

### **ERF-3-R, Application**

### Part 1 (A): ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

### **Application Window**

O Window #1, 11/3/2023 - 1/31/2024

Window #2, 2/1/2024 - 4/30/2024

O 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.

O CoC ⊙ City O County

What is the name of the city or county?

City of San Jose

### 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)

City of San Jose

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

94-6000419

**Tax ID Form** 

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: <u>Taxpayer ID Form (ca.gov)</u>

STD 204: STD 204 - Payee Data Record (ca.gov)

### Who is the best contact person for this contract?

| Primary Contact  |   |
|--|---|
| Kelly  | Hemphill  |
| First  | Last  |
| This contact will receive ALL grant related correspondice hours, information requests, reporting, etc.)                            | ondence (inclusive of application, award, contract, |
| Job title  |   |
| Division Manager   |   |
| job title  |   |
| Email  | Phone   |
| kelly.hemphill@sanjoseca.gov   | (831) 359-0416                                      |
| This contact will receive ALL grant related corresponding application, award, contract, office hours, information reporting, etc.) |   |
| Secondary Contact Ryan   | Sanders   |
| First  | Last  |
| Job title  |   |
| Senior Development Officer   |   |
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| Email  | Phone   |
| ryan.sanders@sanjoseca.gov   | (831) 315-5951                                      |
| This contact will receive ALL grant related corresponding application, award, contract, office hours, information reporting, etc.) | ondence (inclusive                                  |
| Contact Person for Reporting   |   |
| Nosheen  | Hossain   |
| First  | Last  |

Job title

| Analyst  |                      |                    |                    |
|--|----------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| job title  |                      |                    |                    |
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| nosheen.hossain@sanjoseca.gov  |                      |                    | (925) 336-4572     |
| This contact will ONLY recei<br>(inclusive of guidance, repor  |                      |                    | ).                 |
| Authorized Representative  | <b>1</b>             |                    |                    |
| Erik   |                      | Solivan            |                    |
| First  |                      | Last               |                    |
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| erik.solivan@sanjoseca.gov   | 1                    |                    |                    |
| orm.comvariagearijoecoa.gov  |                      |                    |                    |
| The Authorized Representat<br>the eligible applicant   | ive has authority to | contract on behalf | of                 |
| The Authorized Representate the eligible applicant lf this application be mailed to?   | -                    |                    | s should the check |
| The Authorized Representat the eligible applicant  If this application be mailed to?  Address  | is funded, v         |                    |                    |
| The Authorized Representate the eligible applicant  If this application be mailed to?  Address  200 E Santa Clara St, 12th   | is funded, v         |                    |                    |
| The Authorized Representate the eligible applicant  If this application be mailed to?  Address  200 E Santa Clara St, 12th   | is funded, v         |                    |                    |
| The Authorized Representate the eligible applicant  If this application be mailed to?  Address  200 E Santa Clara St, 12th Address Line 1                            | is funded, v         |                    |                    |
| The Authorized Representate the eligible applicant  If this application be mailed to?  Address  200 E Santa Clara St, 12th Address Line 1                            | is funded, v         |                    |                    |
| The Authorized Representate the eligible applicant  If this application be mailed to?  Address  200 E Santa Clara St, 12th  Address Line 1                           | <b>is funded, v</b>  |                    | s should the check |
| The Authorized Representate the eligible applicant  If this application be mailed to?  Address  200 E Santa Clara St, 12th  Address Line 1  Address Line 2  San Jose | is funded, v         |                    | s should the check |



Reaching these limits is not required, however competitive responses will address <u>all parts</u> 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)

The proposed ERF project delivers concentrated resources, holistic services, and direct referrals to shelter for individuals at the targeted encampment. Key project components are designed to encourage long-term stability and facilitate transitions to permanent housing (PH) for participants:

- 1. Mobilize targeted outreach teams at encampment: Dedicated outreach staff will have the heaviest presence in year one and scale down over the course of the three years to account for less people remaining at the encampment.
- 2. Increase shelter capacity to serve project participants. Offer direct referrals to a new City-wide Emergency Interim Housing (EIH) site at Via del Oro. 75 units will be set-aside for this project upon opening in January 2025. After that, new vacancies will be prioritized for project participants.
- 3. Offer intensive case management, concentrated resources, and service coordination, both on-site at the encampment and for those placed at Via del Oro. Services and supports are tailored toward meeting participant-centered goals and intended to allow participants to achieve self-sufficiency and progress into stable, permanent housing within a year.
- 4. Utilize robust Housing Problem Solving (HPS) and short-term rental assistance (STRA) to support the transition of up to 40 participants to PH.
- 5. Close coordination with the County to place all eligible participants in Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) and Rapid Re-Housing (RRH) programs.

