied, and there were very few people camping.</p> <p>Susan reported that housing has been found for the people who had been camping on the steps at City Hall in Atascadero. They were housed thanks to combined work from different programs.</p> <p>Laurel reported that the County has an RFP (Request for Proposals) out now for ESG-CV (Emergency Solutions Grant – Coronavirus) funding. This includes funding to support non-congregate sheltering activities as well as sanitation and hygiene facilities such as portable toilets and handwashing stations. Around \$6 million is available under this program. Eligible</p>	

	<p>applicants would generally be nonprofits.</p> <p>John raised the idea of a map that shows where cars can legally park overnight, which case managers could distribute to people who don't meet the requirements for Safe Parking programs. Nicole shared that the Alternatives to Encampment Working Group has discussed this idea as one of their recommendations. The Committee discussed potential issues with the idea, including the possibility of encouraging people from outside the area, the possibility of creating an expectation that people could simply show up and participate in the program, and the issue of outdated information continuing to be searchable. The Committee agreed that the idea is worth pursuing but there is a need to consult with law enforcement first.</p> <p>The Committee also discussed United Way's 211 program, which is currently testing a service which would provide information about the status of warming centers by text. 211 may be able to create a similar service for safe parking. It would also be possible to include this information on the HSOC website, although to ensure the information is kept up to date, it would be better to provide links to agencies' own sites so they can update their own information.</p>	
4.2 Discussion Item: Update on Los Osos encampments	<p>Kate Ballantyne, Deputy Director of Public Works for SLO County gave an update on the MidTown site in Los Osos. This site is not appropriate for an encampment due to the presence of endangered snails. Public Works have an obligation to maintain the site, and to restore it once the encampment is gone. They have been working with the Sheriff's Community Action Team (CAT) and Department of Social Services to conduct outreach and connect people in the encampment with services, as well as notifying them that the encampment will be removed. A services fair is planned prior to this, to connect people with CalFresh, Medicaid and housing services, as well as to provide COVID testing. This is planned for October so that restoration work can begin ahead of the rainy season.</p> <p>Kate and Laurel clarified that the actions being taken are not solely driven</p>	

	<p>by CAT, but a team effort including nonprofits TMHA (Transitions Mental Health Association) and CAPSLO. The CAT team also includes staff from Behavioral Health.</p> <p>The Committee discussed the possibility of sanctioned encampments as a solution, and that this should be coordinated between cities. John from SLOCOG (San Luis Obispo Council of Governments) and Lee from CalTrans (California Department of Transportation) clarified that the State has jurisdiction over zones around the state highway system, where there are some encampments. In these cases, it is not possible to move encampments without the Governor's approval.</p>	
4.3 Discussion Item: Update on COVID-related funding available to address unsheltered homelessness	<p>Laurel reported that the County has issued an RFP (Request for Proposals) for a number of grants, including the Federal ESG-CV (Emergency Solutions Grant – Coronavirus) Round 2. This can be found on the Department of Planning and Building's website. The application deadline is October 23. The ESG-CV grant is for activities preventing, preparing for and responding to COVID-19. Certain activities which are not eligible under the annual ESG grant can be funded under the ESG-CV program, such as non-congregate shelters and temporary structures that can be used to provide non-congregate sheltering. This program can also fund sanitation and hygiene activities. Laurel clarified that the scope of ESG-CV does include dealing with the effects of economic damage from the crisis, e.g. people who owe back rent and are unable to pay.</p> <p>Another of the grants included in the RFP is the PLHA (Permanent Local Housing Allocation) program, which provides funding for more affordable housing.</p> <p>The County will also be receiving another tranche of CDBG-CV (Community Development Block Grant – Coronavirus) funding. There will be a hearing on how this funding should be used at the Board of Supervisors November meeting.</p>	
4.4 Discussion Item: Working Group Reports	<p>Nicole from the Alternatives to Encampment Working Group reported that most of their updates had already been given in the course of discussion. The group is meeting again on October 9, where they will be reviewing</p>	

	<p>proposed recommendations before bringing them to the next Encampment Committee meeting.</p> <p>Anne Robin reported that the Behavioral Health Working Group will be meeting to look at recommendations of how to provide services to those in encampments.</p> <p>Kristen reported that the Public Outreach Working Group is meeting later in the month.</p>	
5. Future Discussion Items	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Paso Robles river bed encampment to be on the next agenda as a discussion item</li> </ul>	
6. Next Meeting Date: November 5, 2020		
7. Adjournment	Mariam adjourned the meeting at 3:30pm.	