

## **Part 1: Implementation Unit Structure and Capacity**

*Describe the specific unit or office within your organization that will implement the ERF Program grant. Please identify the implementing unit's mission, goals, values, geographic service area, and existing efforts and practices related to serving people living in encampments.*

The City of Redding (City) Department of Housing and Community Development (Housing Department) will lead the implementation of the proposed Encampment Resolution Funding (ERF) Program grant. The City proposes that the Housing Department utilize \$950,000 in funding from the ERF Program to resolve the Lost Lane encampment by augmenting the Emergency Housing Site (EHS) Program using approved micro-shelters to add 71 emergency housing beds; providing funds for an additional Redding Police Officer who will serve as a member of the Crisis Intervention and Response Team (CIRT), assisting with street outreach and engagement; funding auxiliary programs tailored to encampment residents' specific needs such as pet care while the resident receives services such as treatments, and secure storage for individuals with large quantities of personal effects; facilitating site restoration, specifically focusing on a segment of the Sulphur Creek Trail located near the Lost Lane encampment. The City Housing Department adheres to the organizational values of the City which prioritize community services and engagement, y, innovation, and accountability. The City acknowledges the challenges our residents face and works creatively with public and private partners to address community concerns. The City Housing Department provides comprehensive housing services ranging from federal and state to local programs serving the residents of the City. The City and the Housing

Department frequently partner with the County government, law enforcement agencies, healthcare providers, community-based organizations, and faith-based organizations to provide services and immediate housing options to people experiencing unsheltered homelessness in the City, particularly residents of unauthorized encampments.

*Describe your organization's relevant existing partnerships and ability to develop new partnerships and collaborations in support of services to people experiencing homelessness in encampments.*

The City participates in a number of partnerships relevant to the ERF Program, notably the Northern California Continuum of Care (NorCalCoC) which encompasses seven of the northernmost counties of California and the City of Redding. In Shasta County, where the City is located, numerous public and private entities have partnered with NorCalCoC in addition to multi-lateral partnerships that have been formed independently. One key partnership in the area of combatting unsheltered homelessness is between the City, Shasta County, and Hill Country Medical clinic, a regional operator who provides mental health services 24/7 and assists the Redding Police Department (RPD) CIRT. The CIRT engages with individual in crisis, many who are experiencing both unsheltered homelessness and a mental health crisis, taking action to de-escalate the situation and divert these individuals from the criminal justice system by providing healthcare, mental health services, and facilitating access to other solutions such as housing programs. . As a population and economic center for the region, the City is strategically well-positioned for future collaboration with a variety of public and private partners. The City Housing Department is staffed with an experienced team that is well-connected with active community partner organizations.

*Describe how the entity's structure and partnerships will lead to efficient and effective implementation of the proposed ERF Program.*

Partnerships and the work of community- and faith-based organizations are essential to ensuring successful outcomes for residents of the Lost Lane encampment. The City envisions established community- and faith-based organizations operating programs in micro-shelter communities created by the EHS Program; the auxiliary programs for storage and pet care reduce barriers to housing and allow more residents of encampments and people experiencing chronic homelessness to access the services of the EHS Program. The City has experience delivering services providing housing with local partners and can reliably and efficiently deliver the proposed ERF Program grant through its existing and potential partnerships.

## **Part 2: Prioritized Encampment Site and Population to Be Served**

*In detail, describe the specific encampment site, section of an encampment, or closely linked community of encampments, being resolved. The description must include the specific location, physical size of the area to be served, the types of structures people are residing in at the site, and any other relevant or notable physical characteristics of the site to be served.*

The Lost Lane encampment is a closely linked community of encampments that reside in the greenway south of Lake Blvd. near downtown Redding. The community of encampments is bounded on the north and south by Lake Blvd. and Barbara Rd. and on the east and west by N. Market St. and railroad tracks, respectively. The area of this space totals approximately 232 acres, centered on Sulphur Creek Hill with terrain that

can be characterized as a mix of forested and open spaces along a steep hillside. Notable physical features of the encampment include Sulphur Creek Hill, a disused segment of the Sulphur Creek Trail, and two access roads (Lost Ln. and Sulphur Creek Rd.). The residents of this encampment most frequently reside in tent structures and the known sleeping locations are often in the lightly wooded sections of the encampment which are visible even by aerial photography of the City.

