

**DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
DIVISION OF HOUSING POLICY DEVELOPMENT**

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Prohousing Designation: Encampment Template

[Subchapter 6.6 Prohousing Designation Program](#) requires applicants to confirm that its treatment of encampments on public property complies with and will continue to comply with the constitutional rights of persons experiencing homelessness. Please complete this form to demonstrate how the applicant has enacted best practices in their jurisdiction related to the treatment of unhoused individuals camping on public property, consistent with the [United States Interagency Council on Homelessness' "7 Principles for Addressing Encampments" \(June 17, 2022\)](#).

Name of Jurisdiction: City of Santa Barbara

1. Was the Jurisdiction awarded Encampment Resolution Funding (ERF) Program funds ☒ Yes ☐ No?

If so, indicate the round of funding (i.e., ERF-1, ERF-2-L, ERF-2-R, ERF-3-L, or ERF-3-R), the date the grant was awarded, and attach the approved proposal.

Round of funding: ERF-1 & ERF-2-R (City partner with County) ERF-3-R (City/County co-applicants)

Date of grant award: 2/24/2022, 6/14/2023 4/19/2024

2. What is the Jurisdiction's role in the Coordinated Entry System (lead, support, etc.)? Max. 100 characters. If applicable, attach any supporting documents.
The City of Santa Barbara serves on the Santa Maria / Santa Barbara County Continuum of Care (CoC) Board and participates in the Coordinated Entry System through the South County Coordinated Outreach Team (SCCOT). The City of Santa Barbara supports multiple Coordinated Entry System (CES) entry points including the downtown navigation and workforce development center (FARO Center), PATH Santa Barbara, Santa Barbara Rescue Mission, Salvation Army and the Haley Street Navigation Center.
3. Does the Jurisdiction receive a direct allocation of federal funds from HUD ☒ Yes ☐ No? If so, indicate the type of federal funds, the award amount, and how the federal funds are being utilized to serve the homeless population. Also, attach the jurisdiction's consolidated plan. Max. 100 characters.

Type of federal funds: HOME HOME ARP

Award amount: \$1,677,381.70 \$1,862,192.00

How the federal funds are being utilized:

In FY23-24, the city awarded \$950,000 in HOME entitlement for Tenant Based Rental Assistance grants to three organizations to assist persons experiencing homelessness or are at-risk of homelessness. The City also provided a grant totaling \$1,284,850 in HOME entitlement and HOME ARP funds to acquire a property that was turned into housing for formerly homeless families. Two grants totaling \$567,033 in HOME ARP funds were awarded to a homeless street outreach provider for case management and housing navigation services to unhoused persons.

Each Jurisdiction's response to homelessness is based on the unique needs of the population they serve. Based on these efforts, the [United States Interagency Council on Homelessness' 7 Principles for Addressing Encampments](#) provides best practice guidance to support communities as they develop and implement a comprehensive response to encampments. Please provide a response on how the Jurisdiction meets each of the principles noted below. Attach and reference any supporting documentation along with the page numbers accordingly.

- **Principle 1: Establish a Cross-Agency, Multi-Sector Response to Encampments** (Describe how system partners work together. Attach communication and coordination plans. 350 characters max)

The City's Encampment Response Team was formed in 2017 and is comprised of staff from Sustainability & Resilience, Community Development, Parks & Recreation, Fire, Police, Airport Patrol, Harbor Patrol, Public Works. The Team expanded in 2020 to also include City Net, our primary homeless outreach and case management services provider. Per the City's Encampment Response Policy, the field team will assess existing encampments reported for health and safety risks, provide education on hazards, and facilitate linkages to shelter and services if the offer for these services is accepted. The City also has an extended history partnering directly with CalTrans and Union Pacific Railroad to address encampments within their jurisdictions. In addition, the City participates in the California Encampment Resolution Fund Steering Committee meetings that are facilitated by the County of Santa Barbara to address encampments along the transit corridor (ERF-1), creeks and waterways (ERF-2), as well as vehicular encampment regions (ERF-3). The field staff includes a County Multi-Disciplinary Team that has representatives from Behavioral Wellness, Public Defender's Office, Public Health, Social Services and Community Services.