### **People Served**

| Number of people currently residing in<br>prioritized encampment site                                  | Potential inflow of people into the prioritized encampment site during the grant term.  |  |  |  |
|--|---|--|--|--|
| 75   | 75  |  |  |  |
| #  |   |  |  |  |
| Of people currently residing in prioritized encampment site, how many will be served by this proposal? | Given the potential for inflow of people into the prioritized encampment site, how many people are projected to be served across the entire |  |  |  |
| 75   | grant period?   |  |  |  |
| #  | 150   |  |  |  |
|  | #   |  |  |  |
| Of people projected to be served across the enti transition into interim housing.                      | re grant period, number of people projected to  |  |  |  |
| 130  |   |  |  |  |
| #  |   |  |  |  |
| Of people projected to be served across the enti transition into permanent housing                     | re grant period, number of people projected to  |  |  |  |
| 105  |   |  |  |  |

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?  $\bigcirc$  Yes  $\bigcirc$  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 City has been providing outreach services through HomeFirst at the encampment since April 2023. In its April 2024 census of the encampment, HF determined that 75 people currently live on-site. All residents of the encampment are adults, and no families or children were observed. Of census data documented for 45 residents: 31 Male, 14 Female, 11 Hispanic/Latino, 5 American Indian/Alaskan Native/Indigenous, 25 White, 3 Asian/Asian American, and a median age of 37. No veterans documented.

Of those with completed VI-SPDAT assessments, 34 have acuity scores in the PSH range, which suggests a high-vulnerability population. Participants exhibit elevated needs stemming from prolonged periods of unsheltered homelessness and traumatic experiences, requiring long-term interventions. An additional 11 are in the RRH range (medium support required). HomeFirst also noted through its interactions with encampment residents that substance use is prevalent among many of the individuals. Many have reported being arrested for relatively minor offences. Most have reported being unsheltered for more than 2 years. Many report having chronic health conditions and physical disabilities, and many report untreated mental health challenges.

Due to the high # of single adult households with high acuity, City is focused on transitioning residents into the City's Emergency Interim Housing program as the first step and simultaneously offering HPS and CES coordination of PSH and RRH transitions.

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 Cherry Avenue encampment is located in District 9 of San Jose. The area is a 35-acre polygon bordered by a large shopping center, residential area, and 2 main roadways. The site contains Federal and State protected water resources and is primarily owned and managed by the local water district Valley Water. A portion of the site, and the most heavily encamped, is under an overpass of State Route 85, which passes over the site and creates protection from the elements for encamped residents. This portion is owned and managed by Caltrans. The site also contains 2 percolation ponds in the southern portion of the site, and the Guadalupe River flows through the northern portion. The structures within this area are a mix of tents, plywood, house furniture (couches, chairs, wooden furniture), large blankets, loose tarps, trash cans, shopping carts, "shanty"-like structures, and larger cardboard structures. The HomeFirst Outreach team has not identified any vehicles present at the 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 prioritized because it is growing in density, becoming a hotspot for unsafe activity, and gaining attention of Valley Water, public officials, and adjacent neighborhoods. This site includes the location of a planned construction site. Once construction is complete, the area will become a Water Resource Protection Zone prohibiting encampments. Encampment residents will have to relocate during construction, and CSJ's goal is to provide them with interim housing options and pathways to PH in advance. ERF funding will support the increase of capacity of the City's EIH program, allowing for 75 units to be set-aside and up to an additional 75 to be prioritized at Via del Oro for Cherry Ave individuals.

Other factors at Cherry Ave put residents' health at risk and contribute to CSJ's prioritization. These include environmental hazards (risk of flood, fires), exposure to viruses/bacteria, cold weather, and potential vehicle runoff from the highway that passes over the site

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** 

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? O No ⊙ Yes - partially O Yes - entirely

**Attachment: Caltrans Letter of Support** 

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)

Serve 150 unsheltered clients over project duration. Build capacity of City-wide EIH program (interim shelter) to accommodate all interested encampment residents: construction will be completed and operations of Via del Oro EIH will begin in January 2025. Shortly after, move-in initial cohort of 75 participants to set-aside units at Via del Oro. Promptly engage and transition up to 75 additional individuals who inflow to the encampment between January 2025 and June 2027.