*Provide the number of individuals living in the area the applicant is requesting funding to serve, any available demographic information, and how this information was determined, including the extent to which estimates were used.*

RPD estimates that between 50 and 70 individuals reside in encampments within the proposed project area. These estimates are provided by the CIRT which often engages with individuals living in encampments and works closely with service providers who connect with people experiencing unsheltered homelessness in the City. The best available demographic information comes from the 2020 point-in-time (PIT) count which identified 454 people experiencing unsheltered homelessness in Shasta County (accounting for over 50% of the multi-county CoC). In line with the general population of both County and the City, the PIT count revealed that 71.7% of people experiencing homelessness in the County were White, followed by 10.8% American Indian and 9.7% Hispanic. Additionally, the PIT count found that one third of people experiencing unsheltered homelessness were residing in encampments, followed by vehicles and streets as the most common sleeping locations. People experiencing homelessness in Shasta County also shared the following common impediments to housing access: 27.0% chronic homelessness; 21.3% felony convictions; 18.5% previously in foster care; and

9.1% victims of domestic violence. 7.7% of those counted identified as youth between 18 and 24 years old with another 7.2% under 18 years old.

*In detail, describe why this specific encampment site is being prioritized for resolution support. This may include concerns related to public health, safety, and environmental hazards that pose a particular risk to the people living in the target area as compared to other encampments, or demographic factors related to addressing racial equity or serving populations disproportionately impacted by homelessness. This may also include the environmental, health, and safety impact of the encampment site to the community at large.*

The Lost Lane encampment is a priority for resolution because of the significant safety risks of unauthorized encampments, especially located in greenways and open spaces, due to natural disasters in the region. The City experiences frequent wildfires during the hotter seasons before experiencing flooding and occasional winter storms with low-elevation snowfall in the colder seasons. Together, these disasters can result in a chain reaction of natural disaster that results in landslides, mudslides, and falling trees creating additional risks for people experiencing unsheltered homelessness who choose to sleep in wooded or formerly flooded or burned areas of the City. These dangers also threaten the safety of neighboring communities within the City as the greenway borders several residential and commercial areas, despite itself being relatively inaccessible. Data from the Redding Fire Department (RFD) show that the City of Redding has received 204 calls for service to the area of the Lost Lane encampment in 2021 representing significant growth from the decade-low in 2016 of 81 calls for service. The majority of calls for service

are for medical emergencies, however, calls for service related to unauthorized burns, garbage fires, vehicle fires, and vegetation fires have also grown since the 2016 low.

### **Part 3: Core Service Delivery and Provision of Housing Options**

*In detail, describe the proposed services and interim and permanent housing options that will be provided to individuals experiencing homelessness in this specific encampment site and describe how the proposed services will be aligned with Housing First principles, tailored to meet the specific needs of the people served and address the health and safety challenges posed by the specific encampment site.*

People experiencing unsheltered homelessness at the Lost Lane encampment would have access to the available specialized interim housing options while the capacity to provide housing options to everyone in the encampment would be secured by funding from the ERF Program. Groups such as the Good News Rescue Mission, Nation's Finest, and One Safe Place often provide interim housing support to people experiencing unsheltered homelessness in the City and the micro-shelter communities operated by community partners through the EHS Program will have ability to leverage existing resources to serve the community at a higher capacity.

Based on reports from the CIRT and Housing Department staff the City has identified pet ownership and large quantities of personal items as key barriers to housing options for people experiencing unsheltered homelessness that would otherwise take advantage of available housing options. In order to continue gaining valuable insights into how to mitigate barriers to emergency and permanent housing while directing members of the public to existing services, the City would invest in partially funding an additional CIRT

officer to focus on the Lost Lane encampment with funding from the ERF Program. The City also proposes using ERF Program funding to meet the identified specific needs for pet care and secure storage in order to facilitate an efficient and effective transition for encampment residents to interim and transitional housing.

