



California Interagency Council on Homelessness

ERF-3-R, Application

Part 1 (A): ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Application Window

- Window #1, 11/3/2023 - 1/31/2024
 Window #2, 2/1/2024 - 4/30/2024
 Window #3, 5/1/2024 - 6/30/2024

*Applications received after 5:00 p.m. on the last day of the application window will be reviewed and evaluated during the following application window. **Note, applications submitted after 5:00 p.m. on 6/30/2024 will not be reviewed.***

Eligible Applicant

Select the eligible applicant's jurisdiction type.

- CoC City County

What is the name of the city or county?

Monterey

Part 1 (B) Contracting Information

Complete all elements of the below section. This information is required for contracting should this application be chosen for award.

Contractor Information

Contractor Name (the legal entity entering into contract with the State)

County of Monterey

What is the Federal Employer Identification Number (FEIN # or tax id number) for the contractor?

94-6000524

Tax ID Form
MoCo TIN.pdf

Governmental entities will need to submit a GovTIN Tax Form, and Non-governmental entities will need to submit a STD 204 Tax Form. Links to each are below:

GovTIN: [Taxpayer ID Form \(ca.gov\)](#)

STD 204: [STD 204 - Payee Data Record \(ca.gov\)](#)

Who is the best contact person for this contract?

Primary Contact

<input type="text" value="Roxanne"/>	<input type="text" value="Wilson"/>
First	Last

This contact will receive ALL grant related correspondence (inclusive of application, award, contract, office hours, information requests, reporting, etc.)

Job title

job title

Email

Phone

This contact will receive ALL grant related correspondence (inclusive of application, award, contract, office hours, information requests, reporting, etc.)

Secondary Contact

<input type="text" value="Sarah"/>	<input type="text" value="Federico"/>
First	Last

Job title

job title

Email

Phone

This contact will receive ALL grant related correspondence (inclusive of application, award, contract, office hours, information requests, reporting, etc.)

Contact Person for Reporting

<input type="text" value="Sarah"/>	<input type="text" value="Federico"/>
First	Last

Job title

job title

Email

Phone

This contact will ONLY receive grant reporting correspondence (inclusive of guidance, report releases/reminders, report follow-ups).

Authorized Representative

First

Last

Job title

job title

Email

Phone

The Authorized Representative has authority to contract on behalf of the eligible applicant

If this application is funded, what address should the check be mailed to?

Address

Address Line 1

Address Line 2

City

State

Zip Code

Attention to (if applicable):

 This Application uses character limits 

Reaching these limits is not required, however competitive responses will address all parts of each

question asked.

Part 2: PROPOSAL OVERVIEW

Guidance:

In completing this application, applicants must identify the specific encampment that will be prioritized for resolution.

If an applicant proposes to prioritize a large, noncontiguous, or multiple site(s), the encampments may only be addressed through a single application if: (a) the justification for prioritizing the encampments is the same, **and** (b) the demographics and service needs of the residents of the encampments is sufficiently the same that, (c) the same set of services, and service providers, including outreach, interim and permanent housing programs, will be used to resolve the identified people's experience of homelessness in encampments.

Applicant must prepare a separate application for each encampment that does not meet the requirements of (a) – (c).

Proposal Summary

Summarize the proposed Encampment Resolution Fund (ERF) project, including an overview of all key components and/or phases of the project that will be funded in whole or in part with ERF-3-R resources. (1500-character limit)

This proposed project will resolve an encampment of 40 people living in the Salinas Riverbed within the City of Soledad in southern Monterey County. As a small City with a total population of 25,000, Soledad has partnered with the County to develop a plan to support the encampment residents with increased outreach services, expanded interim housing capacity, rental subsidies, and linkages to affordable housing units. The requested ERF grant will fund (1) 1.0 FTE City Outreach Worker to engage and support encampment residents with service connections, interim and permanent housing; (2) the creation of 12 units of non-congregate interim housing with housing navigation services in mobile homes on a City-owned, undeveloped site close to the encampment to be operated by a non-profit partner; and (3) motel vouchers to provide some additional interim housing capacity. The City estimates 15% of employed encampment residents can also secure housing directly with the help of short-term rental subsidies and housing navigation. With a small investment of ERF resources, the City and County will be able to substantially reduce homelessness in Soledad, as this encampment represents the only large grouping of people experiencing homelessness in the community.

People Served

Number of people currently residing in prioritized encampment site

40

#

Potential inflow of people into the prioritized encampment site during the grant term.

None

Of people currently residing in prioritized encampment site, how many will be served by this proposal?

40

#

Given the potential for inflow of people into the prioritized encampment site, how many people are projected to be served across the entire grant period?

40

#

Of people projected to be served across the entire grant period, number of people projected to transition into interim housing.

26

#

Of people projected to be served across the entire grant period, number of people projected to transition into permanent housing

30

#

This should include both people who transition directly into permanent housing and people who may first transition into interim housing.

Is the prioritized encampment site part of a larger encampment area?

Yes No

Encampment Information

1. Briefly describe the characteristics of the people residing within the prioritized encampment site, including demographics, household compositions, disabilities, and projected service and housing needs. Include how this information was gathered. (1500-character limit)

The prioritized encampment consists of about 40 people, made up of 24 single individuals and 8 couples. The City staff conducted a survey of the site in January 2024 and were able to speak to 33 of the people present. The City's Police Department has also regularly visited the site and know the residents by name. The City estimates that about 55% of residents are men and 45% are women. Almost all are Latino/Hispanic and most are bi-lingual in English and Spanish. Only a few are monolingual Spanish speakers. About 15% are employed and approximately 10% to 20% are undocumented. About 50% have mental health issues. The encampment has a mix of people who are from Soledad and from other communities, including Salinas, Greenfield, and Gonzalez. All have indicated they are open to receiving help with services, shelter, and housing. Most would prefer to remain in or near Soledad and the rest would be open to moving elsewhere in south county.

If this proposal seeks to serve a particular target population, specify and describe.

2. Briefly describe physical characteristics of the prioritized encampment site in which the people you are proposing to serve are residing. The description must include the specific location, physical size of the area, the types of structures people are residing in at the site, whether vehicles

are present, and any other relevant or notable physical characteristics of the site. (1000-character limit)

The encampment spans over 1.3 miles of both City and County jurisdictions on public and private lands along the Salinas River, which includes areas below a Highway 101 overpass. The encampment consists of elaborate and complex structures made of lumber, tarps, pallets, with stairs, outdoor kitchens, and decks. The City identified at least one dugout bunker covered with a tarp and no supporting infrastructure and a separate 15' cave dug into the riverbank which poses a major health and safety risk to encampment occupants. Encampment occupants built a treehouse to prepare for the possibility of flood. There are three abandoned vehicles at the site, one of which is sunken into the Salinas River and the others being completely stripped of parts. This rural encampment has been historically difficult to address due to the complete absence of services in South Monterey County. The proposed Interim Housing location is less than one mile from the encampment site.

3. Why is this encampment site being prioritized? Applicant should identify any distinguishing needs and/or vulnerabilities of the people living in this encampment and/or any health, safety, or other concerns that led the applicant to prioritize this site over other encampments. (1000-character limit)

This encampment is being prioritized because it is the second largest in the southern area of Monterey County, and because the area is not safe for the residents to live in. It was flooded in January 2023 and continues to be prone to flooding. The Fire Department put out 2 fires there recently, including one instance where occupants set a stolen vehicle on fire under the CalTrans overpass. Highway 101 is the sole access point from the City to other parts of Monterey County. Damage or destruction of the highway will be detrimental for emergency services and will have severe impacts to the entire southern Monterey County region. The residents are also digging into the river embankment and creating risk of landslide and other damage from erosion. There is also a lot of trash at the site, that residents often burn causing pollution to the river and other health hazards. PD responds to calls from encampment occupants and surrounding community at least once per day.