Permanently house 105 clients by June 2027:

- 30 through PSH program
- 15 through RRH program
- 40 through Housing Problem Solving (HPS) and dedicated short-term rental assistance
- 20 exits from Via del Oro to permanent housing through self-sufficiency and supportive services only (no subsidy program)

Once clients enter interim shelter at Via del Oro, 50% are expected to exit to permanent housing destinations within 1 year of stay, and 75% within 1.5 yrs of stay, in line with historic City EIH program-wide outcomes.

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

Outreach will engage clients at the encampment, deliver resources, work with County to get clients document-ready for PSH and RRH, provide intensive CM, and provide direct referrals and a warm handoff to interim shelter at Via del Oro. Outreach will transition 10 clients directly from the encampment to PH through HPS.

Via del Oro staff will implement the following activities to facilitate at least 95 clients' transition from interim to PH:

- Intensive CM and service by staff: Provide mental and behavioral health, substance use, employment, and educational supports to address client-specific housing barriers. Facilitate exits to PH and provide aftercare.
- HPS Provide support and direct financial assistance to facilitate PH destinations through diversion, family reunification, and rental by client. Supplement HPS with short-term rental assistance (2 months rent).
- Enter clients into CES and transition eligible participants into PSH and RRH programs; provide warm handoff.

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

CSJ will establish quarterly goals with deliverables and utilize a feedback mechanism to evaluate progress and alignment to ensure outcomes are being reached. Quarterly outcomes that will be tracked include but are not limited to: # of outreach contacts, # of referrals to RRH/PSH/other housing subsidies, # of exits to PH from EIH, average length of stay at EIH before exit to PH.

All data related to this project will be tracked through the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS). A City grant administrator will meet regularly with project staff to review data on those individuals in the HMIS project for this proposal. Providers will be held accountable to quarterly goals, and City oversight will ensure programs consistently center Housing First and exits to positive and sustainable housing destinations.

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)

Valley Water will conduct environmental mitigation in this area and facilitate the construction of a new City EIH site on a portion of the land. The future plans to build a new interim shelter project on this site means CSJ and Valley Water must resolve the encampment in the impacted areas. Through a formal commitment between the City and Valley Water to coordinate on activities for this ERF project, we will plan ahead for any potential conflicts between Valley Water's timeline and the City's timeline. The nature of this collaboration is highlighted in the attached letter of support.

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

Standalone O 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)

In January 2024, City received formal commitment from local Lived Experience Advisory Board (LEAB) to partner on this project. Leading up to the start of this project, LEAB will decide how they want to be involved in its implementation, and CSJ is dedicated to honoring LEAB's agency.

LEAB urged us to bolster the client financial assistance component of this proposal. This is integrated into our plan: Housing Problem Solving funding (for both Outreach and Via del Oro staff) will ensure individuals from the encampment are financially supported with personal expenses such as furniture, storage, clothing, and transportation. An additional 2 months of rental assistance will be provided for individuals who secure a rental opportunity.

LEAB will conduct peer-to-peer outreach with HomeFirst staff at the encampment, focusing on individuals who are service-resistant. LEAB is involved with EIH programs through formal means to ensure that on-site programming is aligned with the needs of residents.

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

This proposal formalizes a pipeline between the City's Outreach program, the EIH program, and the County's CES/PSH program in order to swiftly move encampment residents into interim and PH. This proposal adds HPS and STRA funds to provide direct financial assistance to 40 clients who are ready to move into long-term housing solutions.

Outreach provider HomeFirst ensures encampment residents receive services without precondition. All participants will be provided direct referrals into Via del Oro EIH. Leveraging Outreach program's flexible funding will allow staff to provide motel/hotel stays for clients who need it. Services are focused on quickly exiting participants to PH.

Our EIH program does not impose conditions on participation (ie maintaining sobriety or criminal background checks). Participants can select supportive services they need and want. EIH programs have flexible length of stay to ensure individuals are provided ample opportunity to transition to PH.

# 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)

HomeFirst (HF) outreach staff implement motivational interviewing and HPS conversations to solicit the goals of the unsheltered residents. To best meet client needs, HF will be clear on opportunities for interim shelter and PH the client has available to them. At Via del Oro, staff create action plans addressing client goals related to housing, personal development, and self-sufficiency. PSH and RRH programs will be presented to clients based on eligibility and placements will be made based on client needs and preferences. In all 3 phases, clients have the opportunity to provide feedback on service delivery to ensure the services are curated to each individual's unique needs. All CSJ programs feature trauma informed care best practices. Via del Oro is an EIH site that is modeled to serve the encampment subpopulation: Specialized staff and a clinical social worker are equipped to support the specific needs of individuals who enter from unsheltered chronic homelessness.