*State how many individuals experiencing homelessness will be served by the proposed project and how the services and interim and permanent housing options to be provided will prioritize the physical and mental health and wellness of the people served while supporting their transition out of the encampment and onto meaningful pathways to safe and stable housing.*

The proposed project would serve up to 71 individuals experiencing unsheltered homelessness with the micro-shelter community interim housing option. This figure is significant because it is sufficient capacity to house the entirety of the Lost Lane encampment and exemplifies the notion of housing first by creating the ability to provide housing for all, especially when combined with the efforts to direct individuals such as veterans and domestic violence victims to alternative specialized housing options. The additional capacity will give the City flexibility to provide housing based on specialized need and move beyond placement in housing that is simply available. Addressing the specific needs of encampment residents is the foundation of a meaningful pathway to safe and stable housing.

*Describe how the proposed activities will result in sustainable restoration of the encampment site to its original state or intended use while prioritizing the health and wellness of people experiencing homelessness.*

The City would use additional ERF Program funding to focus on the restoration of Sulphur Creek Trail as an additional component to site clean-up. Site cleanup is typically addressed through community volunteers supervised by City staff. Faith-based organizations in the community frequently donate tens to hundreds of man hours toward city cleanup efforts including following encampment resolution efforts. The strategic placement of emergency housing sites close to prior encampment areas minimizes the potential trauma and impact of resolving an encampment, thus prioritizing the health and wellbeing of people experiencing unsheltered homelessness in encampments. The EHS Program intends to minimize the impact of transitioning from living in an encampment to living in interim housing by reducing the distance a person experiencing unsheltered homelessness is relocated. Potential emergency housing sites have been identified throughout the city and proximity to existing encampments remains a factor for site selection.

#### **Part 4: Coordination of Services and Housing Options**

*In detail, describe how the entity will coordinate with other systems and describe any new or innovative partnerships established in support of this program. This may include partnerships with healthcare, behavioral health, workforce development, long term services and supports, interim and permanent housing options, and other systems of service delivery.*

The City is a member of the NorCalCoC which coordinates efforts on combatting homelessness across Northern California and compiles the data collected in local Homeless Management Information Systems (HMIS). Using outreach and engagement based community resources such as the RPD CIRT, the City seamlessly connects



individuals in need to services with available capacity. Those additional services could include healthcare, mental health services, addiction services, housing options, counseling, workforce development, and more. The City works with organizations throughout the community on multiple levels to build professional relationships and establish coordinated services. The City and its departments frequently work with Shasta County, both in CIRT but also in housing and coordinated entry programs.

*Describe any new, enhanced, or innovative partnerships the entity intends to carry out with State entities and/or philanthropy to create new or enhanced models of service delivery in support of this project.*

The City is always open to new partnerships with state agencies and local philanthropy, especially when these partnerships strengthen the capacity to address key and persistent challenges faced in the community. The CIRT itself is an example of a recent innovative partnership between Shasta County, Hill Country Clinic, and the City which partners law enforcement with mental healthcare professionals and frequently finds alternative resolutions for individuals in crisis rather than resorting to the criminal justice system as a catchall. That partnership would not have been possible, and would not have been able to inspire portions of this proposed project today, without the support of public and private partners in the community. The proposed project calls for a new partnership with Haven Humane Society, a private organization that the City contracts with to provide animal regulation services. Haven Humane Society would receive funding from the City through the ERF Program to provide pet care and handling for people experiencing homelessness while they undergo treatment or stays in housing options where pets cannot be under

their care. Their willingness to innovate with the City is a result of the strong professional relationships developed between private partners and city staff.