ERF authorizing legislation requires funding be used for “prioritized” encampments. Applicants must, therefore, provide a justification for the prioritization of the encampment proposed to be served. Except in very small communities where it may be possible to justify prioritizing all of a small number of encampments for resolution using this fund source, ERF is not intended to be used to fund a community-wide encampment resolution program.

Attachment: Map

Map of Soledad Encampment.pdf

Map of Soledad Interim Housing Site.pdf

The provided map should clearly indicate the area of the prioritized encampment. The map may also indicate the location of other key service, shelter, and housing resources described in this proposal.

4. Is the prioritized site on a state right-of-way?

No Yes - partially Yes - entirely

Attachment: Caltrans Letter of Support

ERF Support Letter County of Monterey - Soledad - signed.pdf

Projects entirely or partially on a state right-of-way must include a Letter of Support from Caltrans.

- This letter must include confirmation from Caltrans that they are aware of and in support of the ERF project, including the projected timeline, and that they will only take action on that

encampment site in collaboration with and at least 2 weeks-notice to the ERF grantee, unless critical circumstances exist when an encampment poses an imminent threat to life, health, safety, or infrastructure and must be immediately addressed.

- This letter should be signed by the local Caltrans Deputy District Director of Maintenance (DDDM) or their designee.
- This letter may also include Caltrans role in the proposal and what Caltrans resources are being leveraged.

Proposal's Outcomes

5. What outcomes does this proposal seek to accomplish by 6/30/2027? Outcomes should be specific, measurable, attainable, relevant, and time-bound (SMART). (1000-character limit)

1. Of the 40 estimated encampment residents, 26 (65%) will secure interim housing at the proposed new non-congregate mobile home/trailer interim housing project (12 beds) or using motel vouchers (10 beds) by December 2024.
2. Of the 40 estimated encampment residents, 30 (75%) will secure permanent housing through a combination of leveraged homeless set-aside housing vouchers and medium-term rental assistance. Placement into permanent housing will be completed by June 2027.
3. Of the 40 estimated encampment residents, 90% will receive outreach, engagement, and connections to needed services by December 2024.

6. What are the primary activities the applicant will implement to achieve each of the proposal's outcomes? (1000-character limit)

1. Interim Housing: The City will acquire 12 mobile homes to create an interim housing facility on a City-owned property near the encampment and will identify a non-profit partner to operate the units to provide services to the residents. The ERF grant will also create a pool of flexible motel voucher funds to assist some of the residents who are not able to move into to the mobile homes.
2. Permanent Housing/Rapid Rehousing: 15% of encampment residents (about 6 people) will receive assistance to move directly into housing and 60% (about 24) will move to interim housing and then to permanent housing.
3. Outreach/Service Connections: The City's PD and the County's CHE outreach team are already providing outreach and engagement to this site. The proposed ERF project will include funding for 1 FTE outreach worker who will be housed within the PD to engage and provide service connections for the residents. This person will work in partnership with the City's Victims Advocate Unit.

7. How will the applicant measure progress towards the proposal's outcomes? (1000-character limit)

Housing and service outcomes will be tracked using HMIS data. Clients will be entered into the Monterey/San Benito County HMIS system by the identified non-profit partner operating the proposed new interim housing and by the City's outreach workers. Monterey County also has a system administrator user license and will receive data exports for purposes of grant tracking and ERF program reporting. APR and CAPER reports will allow for understanding the longitudinal achievements of a person as they progress in a program and the combination of services that ultimately led to their housing outcomes. The PIT will determine if we achieve functional zero.

8. Are there any local ordinances, resources, or other factors that may hinder achieving the proposal's outcomes? If so, how will the applicant navigate these challenges? (1000- character limit)

There are no City or County ordinances or other factors that might hinder achieving the proposal's outcomes. The City is very pro-housing and has a number of new rental complexes in the pipeline that have inclusionary affordable units. The City's Police Department approaches homelessness from a services-based, non-enforcement-centric approach. The PD regularly visit the prioritized encampment and knows everyone by name. They have the trust of the residents and have helped in a variety of ways, even though they are not service providers. The primary challenge for this project, as with any project addressing homelessness, will be securing safe and affordable housing for the encampment residents.

9. Does this proposal fund a standalone project, or is the proposed project one component of a larger initiative?

Standalone Larger initiative

Centering People

10. Describe how the perspectives of people with lived experience of homelessness meaningfully contributed to the content of this proposal? How will people with lived experience be part of the implementation of this ERF project? If individuals living in the encampment site were included in the development of this proposal, describe how their input was obtained and how that input shaped the proposal. (1000-character limit)

Both the City and County are voting members of the Monterey/San Benito Continuum of Care and have adopted CoC's Lead Me Home Plan, which includes a commitment to involving people with lived experience in the design and implementation of the homelessness response system. The Soledad PD, Community Development, CalFire, and Public Works, and the County's outreach team have regularly visited this encampment to talk with the residents to learn what their needs are. In January 2024, a team of city staff (including the City Manager and the Housing Analyst) conducted a survey and talked to 26 of the estimated 40 residents in the encampment. All of them indicated that they would welcome help with securing interim and permanent housing. When asked about the type of shelter they would prefer, most indicated they wanted private, non-congregate settings. Some also indicated they needed help with employment, getting identification, health care, and behavioral health services.

11. Briefly describe how the proposal exemplifies Housing First approaches as defined in Welfare and Institutions Code section 8255. (1000-character limit)

The City and County are committed to Housing First Principles as defined by the State of California and by HUD. This project exemplifies Housing First approaches in that all the residents of the encampment are presumed to be "housing ready" and the proposed interim housing will not impose barriers to entry or to ongoing participation. Using ERF resources, the City will employ one FTE outreach worker and will also engage a service provider partner to operate and deliver services at the proposed interim housing. These services will be person-centered and trauma-informed, with a focus on doing whatever it takes to support residents to sustain their housing and not to exit back to homelessness. Encampment residents placed into housing who are Medi-Cal eligible may also receive ECM services through Cal AIM to help them sustain their housing.

12. Describe how each of the following service delivery practices are incorporated into the

outreach, interim shelter (if applicable), and permanent housing aspects of the proposed ERF project: (a) individual participant choice and (b) trauma informed care. (1000-character limit)

The City and County are committed to identifying and working with individual staff people and non-profit service provider partners that are experienced in the implementation of evidence-based practices, including individual participant choice and trauma-informed care. Providers must have a commitment to ensuring that encampment residents have a choice in what services they receive, and must utilize trauma-informed care standards, which ensure that clients are not required to participate in treatment services. Progress towards achieving goals will be measured at a pace that is comfortable for each client. Trauma Informed Care practice will engage individuals to acknowledge the role that trauma has played in their choices, self-concept, behavior, development, health, and well-being.

13. Describe how harm reduction principles will be incorporated into the outreach, interim housing (if applicable), and permanent housing aspects of this ERF project. (1000-character limit)

The City and County are committed to working in a harm reduction approach to deliver services and housing to encampment residents. The proposed new 12-unit interim housing project will employ harm reduction in resident screening and in ongoing operational policies and procedures. Harm reduction incorporates a spectrum of strategies that includes safer use, managed use, abstinence, meeting people who use drugs “where they are at,” and addressing conditions of use along with the use itself. Harm reduction is grounded in justice and human rights. It focuses on positive change and working with people without judgment, coercion, discrimination, or requiring that people stop using drugs as a precondition of support. Participants in the interim housing will not be required to maintain sobriety but are held to a set of behavioral standards that are grounded in considerations for the safety of the participant and other residents.