### 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)

EIH sites partner with the SCC Harm Reduction Program (HRP) featuring services to promote safer behaviors proven to control the spread of blood borne viruses, such as HIV and Hepatitis C as well as playing a vital role in the opioid overdose response. HRP outreach staff utilize medical mobile units distribute injection supplies, opioid overdose prevention supplies, and safer sex supplies to clients at EIH sites.

HomeFirst outreach staff will carry harm reduction resources and educational information to the encampment to inform and supply participants with necessary tools such as Narcan, contraception, and sharp containers. PSH programs have onsite supports such as educational resources on the core principles of harm reduction and other life skills workshops for clients to develop harm reduction techniques.

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)

Public health services coordinated by Outreach staff are available to encampment residents. Outreach provides resources and supports to encampment residents to ensure their basic needs are met prior to interim shelter or PSH placement – this includes hygiene kits, food, water, cellular phones, etc. Services will be provided in a non-judgmental manner with the understanding that alcohol and/or drug use may be prevalent. Key outcomes for Outreach will be based on the quality of life for encampment residents.

Valley Water (VW) installed 4 portable toilet facilities within the encampment to enhance the health and dignity of residents. VW will implement its new Clean Camps, Clean Creeks program in early 2024 to incentivize unsheltered persons to maintain clean and orderly encampments via the distribution of reloadable pre-paid cards. This program will help VW facilitate a clean and safe environment while providing residents with compensation that can be used to purchase needed resources.

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)

Key stakeholders and relevant partners on the project provided letters of support to aid our goal to humanely and expeditiously resolve the Cherry Avenue encampment. All partners were briefed on the project and agreed to collaborate closely for when action or specific services are needed at the encampment. When there is an imminent danger perceived, prior to enforcement action being taken, the Housing Department will be notified to ensure support can be provided to the residents being affected. Outreach staff will consistently remind clients of being in compliance with relevant City ordinances or laws when appropriate to avoid any penalties. All ERF-3 funds are being used to support the individuals being served and will not be used towards penalizing homelessness.

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, curb-side waste removal and access to clean and available bathrooms. (1000-character limit)

Valley Water will continue to provide temporary restroom facilities and perform large-scale trash cleanups within the encampment site. These services are provided in a non-intrusive manner, where the toilets will be away from the encampment in a serviceable area that is still accessible to the unsheltered residents. Outreach teams hand out bags to encourage residents to pack up trash. Outreach staff also hand out clean water, snacks, and hygiene kits at the encampment.

### **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's proactive outreach program designed to deliver concentrated resources and service coordination to encampments will be utilized for this project. ERF funds will be used to deploy 7 staff at the targeted encampment: 1 Program Manager, 3 CMs, and 3 Outreach Specialists. During year 1 of the project, outreach will engage 75 individuals, resulting in a caseload of 12-15 individuals per staff. Frequency of engagement is daily. The City's partnership with LEAB (lived experience) will be utilized – LEAB will do peer outreach, with a focus on individuals who are service-resistant. Accounting for inflow, outreach will serve 150 individuals over the 3-year project.

#### Outreach staff will:

- Establish trust and build ongoing rapport using engagement tools (hygiene kits, snack packs, etc.) Provide intensive case management and establish participant-centered pathways to housing.
- Work with the County Office of Supportive Housing (OSH) and CoC to get clients document-ready for housing, program, and public benefit opportunities. Enroll in HMIS, complete VI-SPDAT assessments, and enter into County's CES.
- Provide HPS designed to move low-acuity residents at the encampment to alternative housing solutions. Dedicated HPS funds will be used to facilitate exits into PH opportunities. Tactics include mediation with potential landlords, family/friend reunification, facilitate shared housing, and financial assistance for furniture, move-in costs, and housing deposits.
- Provide direct referrals to interim shelter units at Via del Oro EIH and facilitate warm handoff.
- Collaborate with non-profits and public entities to address basic needs and other services including legal, pet, employment, health care, and immigration services. Mental health and substance use services will be provided through partnerships with NA/AA, Valley Homeless Helth Care program, Gardner Health, and Catholic Charities.
- Coordinate with OSH to transition eligible individuals into PSH program

# 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)

The City participates in our County's Coordinated Entry System (CES). Clients engaged by outreach staff will complete the VI-SPDAT and enter a community queue for PSH and RRH programs. Outreach and EIH staff will interface with clients and County staff regularly to ensure all eligible clients are supported at each stage of the CES process: complete documentation, provide wraparound services while clients wait in queue, and facilitate warm handoff to PSH and RRH programs. Flexible length of stays at City EIH program ensures that clients are provided shelter, supports, and HPS until they enter CES programs.