*Describe how these new or enhanced partnerships will mitigate risk and address safety concerns, while ensuring a pathway for individuals living in encampments to move into safe and stable housing.*

Capacity, awareness, pet care, and secure storage make up the key barriers to emergency, interim, and transitional housing in the City. Each partnership and proposed project element directly addresses how barriers to housing, safety risks to encampment residents, and community concern would be mitigated. The goal is to ultimately resolve safety and community concerns altogether by putting encampment residents onto the pathway to safe and stable permanent housing. This is only possible because of the collaborative network that exists in our community to provide services to people experiencing homelessness. The EHS Program builds on this community approach by relying on community- and faith-based organizations to operate the emergency housing sites permitted and assembled with funding from the City in order to continue offering excellent, specialized care at a higher capacity.

*Describe how the applicant will implement a coordinated approach that is data-informed to assist individuals in the encampment and ensure future outcomes can be measured.*

Community organizations already regularly work with City and County officials in order to track program participants and measure successful outcomes. The City fully utilizes the NorCalCoC HMIS and included a requirement to track performance and update the HMIS to the EHS Program guidelines for site operators. These approaches ensure that the

program and related decisions will continue to be data-driven and that quality data for decision-making will become more available in the future.

### **Part 5: Ensuring Dignity, Safety, and Wellness**

*Describe how people with lived experience were included or consulted in the planning of this project and how people with lived experience will be involved in implementing and/or assessing the impact of the project. Describe the extent to which the people living in the encampment to be served will be engaged in the implementation and assessment of the proposed project.*

Many key stakeholders in partner organizations, and especially local faith-based organizations, have lived experience with homelessness and support the proposed project. Those same stakeholders will be involved in the implementation of the project as emergency housing site operators whose organizations will lead programmatic elements of the EHS Program and actually deliver the services necessary for encampment residents to move onto safe and stable housing. The City frequently receives public comment on the challenges of homelessness and people experiencing unsheltered homelessness in the community have many voices and advocates that capture feedback for City programs. With ERF Program funding the city would have the opportunity to engage with participants who were served with the additional interim housing and outreach capacity as well as auxiliary services to identify successes and failures of the model program at scale.

*Briefly describe how the proposed project and strategies exemplify Housing First values and will be non-punitive, trauma-informed, and culturally appropriate.*

The strategies in the proposed project, particularly the auxiliary services, exemplify Housing First and non-punitive strategies by diligently addressing the known barriers to housing for people experiencing unsheltered homelessness in encampments. The goal is to see people experiencing homelessness find a pathway to sustainable housing and divert people in crisis away from the criminal justice system which often finds itself as a catchall for community concerns around the nation. Added capacity is the key element of serving large encampments in the community on top of the regular demand for services.

*Briefly describe any local laws, ordinance, and current or planned response to community concerns regarding the encampment to be served, including any existing local encampment resolutions plans that may impact the project site. Describe how the entity will implement the proposed project and navigate potentially conflicting intentions, to ensure that the proposed activities support the dignity, safety, and wellness of people experiencing homelessness within the encampment site.*

The Redding City Council declared a shelter crisis in June 2021 which enabled the City to permit the establishment of micro-shelter or other interim housing communities through the EHS Program. The shelter crisis declaration has been the impetus for many of the recently planned actions regarding unsheltered homelessness, such as the initial micro-shelter purchase that has already been completed. The City regular meets internally to coordinate departmental actions and ensure that decisive action is taken to stop conflicting interests from interfering in planned activities, such as grant funded work. The Housing Department will take the lead on coordinating with the Redding Police Department, Shasta County, Hill Country Clinic, and various other public and private

partners to address the Lost Lane encampment in a coordinated and deliberate manner once the infrastructure to house the people experiencing homelessness is in place.

**Part 6: Personnel**

*Provide a list of all positions (both administrative and programmatic) which are integral to providing services under this proposal, including their title, a brief description of their duties, and the approximate full-time equivalent (FTE) of staffing for the grant project.*

The City Estimates that the following key positions will account for approximately 6.65 FTEs over the 2 year duration of the project. The table below summarizes this estimation by position and provides brief position descriptions and a breakdown of the FTE calculation. The table does not account for the substantial time and effort contributed by external community partners and hours of volunteer service for community and faith based organizations that often help with labor intensive aspects of projects, such as site-cleanup.