14. Describe the services that will be provided to improve people’s health, dignity, and safety while they continue to reside within the prioritized encampment site. (1000-character limit)

While the residents continue to live in the encampment, they will receive regular outreach and service connections from the County’s outreach program, the City’s Police Department, and the Rapid Rehousing agency. Once the ERF grant is executed, the City will hire an additional FTE outreach worker who will be able to focus more dedicated time and expertise in helping encampment residents with their daily needs (hygiene, etc.), connections to the health system, employment, etc. The City is also providing a dumpster so that residents can throw away their trash and will continue to do so.

15. Identify what controls are or will be in place to ensure that all ERF-3-R funded parties will not penalize homelessness. The term “penalize homelessness” means to impose, by a governmental unit, criminal or civil penalties on persons who are homeless in a manner that is related to those persons’ engagement in necessary human activities, including sleeping, resting, and eating. (1000-character limit)

Monterey County and the City of Soledad do not have any laws in place to penalize homelessness. However, some of this encampment is on privately owned property and the owners may request people move from the site sooner, although the landowners have been willing to work with both the City and County thus far. As it relates to this specific encampment, the City has responded to emergency situations (fires, floods, medical emergencies) as would be the case for any location where people are in need of assistance.

16. Describe how this proposal considers sanitation services for people residing in the prioritized encampment. This may include but is not limited to non-intrusive, curbside waste removal and access to clean and available bathrooms. (1000-character limit)

The encampment currently has a significant volume of trash, so the City is providing a dumpster which is regularly emptied. In 2023, the County worked with the City and the CoC to coordinate a trash and debris clean-up while allowing occupants to remain. The CoC used foundation funding to provide stipends to people with lived experience to clean-up their areas. This method proved to be fairly successful and may be used during the summer months to prepare for the rainy season.

Part 3: IMPLEMENTATION

Core Service Delivery and Housing Strategies

17. Describe the proposed outreach and engagement strategy, case management, and / or service coordination for people while they are continuing to reside within the encampment site. Quantify units of service to be delivered including the ratio of staff to people served, frequency of engagement, and length of service periods. (2000-character limit)

The City of Soledad Police Department is currently the primary provider of outreach to the encampment. They know each of the residents by name and have positive relationships with them. The PD is trained in trauma-informed care. The County's outreach team, operated by CSUMB, also has some contact with this encampment, though less regularly than the PD. The proposed ERF grant will significantly expand services to these residents, through:

- Addition of 1.0 FTE City outreach worker housed at the PD who will provide dedicated engagement and service connections at the encampment.
- Addition of 1.0 FTE Housing Navigator who will be connected to the proposed 12 unit interim housing project but will also support encampment residents who do not move to the interim housing and need help identifying a permanent housing pathway while living unsheltered.
- 4 Service Coordinators and a part-time peer support person will staff the 12 unit interim housing project.
- The interim housing will be operated by a service provider partner to be identified by the City of Soledad. The County will work with the City to help this provider become an ECM provider (if they are not already), which will allow them to leverage CalAIM resources.

City Community Development staff will serve as a liaison to the Housing Navigators and the housing pipeline/landlords.

18. Describe the role of Coordinated Entry in the context of this proposal and how Coordinated Entry policies or processes will support and / or hinder the implementation of this proposal. (1000-character limit)

Coordinated Entry is one of the tools the outreach workers, housing navigator, and interim housing services staff will utilize to connect encampment residents to housing. Participants in the ERF project will be entered into the Monterey County Coordinated Entry System. The CE system generally tend to have large backlogs of people waiting for a housing match and many are not prioritized due to their assessed level of vulnerability. The City and County is projecting only a small number of encampment residents will secure housing through CE. Another barrier to using CE is distance. The Soledad encampment is 27 miles away from the nearest site-based PSH project (in Salinas) and many residents in south county do not wish to re-locate to the central part of the county. If Homekey in King City gets resolved, that could be a potential placement for Soledad residents.

19. Describe each of the specific (a) interim housing and (b) permanent housing opportunities that will be used to achieve the proposed outcomes of this ERF project. Demonstrate that any ERF-3-R funded interim housing capacity is either non-congregate or clinically enhanced congregate shelter. (2000-character limit)

- Interim Housing – The City of Soledad will acquire 12 mobile homes/trailers to create a new interim housing facility on a City-owned property near the encampment and will identify a non-profit partner to operate the units and provide housing-focused case management and housing navigation to the residents. The ERF grant will also create a pool of flexible motel voucher funds that the City may use to assist some of the encampment residents during emergencies, inclement weather, or when units at the interim housing site are unavailable. All these interim housing options are non-congregate.
- Permanent Housing – 15% (about 6 people) of encampment residents will receive assistance to move directly from being unsheltered into housing and 60% (24 people) will move to interim housing and then to permanent housing. In total, 30 people (25 households) will secure housing, either with a homeless set aside voucher (leveraged housing resources) or through medium-term rental assistance funds.

20. Demonstrate the applicant's commitment and ability to deliver permanent housing solutions to the people residing in the prioritized encampment, including by providing examples of prior successful efforts to permanently house similarly situated individuals. (2000-character limit)

Monterey County has partnered with the City of Salinas on a number of similar projects. These have involved extensive outreach and engagement with encampment residents, support to help residents transition to temporary housing in Project Roomkey motels, and then transition to Project Homekey permanent housing. About 50% of those served have moved into permanent housing. Monterey County is also currently partnering with Santa Cruz County and the City of Watsonville to implement an ERF-2 project to create new modular non-congregate shelter and pathways to permanent housing for residents of a large encampment in Pajaro, a small community on the border between Monterey and Santa Cruz that was devastated in a March 2023 flooding event that displaced the encampment residents before the grant funds were even awarded. The County stood up an emergency response, engaged our partners, and located temporary housing for 600 residents of the town of Pajaro, in addition to providing services and support to the encampment residents who continue to be displaced and are awaiting the opening of the facility in Watsonville. The County coordinated outreach efforts during the disaster with the local Continuum of Care, including homeless shelters, non-profit developers, rapid re-housing agencies, and the Housing Authority. 30 households obtained Emergency Housing Vouchers among other vouchers they were eligible for. The County of Monterey's Board of Supervisors has adopted the Lead Me Home 5 Year Plan to Reduce Homelessness by 50% - demonstrating their commitment to address unsheltered homelessness.

21. Describe how this proposal is tailored to meet the needs and preferences of people residing within the prioritized encampment. (1500-character limit)

The City of Soledad PD and other City staff, as well as countywide outreach teams, have conducted extensive outreach with encampment residents to gain their trust by authentically listening and meeting people where they are. During these visits, staff have asked residents what they need and want in the next step in their lives. Virtually all the residents indicated they would like to move forward with housing, especially if it affords them some privacy and they are able to bring their partners, pets, and belongings. Some occupants have mentioned their ability to reunite with family members. The proposed ERF project will meet this need by offering 12 units of new non-congregate interim housing in mobile homes/trailers and also motel vouchers. Residents will also be assisted to identify housing solutions, either directly from the encampment or while they are in the interim housing.

Throughout the project, participants will be afforded many opportunities to voice their concerns and make recommendations for improvement. The City's selected operator/service provider for the interim housing will be expected to offer frequent opportunities for feedback to further engender engagement with program participants. Participants will be able to offer input through case management sessions, satisfaction surveys, and exit interviews.