Because of CES' prioritization system, the City is not able to set aside openings in the PSH or RRH programs for ERF project participants. Utilizing CES in this way is an evidence-based practice and reflects the system's effort to serve the population of homeless individuals within the County equally. ERF funds ensure EIH staff capacity to connect eligible clients with CES resources.

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)

ERF-3 funds will support a new EIH site: Via del Oro (VDO) is a non-congregate shelter offering private rooms that include restrooms and showers, a shared kitchen, dining, laundry, and meeting spaces. The site is designated to serve participants who have entered directly from encampments with high acuity/levels of need. Program design, site layout, supportive service provision, and staffing (including hiring a clinical social worker) will align to better address the unique needs of this subpopulation. Upon opening, 75 units will be set-aside for Cherry Ave encampment residents. Afterward, new units (approx. 1 vacancy/week) will be prioritized to accommodate additional inflow into the encampment. With ERF funds, the City will have capacity to provide units at Via del Oro for all clients who need shelter. Participants at VDO will receive services to address clients' unique housing barriers to facilitate exits to PH destinations. ERF funds will allow for robust HPS, supplemented by financial assistance (move-in costs, furniture, deposits) for 40 clients and additional STRA for 20 clients. HPS strategies incorporate County best practices and funds will support PH transitions.

The County's PSH program will permanently house those who are eligible and in the appropriate acuity range. The PSH program is equipped with housing/wellness support, and services such as transportation, childcare, and skills training. Of those that have already been engaged by our outreach program, 34 Cherry Ave residents demonstrate eligibility for the PSH program. As more clients are engaged and sheltered over the course of the project period, we expect that 60+ will be eligible for the PSH program, at least 30 of whom will exit into PSH by June 2027. For clients who do not exit the queue by June 2027, VDO will continue to provide shelter and supports, while simultaneously helping pursue other PH solutions. 15 clients are projected to be permanently housed through entry into CES' RRH program.

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)

Interim housing is built into this proposal as a core housing strategy because the City recognizes that many encampment residents need immediate access safe and stable housing to begin their journey toward PH. Once enrolled at Via del Oro EIH, participants will be offered a full suite of supportive services designed to work toward self-sufficiency and PH.

The City is committed to facilitating permanent housing solutions at our EIH program: In 2021, through hiring Homebase as a consultant and involving our LEAB, a study was completed to align EIH program operations with successful resident outcomes, specifically around PH. A series of recommendations and best practices were integrated into EIH Operation Guidelines, most notably a subpopulation model, flexible length of stay policies, and specialized support toward securing living wage employment. Via del Oro designated to specifically serve residents from encampments: Service staff and clinical social worker will target the specialized needs of high acuity individuals coming from chronic unsheltered homelessness to increase the chances of long-term stability and improve PH outcomes. A competitively procured operator will be held accountable to outcomes around PH (avg. length of stay before exit to PH, number of PSH/RRH/subsidy enrollments, etc.) The City's EIH program has historically surpassed our CoC metric of 36% exits to PH from interim shelter: Since inception, EIH programs have exited approximately 50% of participants into PH within 1 year of enrollment.

Our County has developed best practices for using Housing Problem Solving as a strategy to permanently house individuals through diversion, family reunification, shared housing, landlord mediation, and rental opportunities. Through intentional integration of HPS strategies and funding to ERF project design, the City is committed to increasing the number of ERF project participants who transition from interim to permanent housing by June 2027.

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

All phases of the proposed plan incorporate voices of individuals with lived experience of homelessness to ensure program efforts are client-centered, trauma-informed and low-barrier; and provides opportunities for ongoing feedback from participants. CSJ formally partnered with the Lived Experience Advisory Board (LEAB) to support with development of the model detailed in this proposal. LEAB's work is centered around elevating the voices of those with lived experience and ensuring services city-wide are human-centered and productive towards the goal of ending homelessness. LEAB will take a proactive role in program implementation as well – joining outreach teams at the encampment. LEAB members will focus on engaging with encampment residents to ensure their needs are being met. There will be numerous opportunities for encampment residents to provide feedback on services through several different avenues including verbal surveys, grievance processes, and other feedback loop tools. These opportunities will continue for clients who transition to Via del Oro for interim shelter, where CSJ implements kiosks that collect qualitative and quantitative data directly from participants receiving EIH services. EIH operators are held accountable to the feedback received and are expected to tailor their services and program design to meet the needs and preferences of the people at the site, which will include those at the site who came from the prioritized encampment.