<b>Position</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>FTE</b>
Deputy City Manager/Director of Housing Authority	Overall management of housing programs including grant-funded projects. Implementation of the Emergency Housing Site and micro-shelter programs. Coordinates with NorCal Continuum of Care, State and Federal agencies, local partners, and law enforcement organizations.	0.5

<p>Economic Development, Innovation, Equity Manager</p>	<p>Oversee grant administration and supervise grant administrator. Ensure that programs are operated with equity and innovation in mind.</p>	<p>0.10</p>
<p>Housing Manager</p>	<p>The Housing Manager answers to the Assistant City Manager and oversees the City Department of Housing and Community Development. This department is responsible for recording information to HMIS, coordinating with community partners providing services through the EHS program, and implementing the micro-shelter program.</p>	<p>0.30</p>
<p>Housing Specialist (4x)</p>	<p>Housing specialists perform analytical tasks, project management, and may oversee or conduct technical tasks in the Housing Department, such as applicant intake. Housing specialists will be responsible for implementing the proposed project by identifying additional suitable EHS program locations, performing necessary research, and establishing EHS program locations. This may include coordinating with third parties, vendors, and developing RFPs.</p>	<p>2.00</p>
<p>Housing Technician (4x)</p>	<p>Housing technicians perform the technical tasks of the Housing Department such as applicant intake,</p>	<p>1.60</p>

	<p>interviews, and identifying program eligibilities. These positions will work with members of the public, in this case the residents of the encampment, who are willing and seeking services. These positions coordinate with community partners such as Shasta County HHSA to provide services appropriate to level of need for individuals at a given time.</p>	
Sr. Housing Specialist	<p>Conducts the work of Housing Specialists at a higher role commensurate to experience and has the capacity to take on more complex responsibilities and projects.</p>	0.40
Associate Project Coordinator – Housing	<p>Responsible for project and program management at a higher level than specialists and technicians, projects can include a wider range of subject areas including housing, economic development, and community development. This position liaises with community partners at a higher level, is able to negotiate contracts, and perform or supervise property acquisition. This position is involved in project planning and long-term planning and makes presentations and reports to the City Council, funders, and the public as needed or warranted.</p>	0.40

Management Analyst	Project management and grant administration for the City Manager's office. Progress reporting and City contact for funding organization	0.25
Police Officer (CIRT)	As part of the Crisis Intervention and Response Team will engage with the targeted encampment population to conduct street outreach about the services and initiate contact with those interested in participating. This position will ensure that opportunities of the proposed project reach the most vulnerable and in need at the Lost Lane encampment.	0.40
Police Supervisor (Cpl., Sgt., or Lt.)	Will oversee the work of CIRT officers in the encampment, resolve any issues, and support the proposed project as needed.	0.30
Working Supervisor – Parks	Oversees the use of staff and volunteer workers in site clean-up and restoration. Volunteers are frequently engaged in site-cleanup, site-restoration, and trail restoration throughout the City under staff supervision.	0.40
<b>Total</b>	--	<b>6.65</b>



*Briefly describe any factors that make the key staff for this project uniquely qualified to carry out this grant successfully. This may include specialized training, cultural competency, lived expertise, and demonstrable past success with similar projects.*

City of Redding staff are broadly representative of the community that they serve. The City has successfully implemented numerous complex allocated and grant-funded projects in a variety of sectors, in addition to operating full public services and an electric utility. The Deputy City Manager, Steve Bade, also serves as the Director of the Redding Housing Authority and in his career has served in a variety positions throughout the housing department since 1998. He is currently responsible for coordinating community development projects, income-qualifying housing projects, and serving as the City's downtown liaison. Mr. Bade is driving the effort to increase interim housing availability and help people experiencing homelessness or facing challenges with housing find stable and secure housing options.