Where applicable, identify the people, data, evidence, and / or other sources of information that was relied upon for this proposal.

Table 1: Projected Living Situations Immediately Following the Encampment

For people served who exit the encampment, what are the projected Living Situations Immediately Following the Encampment, including but not limited to, permanent housing, interim sheltering, and unsheltered?

Please provide responses in the table below. Add a row for each projected living situation. (250-character limit for each cell)

Briefly Describe Each Projected Living Situation Immediately Following the Encampment	Is This Permanent Housing?	Quantify the Capacity (e.g., number of beds/units, frequency of bed/unit availability)	Prioritized or Set-Aside for ERF-3-R?	Is this living situation funded by ERF-3-R and / or Leveraged Funds?	% of Served Persons Projected to Fall Within This Living Situation
New 12 unit non-congregate IH project.	N Yes/No	12 beds (16 people over grant term)	Set Aside Pri/Set-Aside/Neither	ERF ERF/Lev/Both	40 %
Motel vouchers	N Yes/No	10 beds	Set aside Pri/Set-Aside/Neither	ERF ERF/Lev/Both	25 %
Directly to housing	Y Yes/No	6 people	Neither Pri/Set-Aside/Neither	Both ERF/Lev/Both	15 %
Unsheltered locations	N Yes/No	8	Neither Pri/Set-Aside/Neither	NA ERF/Lev/Both	20 %

Table 2: Permanent Housing Opportunities

A permanent housing opportunity is a combination of project and/or service provided to an individual with the goal of helping the individual obtain permanent housing. Of course, applicants cannot and do not need to provide every possible scenario; Cal ICH is looking to understand the primary, expected permanent housing opportunities for people projected to be served by this proposal.

Please provide responses in the table below. Add a row for each projected opportunity. (250-character limit for each cell)

Describe the Permanent Housing Opportunity	Prioritized or Set-Aside for ERF-3-R?	Quantify the Capacity of the Housing and Service Opportunity	Is this Housing Opportunity Funded by ERF-3-R and / or Leveraged Funds?
Emergency Housing Vouchers	Prioritized Pri/Set-Aside/Neither	5 units	Leveraged ERF/Lev/Both
Rapid Re Housing (Market Rate Housing)	Set Aside Pri/Set-Aside/Neither	20 Units	ERF ERF/Lev/Both

	Aside/Neither		ERF/Lev/Both
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	Pri/Set- Aside/Neither		ERF/Lev/Both

22. Describe strategies the applicant will use to ensure that people are not displaced from the prioritized encampment into another unsheltered location. Include strategies that are in addition to/complement the interim shelter and permanent housing opportunities that are part of this proposal. (1000-character limit)

Ensuring people in the prioritized encampment do not move to another unsheltered location in the city of Soledad or elsewhere in south county will be challenging. However, the City and County does not intend to force anyone to move and will instead rely on outreach and engagement to build rapport with residents and support them to move directly to interim and permanent housing. The City's goal is that everyone will remain in the current location and receive support from outreach workers and housing navigators until they are able to avail themselves of either interim housing or permanent housing.

23. Describe specific strategies and/or services the applicant will use to prevent returns to unsheltered homelessness among people from the prioritized encampment who are sheltered and housed through this ERF project. Include whether these strategies will be funded with ERF-3-R funds and, if not, what other resources will be leveraged. (1000-character limit)

The City intends to select a provider partner to operate the new interim housing project that is experienced in delivering person-centered and trauma-informed services to help participants sustain their housing and avoid exits back to homelessness. Participants will be encouraged to develop individualized Housing Stability Plans and support access to health, behavioral health, employment or other services they need for ongoing stability. Once participants have moved to permanent housing, either the City's outreach workers or interim housing provider will ensure they are connected to the support they need to sustain housing. Those who are Medi-Cal eligible will be able to receive ECM services to support housing stability.

24. Describe how this proposal considers and plans for the dynamic nature of encampments including potential inflow of people into the geographically served areas. (1000-character limit)

The City is not anticipating that there will be any significant further inflow into this site once the ERF project launches. The City will provide City IDs to identify which occupants are to be served from this project. If any new residents take up occupancy, the City will endeavor to extend outreach services to help connect them to needed services and identify alternative places they can go. If no other places are identified, and if capacity permits, new occupants may be enrolled for services through the duration of the ERF program.

25. Describe how participants in this ERF project will be supported with continued access to, and storage of, their personal property while in the encampment, in interim housing (if applicable), and in permanent housing. (1000-character limit)

The County will work with the City to provide POD storage onsite at the interim housing location to reduce barriers to entry. The storage will be locked to protect the belongings of individuals and will be made accessible by the identified service provider. This particular encampment has excessive amounts of trash and debris and City outreach workers will compassionately work with the occupants to determine what occupants would like to dispose of and what they deem necessary to keep. Personal storage containers may be offered to encampment occupants to safely transition their items to their new interim or permanent housing location.

26. Describe how participants in this ERF project who have service animals and/or pets will be supported while in the encampment, in interim shelter (if applicable), and in permanent housing. (1000-character limit)

The most recent survey of encampment residents found that only 7 of the 40 residents have pets and only 5 of these are large dogs. This means that pets will not be a barrier for the vast majority of residents. The interim housing project will allow for pets of all sizes, assuming the pets aren't aggressive. The ERF project includes funding for pet care, which includes food, flea remediation, and other pet-specific services. For the few that have large dogs, the strategy will be to help them secure permanent housing in pet-friendly buildings directly from the encampment, rather than trying to bring their dogs into interim housing. The County will work with clinicians to determine if pets can be certified as therapeutic pets where appropriate.

Budget and Resource Plan

27. State the total amount of ERF-3-R funds requested.

\$4,726,963.50

\$

28. State the estimated dollar value of secured, non-ERF-3-R resources that will help meet this proposal's outcomes.

\$1,354,848.55

\$

29. Identify and describe each leveraged non-ERF-3-R resource and how that specific resource will be used to help meet the proposal's outcomes, including the permanent housing outcomes. (1000-character limit)

This proposal leverages more than \$1.1 million in resources, including:

- \$ 222,561 cost savings for administrative personnel costs, to be paid for by City of Soledad and County of Monterey.
- \$ 270,000 costs savings from the use of City-owned property for the proposed 12-unit non-congregate IH project.
- \$ 330,000 CalAIM/ECM funding
- \$ 335,400 Homeless Set-Aside Vouchers

Applicants are directed to provide a detailed description of other fund sources, and system capacity, that will be leveraged to achieve the outcomes proposed for the ERF-3-R funded project (especially as it

relates to meeting this proposal's permanent housing outcomes) and, if applicable, to sustain the new programming beyond the end of the grant term.

This includes prior ERF awards, HUD unsheltered NOFO, and other federal, state, and local funding sources.

Applications will be evaluated with the understanding that communities vary significantly with respect to the current availability of other fund sources that can be used as leverage for their proposed projects and to sustain the projects beyond the grant term.

In the absence of currently available resources, Applicants are encouraged to provide a specific plan for obtaining the funding necessary to sustain their project beyond the grant term if the project is intended to continue.

30. Describe how the proposal is a prudent and effective use of requested funding relative to the number of people it seeks to serve, the types of services and housing to be provided, and any benefits to the community's efforts to address homelessness that will extend beyond the grant term, including ongoing expansion of interim and permanent housing capacity. Include an explanation of how the requested ERF-3-R amount was determined. (1000- character limit)

This proposal is highly cost effective in that the total ERF request is only \$4,726,963.50 for 40 encampment residents (\$118,174/person). As a result of this investment, the State of California will be supporting the resolution of the only large encampment in the City of Soledad (currently the largest in South Monterey County) and assist most of the residents to secure interim and/or permanent housing. The requested funds will also create an expansion of non-congregate interim housing in the community that may extend beyond the grant term. There are no other options for people experiencing homelessness in Soledad, and the ERF will build a full-service continuum. Additionally, the City will save money due to the extensive service calls that require PD and Fire to respond on daily basis.