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

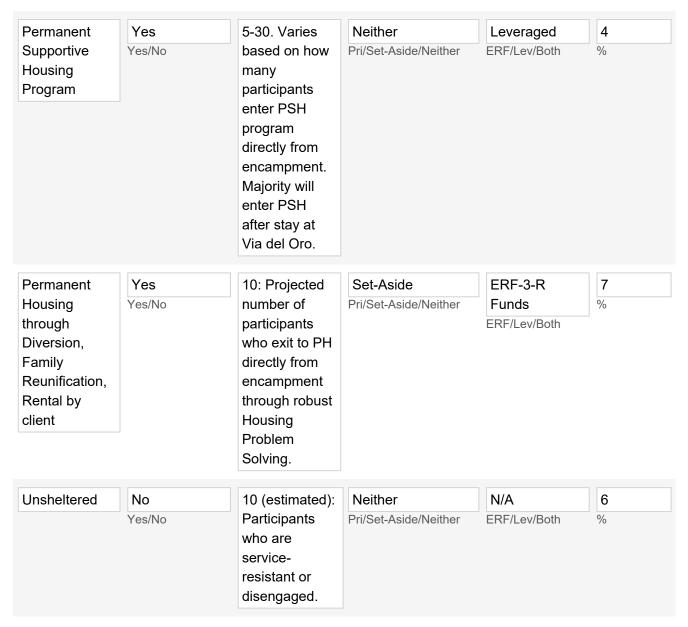
### Table 1: Projected Living Situations Immediately Following the

### **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<br>Permanent<br>Housing? | Quantify the<br>Capacity (e.g.,<br>number of<br>beds/units,<br>frequency of<br>bed/unit<br>availability)   | Prioritized or Set-<br>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 |
|---|----------------------------------|--|--|--|--|
| Via del Oro<br>Emergency<br>Interim<br>Housing Site                                   | No<br>Yes/No                     | 75 units set-<br>aside at<br>opening + 1<br>additional unit<br>becomes<br>available per<br>week. Via del<br>Oro will have<br>capacity for up<br>to all 150<br>clients served<br>through this<br>project. | Set Aside for ERF-<br>3-R<br>Pri/Set-Aside/Neither | Both. EIH personnel working directly with project clients are funded by ERF-3-R. | 80<br>%  |
| Motel/Hotel<br>Placement  | No<br>Yes/No                     | Approximately 5, though transition to Via del Oro will be encouraged for maximum services and opportunities for eventual PH.   | Set-Aside for ERF-<br>3-R<br>Pri/Set-Aside/Neither | ERF-3-R<br>Funds<br>ERF/Lev/Both   | 3 %  |



### **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 SetAside for ERF-3-R?

Prioritized or SetCapacity of the Opportunity Funded by ERFService Opport unity

Leveraged Funds?

| Permanent Supportive Housing enrollments through Coordinated Entry System  | N/A -<br>Coordinat<br>ed Entry<br>System<br>Pri/Set-<br>Aside/Neither | 30 individuals  | Leveraged<br>Funds<br>ERF/Lev/Both   |
|--|---|---|--------------------------------------|
| Exits to PH from Rapid Rehousing Program enrollments through Coordinated Entry System  | N/A - Coordinat ed Entry System Pri/Set- Aside/Neither                | 15 individuals  | Leveraged<br>Funds<br>ERF/Lev/Both   |
| Housing Problem Solving (Diversion, Family Reunification, Move-in support, Housing Deposit, etc.)  | Set-Aside<br>Pri/Set-<br>Aside/Neither                                | 20 individuals  | Funded by<br>ERF-3-R<br>ERF/Lev/Both |
| Housing Problem Solving + Dedicated Short-Term<br>Rental Assistance (2 months' rent)   | Set-Aside<br>Pri/Set-<br>Aside/Neither                                | 20 individuals  | Funded by<br>ERF-3-R<br>ERF/Lev/Both |
| Services offered by dedicated staff at Via del Oro to transition participants to permanent housing. Services: Intensive CM, wraparound services, resource connections, employment support, and housing navigation/application guidance provided. | Set-Aside Pri/Set- Aside/Neither                                      | 150 individuals (All clients served at Via del Oro will be offered these services, including those that accept any of the above PH opportunities) | Funded by<br>ERF-3-R<br>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)

This proposal is motivated by the City's commitment to ensuring people are not displaced due to the project area becoming a Water Resources Protection Zone and encompassing a future construction site. Up to 150 unsheltered people will be proactively connected to housing resources before they face risk of displacement. Through close communication with VW, Beautify SJ, and Caltrans, the City will ensure that people are engaged by outreach staff before displacement occurs.