The Housing Manager, Nicole Smith, emphasized the importance of City staff's ongoing collaboration with Shasta County as a lead organization in the NorCal Continuum of Care. The partnership benefits personnel by providing project management experience in implementing numerous projects utilizing coordinated entry mechanisms and other programs tailored to serving the specific housing needs of the community. Combined, city staff have decades of experience in resolving homelessness challenges and providing affordable housing services in Northern California.

## **Part 7: Proposed Budget and Fiscal Planning**

*Briefly explain how the award amount requested from the available funds was determined for the size of the proposed project and number of people to be served and how this project could be scaled if more or less than the requested funds are available.*

The City is requesting \$950,000 based on the size of the encampment relative to other encampments in the City and the size of the City relative to other eligible jurisdictions in the State of California. \$950,000 is the funding required to serve the upper range of the estimated population of the proposed encampment with a housing first approach. More or less funding would result in scaling the additional interim housing bed spaces made available in micro-shelter communities through this program. Less funding would result in fewer additional bed spaces or less opportunities for services that reduce barriers to housing whereas more funding would enable additional units that could serve a larger encampment, or in the case of the Lost Lane encampment could provide additional opportunities for the services intended to reduce barriers to accessing housing services.

*Identify all the funds currently being used or anticipated to be used in support of the proposed project, including all federal, state, philanthropic and/or local funds, and the proportion of the state project cost that will be supported directly through this grant.*

Currently the City Department of Housing receives funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), State Department of Housing and Community Development, and other local and grant funding sources. The Redding Police Department funds the CIRT through police grants and the Emergency Solutions Grant – COVID-19 (ESG-CV). Current funding sources that would go towards the proposed project include \$389,333.88 of staff time based on the approximate FTE that generally comes from the general fund, a \$150,000 HUD allocation to the Housing Department that is already being

utilized for the micro-shelter program, and a \$196,180 police grant that funds RPD officers already on the CIRT team. Totaled, the City would leverage \$735,513.88 in funding resources and in-kind contributions in conjunction with the \$950,000 request in order to vastly increase emergency housing stock and provide additional direct services to people experiencing unsheltered homelessness. Current funding sources and in-kind contributions comprise 77% of the total amount requested from HCFC for the proposed ERF Program grant.

*Describe how the proposal will maximize use of resources for program services and how the funds requested through this grant and other leveraged funds reflect an efficient use of public dollars for the intended activities and outcomes.*

The City proposal to the ERF Program reflects an efficient use of public funds and aligns with the priorities of the HCFC by focusing financial resource on providing emergency housing options to critically vulnerable populations experiencing unsheltered homelessness in encampments. The City would focus funding from the ERF Program grant on successful, existing efforts and innovative solutions to reduce or remove barriers to housing. The requested amount would breakdown to \$13,380.28 for each additional individual able to be served under this program. The amount requested for micro-shelters and micro-shelter assembly is particularly important because it provides a shelter that maintains the dignity and individuality of people experiencing unsheltered homelessness while maintaining low per unit costs. The most recent quote for assembly also provides marginal discounts based on the number of units, the number of units requested is both sufficient to house the upper estimates of encampment residents at the Lost Lane

encampment, and to secure a lower marginal assembly cost for the micro-shelter program.

*Describe the strategies to ensure that 50% of allocated funds are expended by June 30, 2023, and 100% by June 30, 2024, as required in Health and Safety Code Section 50253.*

The requested funding is focused primarily on the up-front costs of establishing additional emergency housing sites by boosting the micro-shelter program. The proposed program budget expends \$740,800.50 (78%) of funding in the first year before June 30, 2023 by paying for micro-shelter program orders and shelter assembly, while providing initial funding to ongoing programs that will exist throughout the project lifetime such as pet care, secure storage, site restoration, the CIRT, and grant administration. The remaining \$209,199.50 (22%) of funding will continue to support ongoing services until June 30, 2024 ensuring that 100% of funding expended.