



**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
AGENDA LETTER**

**Agenda Number:**

**Clerk of the Board of Supervisors**  
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407  
Santa Barbara, CA 93101  
(805) 568-2240

**Department Name:** CEO  
**Department No.:** 012  
**For Agenda Of:** 11/13/18  
**Placement:** Administrative  
**Estimated Time:**  
**Continued Item:** No  
**If Yes, date from:**  
**Vote Required:** Majority

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**TO:** Board of Supervisors

**FROM:** Department                      Mona Miyasato, County Executive Officer  
Director

Contact Info:              Terri Nisich, Assistant County Executive Officer

**SUBJECT:**      **Receive and File Report on Lompoc Riverbed Triage Center**

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**County Counsel Concurrence**

As to form: Yes/No

Other Concurrence: Risk Management

As to form: Yes/No

**Auditor-Controller Concurrence**

As to form: Yes/No

**Recommended Actions:**

That the Board of Supervisors:

- A. Receive and file report on Lompoc Riverbed Triage Center, and;
- B. Determine that the above action is an administrative activity that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes to the environment and thus is not a project as defined under Section 15378(b)(5) of the state guidelines for the implementation of the California Environmental Quality Act.

**Summary Text:**

This item is on the Board of Supervisors agenda to receive and file a report on the Lompoc Riverbed Triage Center established in concert with the City of Lompoc Santa Ynez Riverbed Encampment Removal Plan. In order to address the increasing issue of homelessness in the riverbed in the Lompoc area, a plan was developed by the Lompoc Police Department and City Administration in conjunction with other governmental agencies and private non-profit community groups. Representatives of the County participated in several planning sessions. The plan established (i) a temporary (30 day) a homeless triage

center to facilitate providing needed services in order to transition riverbed inhabitants into regular housing, (ii) ongoing enforcement to prevent homeless individuals from returning to the riverbed area.

### **Background:**

The City of Lompoc formally began implementing their riverbed encampment cleanup plan in June of 2018 by providing verbal notification to individuals residing in the riverbed about a relocation plan. On August 10, 2018, the Lompoc Police Department served 30-day notices to encampments warning of eviction if not relocated from the riverbed area within the period. Ongoing noticing of the encampments continued through September 7, 2018 at which time 72-hour notices were served on remaining encampments. On September 10, 2018, abatement of the encampments began. The Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Office assisted Lompoc Police Department in these efforts. In addition, the Homeless Triage Center formally opened for 30 days at Lompoc River Park (September 10, 2018 to October 9, 2018).

### ***The Homeless Triage Center***

The Homeless Triage Center (Center) was established at Lompoc River Park where homeless individuals (participants) were directed upon leaving their encampments in the river. Participants were able to bring their possessions for temporary storage and camp over night for up to 30 days. As a condition of the center, participants were asked to register and engage in services provided via various agencies. The Center was established to assist individuals with a transition from transient living, in a less than safe and healthy environment, to a safer, healthier living environment while providing for their critical health services and safety needs.

An array of agencies staffed the center. This included

- The City of Lompoc
- AmeriCorps Mission United
- Coast Valley Substance Abuse & Treatment Center
- Good Samaritan Shelter
- Home for Good/North County United Way
- Planting a Seed
- Care for Paws
- Showers of Blessing
- Overland Security Services
- Prepare 2 Care - Community Disaster Preparedness
- Family Service Agency
- North County Rape Crisis & Child Protection Center
- Transitions Mental Health Association
- Micah Mission
- New Beginnings Counseling Center
- Helping Hands of Lompoc
- Lompoc Valley Medical Center

The following County departments staffed the Triage Center to provide for the health, human service, safety and legal needs of the participants and direct them to an appropriate level of services including housing placements. In total, over 50 staff participated in direct service delivery over the course of the 30-day period. In order to best determine needs of the individuals, a confidential participant engagement intake process was developed. Utilizing this intake process, staff was able to ensure that mental health, physical health and legal needs were assessed. A service and housing plan was then developed and executed, with those willing to engage in services, to best transition the individuals to appropriate housing and care. In order to best serve participants at the Center, and position all for longer-term success, county staff developed an intensive case management team model to coordinate and provide an array of service housing and treatment needs to assist individuals. Over the course of the 30-day period staff engaged repeatedly with individuals to facilitate their transition.