HomeFirst is well versed in building rapport with this encampment: staff address concerns regarding upcoming events that would displace them, provide housing resources, provide non-housing resources that would allow a person to stabilize, and provide immediate motel placements for those who don't feel safe at the site.

HomeFirst is experienced in responding to weather events (including storms and waterway flooding) by stabilizing the community, coordinating food, and operating temporary shelter to minimize displacement.

# 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)

#### Leveraged

- Housing stability practices are incorporated in PSH programs that will support individuals with supportive services including health care, employment/benefits, and mental health services.

#### ERF-3-R

- Staff in EIH programs encourage shared housing opportunities to help support with high rental costs in San Jose.
- HPS is a person-centered approach to support households to identify solutions to quickly end their housing crisis. ERF funds are set aside to provide financial assistance for all move-in costs into permanent housing including deposit, landlord incentive, STRA, furniture, and other related costs. Outreach and EIH program staff will access these funds to support clients in the encampment and interim housing.
- HF Outreach staff provide stabilization services, aftercare support and transportation to clients that transition into PH directly from the encampment. Via del Oro program staff provide similar supports to clients that transition into PH from interim housin

### 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)

We expect the project area to experience inflow due to concentrated resources being offered at the site. Outreach staff will maintain a by-name list of individuals at the site. Leading up to a portion of the project area becoming a construction zone, the area unaffected by construction will experience an inflow. Outreach staff will be mobilized at a more concentrated ratio in this area to ensure that residents being impacted by construction have the opportunity to transition to shelter at Via del Oro and/or enter a clear pathway to PH. Via del Oro funded by this proposal will provide enough capacity for the current number of encampment residents and any additional that move into the area. Outreach and Via del Oro staff will work closely with the County CES' PSH and RRH programs to guide eligible clients entering the project area toward PH.

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)

While in the encampment, participants will be offered guidance on managing personal belongings. Staff will work with participants on setting goals and downsizing their belongings in order to sustainably live indoors. If storage is a deciding factor for clients to accept interim shelter, HomeFirst will pay for the first month of storage, and clients will take over after that. Clients may also be aided with storage costs through client financial assistance.

If abatements are conducted by entities that have right to the property (Valley Water; Caltrans), the City will coordinate transport, storage, and management of personal property for 90 days. Clients can retrieve any personal property during this period.

Once placed at Via del Oro, participants are offered storage for their personal belongings inside and outside their personal living space. Via del Oro provides additional storage space for personally significant items that cannot be stored in a personal unit.

# 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)

HomeFirst, our outreach provider servicing this encampment, currently partners with Humane Society in order to provide specialized pet services, including vaccinations, check-ups, and microchipping. Outreach staff provide food and treats to help with engagement, as well as pet supplies (leashes, crates, and harnesses) to encampment residents when requested. If documentation and registration of service animal is necessary for permanent housing opportunities, outreach staff will provide support.

All City EIH programs, including Via del Oro EIH, have a pet policy and allow participants to enter the program with up to two pets per unit. More than two pets may be allowed in certain circumstances and as a reasonable accommodation. EIH site will assist participants with requesting reasonable accommodations to have a service animal to ensure participants can bring pets with them to their next destination/housing opportunity. Pet care workshops and dog runs are on-site.

### **Budget and Resource Plan**

| 27          | State | the t | total | amount  | Ωf | FRF-3   | -R | funds  | requested |  |
|-------------|-------|-------|-------|---------|----|---------|----|--------|-----------|--|
| <b>~</b> I. | Julia | uici  | ıvıaı | annount | v  | LIXI -3 | -1 | IUIIUS | IEUUESIEU |  |

\$4,821,082.88

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

\$2,785,886.63 \$

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)

County: Coordinate with service providers to ensure clients are provided PSH opportunity when eligible.

City: Support with the development of program goals and service model, monitor performance, and coordinate services to facilitate permanent housing outcomes.

Valley Water resources: Maintain the portable toilet at the encampment. Ongoing Good Neighbor Program will assist with waste, litter, and trash removal at the site. Clean Camps, Clean Creeks program will assist with the management of trash and debris at the site.