- **Principle 2: Engage Encampment Residents to Develop Solutions** (Describe street outreach efforts to engage with encampment residents to find alternative shelter, housing, and service options before an existing encampment is closed. 350 characters max)

The ACT on Homelessness Collaborative includes a Lived Experience Working Group (LEWG) that offers insights into policies created and implemented as part of the City of Santa Barbara's strategies to address homelessness. The LEWG developed a "Journey to Housing" brochure that provides a user-friendly visual and guide with the important steps necessary to pursue permanent, supportive housing and what individuals may expect throughout the process. The City Net outreach team operates seven-days-a-week in the City of Santa Barbara and is regularly engaging with individuals residing in encampments to build rapport, connect them to the Coordinated Entry System, facilitate referrals to shelter providers, advance document readiness, and support the housing navigation process. City Net also has flexible financial resources to support individuals with re-location and re-unification efforts, interim housing, temporary shelter as they wait for in-take at treatment centers or other care facilities, as well as in accessing permanent supportive housing.

- **Principle 3: Conduct Comprehensive and Coordinated Outreach** (Describe multidisciplinary connection strategies and linkages to resources and permanent housing solutions. If applicable, describe how the jurisdiction uses the coordinated entry system to connect individuals to resources and permanent housing. 350 characters max)

Along with the Encampment Response Team, the City of Santa Barbara also facilitates a Homelessness Response Team that regularly identifies and engages with our unhoused population. These teams work closely together to advance individuals from street-level homelessness to interim and permanent housing solutions that incorporate their unique and often complex needs. Once a report of an encampment is received, Code Enforcement – Environmental Services Division assesses the encampment to determine if it is on City, private, or another agency's (e.g. CalTrans or Union Pacific) property, whether it is inhabited or abandoned, and safety concerns, and whether there are potential environmental impacts. If the encampment is inhabited and prior to noticing the encampment for removal, staff engages street outreach (SO) providers to facilitate the offer for shelter and services. All encampment reports are tracked by the Encampment Response Team and staff can provide an update to the reporting party upon request. If the encampments are along the transit corridor or in creeks or waterways, the City coordinates with the County of Santa Barbara through its Encampment Response Coordinator and ERF-I and ERF-II outreach teams to request additional assistance. Given the targeted area of these teams, they often have established rapport with these individuals and/or they are already enrolled in case management and program services. The County of Santa Barbara facilitates a South County Coordinated Outreach Team (SCCOT) meeting every week to engage outreach workers and case managers across agencies to facilitate case conferencing and the proper referrals to emergency shelter and interim housing.

- **Principle 4: Address Basic Needs and Provide Storage** (Describe efforts to meet basic needs, health, safety, and access to storage for people experiencing unsheltered homelessness. 350 characters max)

The City of Santa Barbara supports Neighborhood Navigation Centers (NNCs) that assist unhoused individuals in addressing their basic needs. The NNC at the Santa Barbara Rescue Mission operates on Wednesday mornings and brings together a variety of service providers to offer food, clothing, and assistance with document readiness, housing navigation, healthcare and mental health services. The Daytime Navigation and Workforce Development Center in downtown Santa Barbara operates five days a week (Monday through Friday) and offers services with a prioritization on document readiness, case management, housing navigation and workforce development / job skill building. In addition, the Father Virgil Cordano Center also operates five days a week (Monday through Friday) and provides basic need and relief services including a breakfast meal and laundry. The City of Santa Barbara has made storage available to persons moving from encampments into shelter/housing upon acceptance of case management services. Items are packed by the owner, overseen by the case manager. The case manager also facilitates the retrieval of belongings. If the encampment is abandoned, the field team or contracted party, will store all belongings of value. Storage and recovery of personal property is at no cost to the individual that owns the property. Unattended belongings are stored for 90 days and can be accessed by contacting the City's Risk Management Office.

- **Principle 5: Ensure Access to Shelter or Housing Options** (Include a list of shelter or housing options, such as transitional housing, permanent supportive housing, emergency shelters, etc., within the jurisdiction and/or accessible within nearby communities. Also, indicate the shelter/housing name, address, target population and funding sources applied towards the development(s).)