County departments staffing the Center included:

- 4th District Supervisor's Office
- Behavioral Wellness
- Public Health
  - Animal Services
- Social Services
  - Adult Protective Services
- Public Defender
- District Attorney's Office (Lompoc DA Advocate)
- Probation

### ***Services Provided***

County departments provided a number of intensive outreach services, which included but were not limited to the following:

- Established trusting relationships with individuals to set stage to engage in care
- Intensive mental health services
- Crisis services (5150)
- Holistic case management
- Legal services including:
  - Clearing warrants
  - Rectifying negative credit impacts of past due court fees and child support payments
  - Modifying criminal sentences to allow successful completion of probation terms
  - Reducing fines and converting to community work service
  - Expungement of past convictions
  - Modification of restraining orders
  - Assistance with navigating meetings and communications with non-criminal attorneys
- Arranged appointments from medical and dental to legal and for benefit services
- Transportation to critical medical and dental appointments
- Transportation to and from appointments for benefits and for critical identification documents

- Transportation to treatment programs within and outside of the county
- Transportation to job interviews
- Transportation to court proceedings
- Housing, substance treatment, and shelter placement
- Reunification with family
- Health screenings
- Medical Detoxification services
- Eligibility/benefit determination
- Vital records
- Cal Works eligibility determination
- Expedited Cal Fresh benefits
- Spay and neutering of animals
- Animal fosters while participants engage in treatment
- Donations of tents, clothing, blankets, food, water, hygiene products, laundry, etc.

In addition, the Fourth District Supervisorial Office facilitated securing numerous in-kind services including placement and removal of large roll off bins for cleanup of encampments, purchased supplies for animal care and partially funded the overall cost of 24-hour security over the 30-day period.

### *Data*

In total 70 clients were served at the Triage Center.

Of those individuals:

- 34 participants were placed in housing, detox services, shelters, or reunified with family.
- 30 participants were exited as a result of violation of rules of the Triage Center or left the Triage Center voluntarily
- 6 participants received services, but chose not to stay at Triage Center

Those participating in the Triage Center were exited to the following services:

- 3 Permanent housing
- 3 Reunified with family
- 10 Temporary housing situation (staying w/friend or hotel)
- 2 Temporary shelter situation - RV
- 10 Entered emergency shelter
- 6 Entered some type of program (drug/alcohol/mental health treatment)
- 14 Exited due to own choice (8 of these were down to the final days and were pending acceptance of treatment beds; but unfortunately did not accept)
- 14 Exited due to violation of rules
- 2 Arrested
- 6 Checked in but never stayed; did receive services
- 1 5150 and ultimately conserved

### ***Costs Associated with Triage Center***

The original budget established by the City of Lompoc for the Center was estimated at \$35,000; while the actual cost of the center operations for 30 days exceeded the estimated amount, the City of Lompoc Finance Department is still completing the accounting of the center operations as invoices for payment continue to come in. The County had over 50 staff involved in service delivery and client outreach activities. These individuals were redirected from client and outreach roles within Lompoc to provide direct service at the Triage Center. No additional staffing costs were incurred. Further, existing contracts were utilized to place individuals in detox and housing beds. Over \$5,000 in expenses were incurred for purchase of basic supplies for the triage center and as of the preparation of this report \$8,000 in cost for security were incurred by the 4<sup>th</sup> District Supervisor's Office.

### ***Next Steps***

As noted above, County departments, working conjunction with the City of Lompoc as well as nonprofits providers, established an overall program of engagement grounded in intensive outreach and services. Engagement with participants continues, led by case managers throughout County departments, City of Lompoc and nonprofit agencies.

Clean-up of the impacted riverbed area including removal of structures, debris and waste is continuing under the leadership of the City of Lompoc.

### **Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:**

Budgeted: No

### **Fiscal Analysis:**

Narrative:

There are no fiscal impacts associated with this presentation.

### **Special Instructions:**

No special instructions

### **Authored by:**

Terri Nisich, Assistant CEO