



City of Santa Barbara

Office of the Mayor

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April 18, 2025

County of Santa Barbara
Attn: County Executive Officer Mona Miyasato
105 East Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, California 93101

Dear Ms. Miyasato:

We are writing to express our support for the continuation of the Dignity Moves Temporary Emergency Housing Project in downtown Santa Barbara. Admittedly, many of us were concerned about initiating the shelter project in an already impacted downtown corridor, but over the past three years it has proven to be very successful. The non-congregate shelter model combined with on-site supportive services has yielded positive outcomes for clients and visible improvements to the neighborhood.


We fully recognize that this type of interim housing being added to the strategies to address homelessness has been transformative. To enable individuals to stabilize in interim housing after experiencing chronic homelessness, has produced better tenants for permanent supportive housing projects and increased housing retention rates. It has also enabled individuals to pursue treatment and behavioral health support that is needed for long-term self-care and self-sufficiency.

We also want to extend our appreciation for the increased level of coordination and collaboration that we have experienced with the County of Santa Barbara in regard to addressing homelessness as well as investing in and scaling strategies that have proven to be effective. The 34-unit interim housing development in downtown Santa Barbara established a track record of success that helped launch the 94-unit Hope Village in Santa Maria and 80-unit community at La Posada. We are also pleased to see that the next investment in units will support families as we observe this to be a growing part of the population that is unable to afford housing in our region and experiencing homelessness for the first time.

The City of Santa Barbara will also sustain its on-going financial commitment to Dignity Moves Santa Barbara and look to expand its support in the coming two years. If there is anything more we can do to support the continuation of this project, please let us know. We are grateful to the Board of Supervisors for their prioritization on interim and permanent supportive housing as it is the single most critical solution to homelessness.

Sincerely,


Randy Rowse
Mayor


Kelly R. McAdoo
City Administrator



Please consider the environment before printing this letter.