Shelter/Housing Name	Type of Housing	Address	Target Population	Funding Source
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The City of Santa Barbara has a diverse network of long-time shelter and housing providers that provide critical emergency support, case management and housing navigation services to a wide range of populations including, but not limited to: Noah's Anchorage (children under the age of 12), Lyons' House and Turner Foundation (transitional age youth), New Beginnings (veterans), Domestic Violence Solutions (persons fleeing domestic violence), Transition House (families), PathPoint (individuals with developmental disabilities) as well as PATH Santa Barbara, Santa Barbara Rescue Mission, The Salvation Army, Hedges House of Hope, WillBridge of Santa Barbara, Community Housing Solutions, Housing Authority of the City of Santa Barbara, Peoples' Self-Help Housing, and Mental Wellness Center (individuals experiencing chronic homelessness and/or mental health and substance abuse disorders). State, State/Federal pass-through, and Federal funding has been leveraged with local governmental and philanthropic funding to provide shelter or housing options within the City of Santa Barbara. Specifically: HomeKey, HOME-ARP, HOME, ESG, CDBG, HHAP, ERF, SSVF, CoC, and EHV's. In addition, the City of Santa Barbara allocated General Fund / Measure C dollars to an emergency shelter project in 2021. Please refer to the City of Santa Barbara's 2023 – 2031 Housing Element, Table 29, for more detailed information.

- **Principle 6: Develop Pathways to Permanent Housing and Supports** (Describe Housing First strategies emphasizing low barriers, a harm-reduction model, and services to support people obtaining permanent housing more efficiently. Identify efforts to align federal, state, and local funding/programs to provide clear pathways to permanent housing. 350 characters max)

Street outreach providers, as well as the availability of interim and permanent housing, allow for more immediate response and linkages of encampment residents to positive pathways and outcomes. All service providers and government agencies within the CoC and CES work closely together to leverage the limited resources that are available for interim and permanent housing projects to facilitate the end of homelessness for as many people as possible in our region. All homeless service provider staff are trained in client-centered, trauma-informed, and harm reduction methodology, and offer relationship-building, professional case management in coordination with the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) and the CES, and experienced housing navigation. Housing First recognizes a person must be able to access a decent, safe place to live, without limits to length of stay before stabilizing, improving health, or increasing income. Housing First connects people experiencing homelessness to permanent housing quickly, and removes barriers to accessing the housing. Services providers also recognize the need for robust support services upon housing placement and work to facilitate a "warm hand-off" between agencies to increase the success rate for the individual in retaining their housing. One of the primary reasons the City of Santa Barbara invested in the Daytime Navigation and Workforce Development Center in downtown Santa Barbara was to increase access to case management and housing navigation services. We understand that the process can be challenging for anyone, let alone an individual that has experienced trauma and chronic homelessness. By bringing key providers together in the same location, an individual can more easily navigate the system and maintain engagement with their case manager and housing providers. It also assists service providers in case conferencing about a client's needs and identifying the best possible pathway for them. The City and County of Santa Barbara benefit from a close-knit network of service providers and government agencies that have a long history of collaboration and coordination. As a result, we have been able to advance positive outcomes in a shorter period of time for the most vulnerable individuals.

- **Principle 7: Create a Plan for What Will Happen to Encampment Sites After Closure** (Describe plans for former encampment spaces. Include efforts to emphasize safety, accessibility, and inclusivity that improve infrastructure. Example: Communities can include curb cuts to increase mobility access and enhanced lighting to encourage safety. 350 characters max)

The Encampment Response Team meets bi-weekly to review and update the map and list of encampment reports to recommend which encampments should be prioritized for interventions. This Team also manages logistics for street outreach / homeless services / case manager engagement, temporary health and safety measures, debris pick-up, and cleaning (scheduled collection of debris associated with or near an active encampment). Debris removal is led by the City's Code Enforcement Team, Environmental Services Division and its private contractor. When initiating resolution of an encampment, the City of Santa Barbara simultaneously employs other interventions (e.g. vegetation management, lighting, fencing, and signage) to prevent re-population of the encampment. The City's Sustainability and Resilience Department and Creeks Division provide expertise and financial resources for environmental restoration / rehabilitation, which prioritizes use of native and drought-tolerant plants. Furthermore, the City's designated street outreach provider will frequent the region to prevent re-population. Please refer to the City's Encampment Response Policy for more detailed information.

Appendix 5 Supporting Documentation

[August 2024 Encampment Response Protocol](#)

[2025-2029 Consolidated Plan and 2025 Annual Action Plan](#)

[Council Agenda Report June 4 2024 Agreements with Partner Agencies](#)

[Council Agenda Report March 19 2024 Agreement with City Net](#)

[Council Agenda Report February 27 2024 HOME Tenant Based Rental Assistance Grants](#)

[Council Agenda Report December 5 2023 Loan to Transition House](#)