The ERF 3 budget was determined by costing out each individual line item (see budget notes) and identifying leveraged funding sources wherever possible.

Attachment: Standardized Budget

FINAL Soledad ERF 3 Budget 01_30_2024.xlsx

Applicants must use the [ERF-3-R Budget Template](#) available on [box.com](#)

Key Entities and Staff

31. First, describe the implementing organization and specific unit or office within the

implementing organization that would administer ERF-3-R. Then, describe their role and primary responsibilities for this proposal. Finally, if these entities have managed a complex homelessness project or grant, describe how those experiences informed this proposal. (1500-character limit)

The implementing organization for this grant is the Monterey County Homeless Services Unit, within the County Administrative Office, Office of Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs. This is a relatively new unit created in 2022 to coordinate work to reduce homelessness that is spread across several departments, including Social Services, Health, and Housing and Community Development. All of these Departments have experience managing complex homelessness projects including Project Roomkey, SHARE Center (Navigation Center), HDAP, Family Stabilization Program, and the Housing Support Program. For this ERF project, Monterey County’s role will be to receive and administer the funding from Cal-ICH, prepare required reports, and serve as the overall coordinator of the work of the different partners.

Table 3: Key Staff

Identify all staff positions (e.g. administrative, programmatic, development etc.) which are integral to this ERF project and to achieving the proposal’s outcomes. For each position include the title, whether the position is filled or vacant, the approximate fulltime equivalent (FTE) of the position dedicated to the ERF project, whether the position is funded through ERF-3-R and/or Leveraged (i.e.non-ER-3-R) funds, and a brief description of the duties. Please provide responses in Table 3 below.

Title	Currently Filled Position?	FTE of Staffing for This Proposal	Funded by ERF-3-R and / or Leveraged Funds?	Brief Description of Duties
County Homeless Services Director	Y Yes/No	0.10 # FTE	Lev ERF/Lev/Both	Lead Project Manager
Homeless Services Management Analyst	Y Yes/No	0.20 # FTE	Lev ERF/Lev/Both	Contract Management and Grant Administration
Chief of Police	Y Yes/No	0.20 # FTE	Lev ERF/Lev/Both	Oversee Outreach and Encampment Engagement; Serve as Liaison to Businesses; Support Safety in Interim Housing
City Manager	Y Yes/No	0.05 # FTE	Lev ERF/Lev/Both	Oversee ERF Implementation Support of all City Departments and Support of Interim Housing

Housing Analyst	Y Yes/No	0.15 # FTE	Lev ERF/Lev/Both	Coordinate Housing Pipeline and Assist Housing Navigator; Assist County in Monitoring Outcomes
Code Enforcement/Animal Control	Y Yes/No	0.10 # FTE	Lev ERF/Lev/Both	Coordinate Encampment Clean Up Efforts and Animal Services; Assist with Emergency Services and Basic Needs Assistance
Victims Advocate	Y Yes/No	0.15 # FTE	Lev ERF/Lev/Both	Assist Street Outreach Worker with Case Management and Secure Additional Resources for Encampment Residents
Battalion Chief	Y Yes/No	0.05 # FTE	Lev ERF/Lev/Both	Oversee the Provision of Emergency and EMT Services; Conduct Emergency Training to Keep Encampment Residents Safe

32. First, describe key partners that will be responsible for implementing this ERF project and achieving the proposal's outcomes (e.g. service providers, public agencies, development entities etc.). Then, describe their role and primary responsibilities for this proposal. Finally, if these entities have managed a complex homelessness project or grant, describe how those experiences informed this proposal. (1500-character limit)

The key partners for this project are:

- City of Soledad: The City's Community and Economic Development Department (CED) (housing, permitting, planning), will coordinate the development of the 12-unit non-congregate interim housing project and procurement of an operator/service provider. The City will also hire, train and supervise 1 FTE outreach worker who will expand the services currently provided by the Police Department. The CED has strong experience in oversight of development projects and operates a number of different housing programs and housing development projects to address community needs. The City works with residents, developers, stakeholders, and non-profit organizations to preserve affordable and accessible rental and ownership housing opportunities for diverse income levels to help boost economic activity in the community.
- Non-profit operator and service provider for non-congregate interim housing: The City will identify an experienced service provider to operate the new interim housing project.

33. Describe specific examples of how Local Jurisdiction(s) and the CoC have collaborated on the design and implementation of this proposal. (1000-character limit)

The City of Soledad and County of Monterey have held regular coordination meetings with the Coalition of Homeless Services Providers (the CoC lead agency), countywide outreach teams and other direct service providers that understand the needs of the population intended to be served by this project and develop strategies to assist them. These high-level meetings provided the space and opportunity to foresee and overcome complications that may arise as the ERF project application develops. To develop this application, the City and County have been holding strategy meetings/brainstorming sessions since the fall of 2023. Monterey County also participated in the CoC's development of the local Emergency Shelter Standards, which will be incorporated into the City's contract with the selected operator/provider for the new non-congregate interim housing.

Applicants may upload evidence of cross-jurisdictional collaboration such as MOUs, letters of support, or interagency agreements etc. in the field immediately below.

Optional Upload: Evidence of Cross-Jurisdictional Collaboration

Encampment Resolution Funding - Soledad Letter of Support.pdf

34. Identify any entities that have a right to and/or control of the property upon which the encampment site resides. Describe how applicant has engaged with these entities and confirm that each of these entities has committed to allowing the implementation of this proposal. (1000-character limit)

This encampment spans over private and public lands in the jurisdictions of the City of Soledad and the County of Monterey. Each year, the County partners with the City and private property owners to coordinate trash and debris clean-ups while allowing people to remain in the encampment. Private property owners have historically provided Right-of-Entry forms to allow for government officials and non-profits to provide trash and debris removal. Both jurisdictions will follow this process to ensure all occupants are offered the opportunity to participate in this program, while maintaining meaningful relationships with property owners.

Accelerated Timeline

35. How is your community currently supporting and / or engaging with people residing within the prioritized encampment? (1000-character limit)

As previously noted, there is ongoing outreach and engagement, as well as crisis response, taking place at the prioritized encampment. The City is also providing a dumpster and regular trash removal and coordinates annual trash and debris clean-ups with the County.

The County hosted a community engagement session per HHAP requirements in the City of Soledad, and many people experiencing homelessness attended. Through this engagement, occupants voiced their desire for more services and pathways to permanent housing. Many people were severely impacted by the January storms (Federally Declared Disaster #4683) and lost all of their belongings due to the rise of the Salinas River. The County deployed the CHE outreach team to engage with encampment occupants and register them for FEMA benefits.

36. If this proposal is selected, in advance of receiving funding, what steps will your community take to support the people living in the encampment and swift implementation of this proposal? (1000-character limit)

If this proposal is funded, all of the above-mentioned activities will continue. The City of Soledad will move swiftly to begin hiring the one (1) FTE outreach workers, which will allow for stepped-up engagement as well as housing and service connections. The City will also move to procure a provider/operator for the proposed new interim housing; this contract will include a Housing Navigator that can work with residents while they are still living in the encampment.

Table 4: Project Timeline

Cal ICH should be able to use the project timeline to understand the general parameters of the project and how it will be implemented.

