



COUNTY of VENTURA
COUNTY EXECUTIVE OFFICE

Sevet Johnson, PsyD
County Executive Officer

Mike Pettit
Assistant County Executive Officer

Kaye Mand
County Chief Financial Officer

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Assistant County Executive Officer/
Human Resources Director
Labor Relations

July 25, 2023

Board of Supervisors
County of Ventura
800 South Victoria Avenue
Ventura, California 93009

Subject: Ratification and Authorization for the County Executive Officer or her Designee to Sign an Agreement with the Cities of Santa Paula and Fillmore in the Amount of \$1,620,000 to Provide Financial Support for the Operation of a Permanent, Year-Round Shelter Serving Homeless Individuals In Santa Clara Valley Communities Including the City of Santa Paula, City of Fillmore, and Unincorporated Area of the Santa Clara Valley for Fiscal Years 2024 and 2025; and Authorization for the County Executive Officer to Make Non-Monetary Changes to the Agreement and Sign Amendments with County Counsel Concurrence; Authorize Appropriations in the Amount of \$979,500 (Recommendation No. 1. Requires 4/5ths vote)

Recommendations:

1. Ratification and Authorization for the County Executive Officer or her Designee to Sign an Agreement with the Cities of Santa Paula and Fillmore ("Agreement") in the Amount of \$1,620,000 to Provide Financial Support for the Operation of a Permanent, Year-Round Shelter Serving Homeless Individuals In Santa Clara Valley Communities Including the City of Santa Paula, City of Fillmore, and Unincorporated Area of Piru for Fiscal Years 2024 and 2025 (Exhibit 1) and Authorize the Auditor-Controller to process the accounting transactions necessary to adjust appropriations and fund balance as follows (4/5ths vote required); and

INCREASE	1050 Services and Supplies	\$979,500
DECREASE	General Fund – Assigned to Program Mitigation	\$979,500

2. Authorize the County Executive Officer, or her designee, to sign modifications to the Agreement to make corrections, clarifications, technical changes and financial adjustments that do not increase the County's cost, when the changes are consistent with the original purpose of the Agreement, and Board's Decision to Approve Protocols and Policies for Working with Cities to Provide Crisis Housing, Year-Round

Shelter or Foul Weather Shelter for persons experiencing homelessness, Approved on March 20, 2018, after review by County Counsel for legal sufficiency.

Fiscal/Mandates Impact:

Fund G001 County Executive Office, Division 1050 – Special Accounts and Contributions

Mandatory: No
 Source of Funding: General Fund – Assigned to Program Mitigation
 Funding Match Required: No
 Impact on Other Departments: Minimal

Summary of Revenues and Costs:

Revenues:	FY 2023-24	FY2024-25
	\$ 0	\$ 0
Costs:		
Direct	\$ 547,500	\$ 432,000
Indirect-Dept	\$ 0	\$ 0
Indirect-County CAP	\$ 0	\$ 0
Total Cost	\$ 547,500	\$ 432,000
Net County Cost	\$ 547,500	\$ 432,000
Recovered Indirect Costs	\$ 0	\$ 0

FY 2023-24 Budget Projection for Special Accounts and Contributions – Division 1050

	Adopted Budget	Adjusted Budget	Projected Budget	Estimated Savings/(Deficit)
Appropriations	\$ 80,582,329	\$ 80,582,329	\$ 80,582,329	\$ 0
Revenue	\$ 5,954,000	\$ 5,954,000	\$ 5,954,000	\$ 0
Net Cost	\$ 74,628,329	\$ 74,628,329	\$ 74,628,329	\$ 0

Discussion:

At the direction and approval by your Board, the County previously established agreements with the Cities of Ventura, Oxnard, and Thousand Oaks to establish permanent year-round emergency shelters in each community. The County entered into a Memorandum of Understanding and Financial Sharing Agreement with each city regarding the development and on-going operations of permanent emergency shelters within those communities.

There has been significant progress in providing permanent year-round shelter with housing navigation services. Mercy House is the shelter operator at both West County locations and actively participates in the Coordinated Entry System to assist those experiencing homelessness with a pathway to permanent housing. The City of Thousand

Oaks has also established an agreement with a team comprised of Dignity Moves, Hope of the Valley and Many Mansions to develop and operate a navigation center in East County.

The County recognizes an additional pressing need for similar services in the Santa Clara Valley and applauds the City of Santa Paula in coordination with the City of Fillmore for moving to establish a contract for the operation of a permanent year-round homeless shelter with the Spirit of Santa Paula located at 1498 E. Harvard Boulevard in Santa Paula ("Shelter").

The Shelter is necessary to help meet the growing challenge of homelessness in the Santa Clara Valley. The Participating Cities' and County's financial assistance to the Shelter (with the City of Santa Paula, one of the Participating Cities, acting as a conduit) serves the public purpose of providing temporary shelter and housing navigation services to the homeless population and achieving the goal of reducing the number of individuals experiencing homelessness.

The Shelter will provide access to a range of programs and supportive services to temporarily shelter 49 homeless individuals. The Shelter will be operated by the Spirit of Santa Paula under a contract with the City of Santa Paula, one of the Participating Cities, with the City of Fillmore and the County providing financial support as set forth in the proposed agreement before your Board for approval.

The Shelter will include 49 beds with showers, meal, and laundry amenities in addition to providing a safe place for homeless individuals to stay and stabilize while partnering with service providers to develop a plan for safe, secure, and permanent housing. The primary purpose of the Shelter beyond temporary sheltering is to leverage community resources that will assist homeless individuals in quickly securing and moving into suitable permanent housing and in achieving long-term housing stability.

The Shelter Operator will participate in the Ventura County Continuum of Care's coordinated entry system, Pathways to Home, and will enter all Shelter occupants into the Ventura County Homeless Management Information System and will operate and develop the appropriate individualized case plan for each Shelter occupant that is client-centered, culturally, and linguistically appropriate, trauma-informed, and sensitive to the wide ranges of needs of the Shelter occupants, with the goal to transition the Shelter occupant to stable and affordable housing.

Per your Board's previously established direction of matching City contributions for shelter operations, the County's share of operational costs under the proposed two-year agreement will be \$438,000 in year one and \$432,000 in year two. Additionally, in year one, the County will advance \$109,500 from the County's established reserve fund called for in the agreement. An additional set aside of \$640,500 will be held in reserve by the County to address emergency repairs or other unforeseen one-time expenses per the terms of the agreement. The per capita operational costs of the proposed agreement are commensurate and slightly less than similarly sized shelters operating in the County.

It should be noted that the City of Santa Paula and Spirit of Santa Paula are both pursuing other grant funding that, if awarded, could offset operational cost as a provision is included in the financial sharing agreements, that any external funding awarded to the shelter above \$200,000 set aside for a shelter director, come off the top of the operational costs, benefitting the Cities and the County equally.

Before your Board today is the financial agreement that establishes this arrangement with the Cities of Santa Paula and Fillmore. The City of Santa Paula approved the agreement at their City Council meeting on Wednesday, July 19, 2023.

This item has been reviewed by the offices of the Auditor-Controller and County Counsel. If you have any questions, please contact any of the undersigned.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mike Pettit". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mike Pettit
Assistant CEO

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Sevet Johnson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Sevet Johnson, PsyD.
County Executive Officer

Exhibit 1: Financial Sharing Agreement