This Standardized Project Timeline Template will not perfectly capture every nuance - that's Ok. However, applicants are strongly encouraged to provide incremental milestones for achieving the interim shelter and permanent housing goals set out in the proposal. For projects that include interim shelter and/or permanent housing development, the timeline should include major development milestones.

Where there is ambiguity, conflict, or silence, use your judgment.

Date	Milestone	Category	Additional Detail for Milestone
4/1/2024	ERF award announcement	Project Management	Per RFP
6/1/2024	Begin soliciting bids for the non-congregate housing units (mobile homes)	Place	
6/1/2024	Begin process to select interim housing operator/provider; begin hiring for City outreach workers.	People	
7/1/2024	ERF disbursement begins	Project Management	Assumes 3 months from award
8/1/2024	Award non-congregate housing contracts (for unit development and operator)	Place	
8/1/2024	Outreach workers hired	People	Enhanced outreach to encampment begins

8/30/2024	Begin IH site development;	Place	
9/30/2023	Residents begin moving to PH or IH (with motel vouchers)	People	
11/30/2024	Non congregate IH is ready for occupancy	Place	
12/1/2024	Residents begin moving into non-congregate IH	People	
6/30/2027	All encampments residents have moved to IH or PH		

Table 5: Projected Milestones

Answer the following questions in relationship to January 31, 2024. Cal ICH assumes disbursement will occur approximately 3-6 months after January 31, 2024.

Please provide responses in the table below including the month and year. (15-character limit for each cell)

Outreach to the people residing in the prioritized encampment site began / will begin mm/yyyy.	This proposal will reach full operating capacity in mm/yyyy.	The first planned exit of a person or household from the prioritized encampment will occur in mm/yyyy.	The last planned exit of a person or household from the prioritized encampment will occur in mm/yyyy.
August 2024	December 2025	September 2024	December 2025

CERTIFICATION

Before certifying, applicants are strongly encouraged to review the NOFA.

I certify that all information included in this Application is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

Name

Roxanne	Wilson
First	Last

This does not have to be an authorized representative or signatory.

Title

Homeless Services Director

Email

wilsonr@co.monterey.ca.us

	ELIGIBLE USE CATEGORY			ERF-3-R PROPOSED BUDGET			LEVERAGED FISCAL SUPPORT		
	~5 WORD DESCRIPTION	NAME OF ENTITY OR PART OF PROPOSAL	SALARY	FTE	MONTHS	ERF-3-R Funds	That WILL be Used to Support this Proposal	~2 SENTENCE DESCRIPTION	
<i>Guidance and Intended Use</i>	<i>Use drop-downs. See NOFA, III. A.</i>	<i>Enables Cal ICH to immediately understand the line item.</i>				<i>Only ERF-3-R Funds</i>	<i>Non-ERF-3-R Funds That WILL be Used to Support this Proposal</i>	<i>Enables Cal ICH to better understand the line item, context, and / or pertinent information related to the proposed line item.</i>	
PERSONNEL COSTS									
Outreach Workers	Street Outreach	City to hire 1 FTE	8,459.00	1.00	24	203,016.00	36,452.40		
Housing Navigator	Rapid Rehousing	Housing navigator	4,500.00	1.00	36	162,000.00		The Housing Navigator will maintain a caseload of 20-25 participants enrolled in Soledad's Housing Navigation program, primarily providing ICMS with a business reconnection focus.	
Service Coordinator	Interim Sheltering	Full time case manager for IH participants	4,500.00	5.00	24	540,000.00		The Service Coordinator will support the Interim Housing participants to ensure that they maintain their designated unit and work on housing preparedness, in conjunction with other important client-centered goals.	
On-site Peer Support	Interim Sheltering	Contracted resident to support services & ops	2,773.33	0.50	24	33,280.00		Stipend employee is a resident who participates in Step Up's Monterey County Workforce development program designed to support vocational rehabilitation, work preparedness and income security. The Workforce Program serves as a bridge to community employment and also meets the properties needs for groundskeeping and porter duties.	
Management Analyst II Housing Analyst	Systems Support	Grant Management, Contracts, etc.	180,000.00	0.25	3		135,000.00	Leverage for admin support of grant	
	Systems Support	Housing Coordination and Referrals	149,467.00	0.15	3		67,260.15		
Program Management	Administrative Costs	Assistant Director & Supervisor	8,333.33	0.50	24	100,000.00		Assistant Director and Director will provide a mix on on-site and off-site support for the project and staff, includes staff supervision, budget management, and program oversight.	
Subtotal - Personnel Costs						\$ 1,038,296.00	\$ 232,712.55		
NON-PERSONNEL COSTS									
			UNIT	RATE	TIME				
HMIS Coordinated Entry/ CoC Capacity Building		36 months x 8,000	1.00	2600	36	93,600.00		Costs that support HMIS, Coordinated Entry, Custom Reporting, Trainings, a	
Site Rent			1.00	7500	36		270,000.00	Costs for City-owned property	
Motel Vouchers	Interim Sheltering	Motel rooms	10.00	150.00	133	199,500.00			
Modular shelter units - development costs.	Interim Sheltering	12 units	12	75000	1	900,000.00	135,000.00	Leverage: City waived indirect	
Mobile homes. That have bathrooms and showers	Interim Sheltering	12 units	1	200000	1	200,000.00	30,000.00	Leverage: City waived indirect	
Site development (bookups, utilities, gravel)	Interim Sheltering	12 units	1	30000	1	30,000.00	4,500.00	Leverage: City waived indirect	
Pet Area	Interim Sheltering	12 units	1	125000	1	125,000.00			
Office for services - modular	Interim Sheltering	12 units	1	100000	1	100,000.00			
Community space (outdoor tables, patio	Interim Sheltering	14 units	1	50000	1	50,000.00			
Paving, grading, etc.	Interim Sheltering	14 units	1	100000	1	100,000.00			
Shower and bathroom trailer	Street Outreach	Nutrition and food security	40	100	12	48,000.00	7,200.00	40 clients x \$100/month x 12 months - May include gift cards to local grocery stores, restaurants, or warm meals.	
Food	Interim Sheltering	Nutrition and food security	22	200	24	105,600.00		\$200/month for Interim Shelter client per month for 2 years. Allocations for food to support clients with proper nutrition and food security. Funds may also be allocated to grocery shopping and community events. These funds can also be used to purchase microwavable safe food, containers and tubware.	
Pet Support	Interim Sheltering	Vehicle	7	75	24	12,600.00		Pet support includes vaccinations, food, spay/neuter, flea remediation, registration, etc.	
Transportation	Street Outreach	Vehicle	1	60000	1	60,000.00		Vehicle for Outreach	
Transportation	Street Outreach	Transportation for participants	40	38	12	18,240.00	2,736.00	Allocations for bus passes, uber/lyft tickets, gas cards to support transportation to appointments and the City of Salinas. May also be used for gas cards for independent drivers, car registration, etikes, etc.	
Transportation	Interim Sheltering	Transportation for participants	30	38	24	27,360.00		Allocations for bus passes, uber/lyft tickets, gas cards to support transportation to appointments and the City of Salinas. May also be used for gas cards for independent drivers, car registration, etikes, etc.	
Other Direct Financial Assistance	Street Outreach	Costs pertaining to client goals	40	100	2	8,000.00	1,200.00	Client costs that support individualize and documented service goals. These may include fingerprints to support vocational onboarding, application fees for housing, ESA registration accommodations to support comfortable living and housing readiness.	
Client supplies: Hygiene Kits, blankets, supportive cleaning	Interim Sheltering	Supportive hygiene and housekeeping	30	200	2	12,000.00		Hygiene Kits, appliances to support proactive housekeeping and overall hygiene, mitigate illness. Also, funds to purchase and disseminate feminine products. (\$200/client x 2 years)	
Client supplies: Hygiene Kits, blankets, sunnortive cleanine	Street Outreach	Supportive hygiene and housekeeping	40	100	1	4,000.00	600.00	Hygiene Kits to help mitigate illness while living outdoors. Blankets enhance current living situation.	
Landlord Mitigation Costs	Interim Sheltering	Costs to reduce maintenance burden on landlords.	6	3000	1	18,000.00		Costs that support property management and landlords with maintenance issues. May include window repair, soundproofing, carpet cleaning, appliance purchase and lease enforcement mitigation.	
Storage	Interim Sheltering		2	350	34	23,800.00		Storage Unit for interim shelter site: 2 units x34 months x \$350/month	
Equipment	Street Outreach	Equipment for staff to support job delivery	1	500	2		1,000.00	Includes staff computers and machines/devices that support overall job functionality for staff. Leveraged by the City.	
Equipment	Interim Sheltering	Equipment for staff to support job delivery	2	500	1	1,000.00		Includes staff computers and machines/devices that support overall job functionality for staff	
Printing and Office Supplies	Street Outreach	Office supplies for staff and office spaces	1	200	12		2,400.00	For outreach staff, funds will be used to purchase notebooks, pens, etc. Also, can be used to cover printing fees and local establishments like Fed Ex, UPS, etc. while working with client documentation. \$200/month x 12 months (City will pay for office supplies)	
Printing and Office Supplies	Interim Sheltering	Office supplies for staff and office spaces	1	300	24	7,200.00		These costs can support individual office supplies, but also can facilitate the purchase of supplies that are shared, copy machines, paper, file cabinets, etc.	
Telephone and Internet	Street Outreach	Cellphones for staff, hotspots	1	150	12		1,800.00	Monthly payment for staff cellphones and hotspots. Also, can be allocated towards internet upgrades. City will cover this.	
Telephone and Internet	Interim Sheltering	Cellphones for staff, hotspots	2	300	24	14,400.00		Monthly payment for staff cellphones and hotspots. Also, can be allocated towards internet upgrades.	
Professional Services	Street Outreach	Electronic Health Records and Development, HMIS	2	500	2	2,000.00	300.00	HMIS licenses and Step Up internal database costs. Additionally, costs for clinical development and staff supervision with internal development department.	
Contingencies	Interim Sheltering	Electronic Health Records and Development, HMIS	1			100,000.00		Costs that support unexpected expenses.	
Professional Services	Interim Sheltering	Electronic Health Records and Development, HMIS	1	500	2	1,000.00		HMIS licenses and Step Up internal database costs. Additionally, costs for clinical development and staff supervision with internal development department.	
Indirect Costs (10 %)	Interim Sheltering	All indirect costs factored in here	30.00	50	4	359,874.00		Indirect costs that support other department functioning.	
Participant Incentives	Interim Sheltering		30.00	50	4	6,000.00		\$50 incentives for 30 people x 4 in total	
Interim Housing Property Management, Security, etc.	Interim Sheltering		1.00	25000	24	600,000.00			
Medium term rental assistance, landlord inc.	Rapid Rehousing	Rental assistance to help people transition to housing (20 households x 12 months)	20.00	2750	12	330,000.00	330,000.00	CalAIM leverage, assuming some households qualify for vouchers	
Housing vouchers (leveraged)	Delivery of Permanent Housing		5.00	2236	30		335,400.00	Homeless Set-Aside Vouchers (5 x 2236/month x 30 months)	
Subtotal - Non-Personnel Costs						\$ 3,463,574.00	\$ 1,122,136.00		
ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS									
Subtotal - Administrative Costs						\$ 225,093.50	\$ -		
TOTAL BUDGET						\$ 4,726,963.50	\$ 1,354,848.55		

January 30th, 2024

To: California Business, Consumer Services, and Housing Agency

Subject: County of Monterey, Soledad Salinas Riverbed Encampment Resolution Funding Letter of Support

To Whom It May Concern,

Caltrans District 5 is supportive of and committed to the County of Monterey for their proposal of the Encampment Resolution Funding request for the Salinas Riverbed area of Soledad. The County of Monterey, City of Soledad, and partnering agencies have been providing services such as: outreach services, emergency shelter referral, connection to case management, mental health and substance abuse treatment, and mobile health care services along Hwy 101 and the Salinas Riverbed for the last 2 years. They are committed to the region and have shown their willingness to partner to improve the accessibility of those most in need by providing housing and other resources.

The County of Monterey and its partners plan to relocate unhoused individuals from the Salinas Riverbed encampments into interim shelter and eventual permanent housing. The County of Monterey has demonstrated their ability to manage encampments and their impact effectively and humanely within our community. The proposed outreach team and the interim shelter are essential in helping unhoused Soledad residents connect with the case management needed for them to get on a pathway to stable housing. Their collaboration in previous trash and debris clean-ups have demonstrated their ability to provide much needed support to this population and the ERF project proposal significantly increases services needed to permanently resolve this encampment.

Outreach and Housing Navigation:

- Provide targeted case management, outreach, and housing navigation to at least 40 persons, including parents and children, experiencing homelessness in the target area.
- Connect said individuals to existing services and remove barriers to service.

Interim and Permanent Housing:

- Establish interim shelter in a service desert.
- Motel vouchers to support individuals with special needs or during times of emergency and/or inclement weather.
- Rental assistance program to help individuals and families formerly living in the encampments and now entering permanent housing.

These services and eventual housing, will greatly reduce the human safety hazards and environmental degradation that encampments pose along Hwy 101 and the Salinas Riverbed, such as:

- Emergency Accessibility: EMS, Fire, and Police Departments are unable to access several areas along Highway 101 during emergencies due to inaccessible locations.
- Fire Danger: much of the targeted area is subject to seasonal closure due to high fire risk. Warming and cooking fires can easily escape and pose grave danger to the encampment inhabitants, the greater open space areas, and highway infrastructure.
- Flooding: quick rising water levels in riverbed areas during storm events exacerbated by encampment debris. Flooding during severe weather has occurred along this stretch of highway in 2023, resulting in freeway closures.
- Environmental Impact: there are serious environmental concerns as the encampments are located along the Salinas Riverbed. Encampment-related pollution and debris has entered the river.

We are eager to be part of the County of Monterey's partnership so we can strengthen and expand the resources to connect homeless with new opportunities in the community.

Sincerely,



Sara von Schwind
Deputy District Director, Caltrans District
5 sara.von.schwind@dot.ca.gov (805)
549-3281


ERF Support Letter County of Monterey Soledad


Final Audit Report


2024-01-30


Created:	2024-01-30
By:	Carolyn Norris (s153260@dot.ca.gov)
Status:	Signed
Transaction ID:	CBJCHBCAABAACcPmidK5ttw26pNCnArAdpHJizOjvOY1


"ERF Support Letter County of Monterey - Soledad" History

 Document created by Carolyn Norris (s153260@dot.ca.gov)
2024-01-30 - 3:02:29 PM GMT

 Document emailed to Sara von Schwind (sara.von.schwind@dot.ca.gov) for signature 2024-01-30
- 3:03:04 PM GMT

 Email viewed by Sara von Schwind (sara.von.schwind@dot.ca.gov)
2024-01-30 - 3:54:23 PM GMT

 Document e-signed by Sara von Schwind (sara.von.schwind@dot.ca.gov)
Signature Date: 2024-01-30 - 3:55:24 PM GMT - Time Source: server

 Agreement completed.
2024-01-30 - 3:55:24 PM GMT



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January 29, 2024

Roxanne Wilson
Monterey County Homeless Services Director
County Administrative Office
168 W. Alisal Street, 3rd Floor, Salinas, CA 93901

**RE: Support for Encampment Resolution Fund Round 3R - Soledad/Salinas
Riverbed Encampment**

Dear Roxanne,

The City of Soledad is strongly supportive of the County of Monterey's proposal to the State of California Interagency Council on Homelessness (CA-ICH) for the Encampment Resolution Funding Program Round 3R (ERF-3R) to address the Soledad/Salinas Riverbed Encampment. For several years, Soledad has been struggling to both support encampment residents and mitigate the negative impacts, but as a small, disadvantaged rural city we have lacked the resources to make any tangible improvement. We are grateful for the County's leadership in applying for an ERF and partnering with Soledad to bring significant resources to reach functional zero homelessness in our jurisdiction.

The existing encampment spans the unincorporated County and City and is on private and public property. Almost daily, Soledad Police and Cal Fire are having to respond to calls about the encampment. As a result, the City has often been tasked with working with the encampment residents to keep the area clean and to ensure that the adjacent businesses are not impacted. Soledad's two primary shopping centers are also adjacent to the encampment and have experienced a rise in loitering, trash, vandalism, and theft. One of these shopping centers has not been fully developed and sadly, the adjacent encampment is dampening business interest and impacting build out of the property.

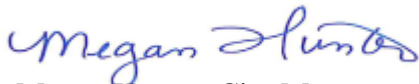
Moreover, the encampment is largely located in the riverbed and at high risk of being flooded. The encampment inhabitants are in a very dangerous situation and stand to lose their belongings or even worse be injured or killed if flood waters rise. The activity of the inhabitants continues to degrade the surrounding riparian environment with abandoned vehicles, trash, fuel, and human waste. This could jam up the river and cause further damage to the levees up and downstream. Finally, these inhabitants have dug underneath the Caltrans underpass and started fires that jeopardize the integrity of the Highway 101 bridge. If the bridge were forced to close due to repairs, it could have a devastating impact on Soledad and Monterey County.

As detailed above, maintaining the status quo is unsustainable. An ERF grant provides the best opportunity to address this encampment and mitigate the impacts on our community. The proposal is actionable and person-centered, providing critical services for the encampment residents in an area considered a “service desert”. The program will address the safety and wellness of encampment residents, resolve critical encampment concerns, and transition individuals into interim shelter with clear pathways to permanent housing and in some instances directly place individual into permanent housing.

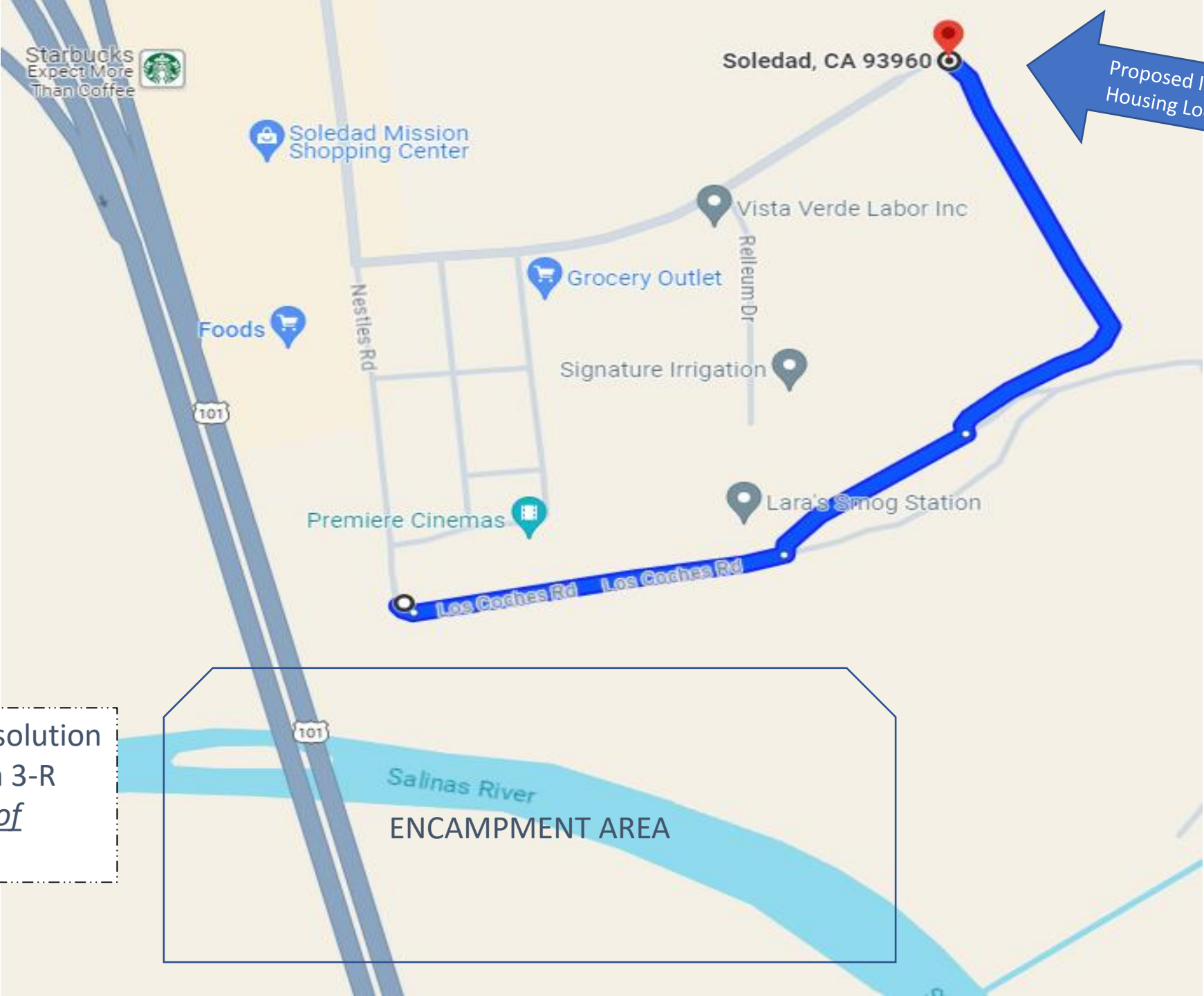
The City is fortunate to have both elected leaders and staff willing to support this effort. On January 17, 2024, our City Council voted unanimously to become a partner on the application and allow the use of nearly 7-acre city owned property at 990 Los Coches Road for interim housing. As outlined in the application, the City is also willing to commit senior level staff (City Manager, Chief of Police, and Housing Analyst) to guide implementation, continued outreach assistance through public safety and Public Works, and assistance securing permanent housing units. The City has multiple housing units in its pipeline including four affordable units in an apartment complex, which should be completed within the next two months.

We enthusiastically support this proposal and appreciate the County’s willingness to take the lead on the application. As a small, disadvantaged community, it would have been difficult for us to apply and manage such a large grant. However, through this partnership, we can work together to ensure the success of this proposal and achieve functional zero homelessness.

Sincerely,



Megan Hunter, City Manager



Proposed Interim
Housing Location

Encampment Resolution
Funding Program 3-R
Soledad/County of
Monterey

ENCAMPMENT AREA

990 Los Coches Rd



City Owned Property

APN: 022-291-010-000 Parcel

Size-Acres: 6.94

ATTACHMENT 1

Legend

-  Property of City of Soledad
-  Property Line

 Property of City of Soledad