EIH: Leveraged resources support site functioning including all utilities, program supplies, property maintenance and capital improvements, and the health benefits for all staff employed at the site. These resources and the EIH staff assist clients with building self-sufficiency and attaining PH.

Outreach clinical staff: support encampment residents with linkage to mental health and substance use resources to support with stabilization upon transition from encampment.

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)

We are requesting \$1,193,510 of ERF to fund the City's Outreach program that will service Cherry Ave: 150 clients will receive outreach and service coordination at the encampment during the grant term. Built into this funding is HPS financial assistance to support exits to PH for encampment residents with low support needs.

The lack of interim shelter capacity has prompted the City to expand its EIH program: 3 new EIHs & a 145-unit expansion of an existing EIH site is planned over the next 2 years. We are requesting \$3,397,997.50 of ERF funding to support operations of a new EIH site (Via del Oro) that will provide interim shelter capacity for up to 150 individuals from Cherry Ave.

This proposal creates pipeline between multiple City programs and County CES to cohesively deliver a diverse range of resources to 150 project participants. Outreach teams will provide direct referrals to Via del Oro units, where ERF-funded EIH staff will take over to ensure participants obtain PH.

**Attachment: Standardized Budget** 

Applicants must use the <u>ERF-3-R Budget Template</u> 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 City of San Jose's Housing Department will administer the proposed ERF-3-R program. Primary responsibilities include:

- Administer a grant agreement with HomeFirst in which outreach teams will be funded by the ERF-3 grant and deployed at the project area. Administer grant agreement with Vila del Oro operator and hold grantee accountable to ERF project and City outcome measures.
- Formally facilitate daily coordination between Outreach team and the County's PSH program.
- Ensure that stakeholders of this project area, which include Valley Water, Beautify SJ, and Caltrans, are in coordination with us as it relates to servicing this project area under the ERF 3 program. Align goals between the ERF 3 project and Valley Water's goals for the area, as Valley Water maintains jurisdictional authority for this project area.
- Provide systems support during program implementation and coordinate with Outreach/Vila del Oro staff.

The Housing Department has managed a variety of complex homelessness projects and grants from the State's ERF Round 1, which led to the creation of our ongoing SER program. The Housing Department's experience managing the SER program shaped this proposal to include a dedicated interim housing project that was funded directly by the ERF to ensure that conflicting priorities would not obstruct transition of target encampment residents.

### **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<br>Filled<br>Position? | FTE of Staffing<br>for This<br>Proposal | Funded by<br>ERF-3-R and /<br>or Leveraged<br>Funds? | Brief Description of Duties  |
|---|----------------------------------|---|--|--|
| Senior<br>Development<br>Officer - City of<br>San Jose<br>(CSJ) | Yes<br>Yes/No                    | 0.5<br># FTE                            | Lev<br>ERF/Lev/Both                                  | Supervises Development Officer staff, moniters grantee operating agreements, coordinates with County OSH.    |
| Development<br>Officer - CSJ                                    | Yes<br>Yes/No                    | 0.5<br># FTE                            | Lev<br>ERF/Lev/Both                                  | Oversees program implementation, coordinates with outreach team, and coordinates with Via del Oro EIH staff. |

| Analyst - CSJ   | Yes           | 0.15          | Lev                 | Provides support with submitting   |
|---|---------------|---------------|---------------------|--|
|   | Yes/No        | #FTE          | ERF/Lev/Both        | ERF quarterly reports and provides systems support during program implementation.  |
| Program Manager - Santa Clara County Office of Supportive Housing | Yes<br>Yes/No | 0.25<br># FTE | Lev<br>ERF/Lev/Both | Coordinates with support service staff and City of San Jose on Coordinated Entry system; identifies clients eligible for PSH and RRH placement and supports with acquiring necessary documentation to qualify for program.                                 |
| Program Manager - Emergency Interim Housing (EIH)                 | No<br>Yes/No  | 0.5<br># FTE  | ERF<br>ERF/Lev/Both | Oversees Via del Oro EIH program, coordinates direct referrals from Outreach team, and supervises EIH staff.   |
| Case Manager<br>- EIH   | No<br>Yes/No  | 3.0<br># FTE  | ERF<br>ERF/Lev/Both | Provides case management, housing navigation services, housing problem solving, and service coordination to ERF project participants placed at Via del Oro. Coordinates with SCC OSH to identify clients with PSH opportunities and facilitate transitions |
| Resident<br>Advocate -<br>EIH                                     | No<br>Yes/No  | 5.0<br># FTE  | ERF<br>ERF/Lev/Both | Assist with navigating resources at Via del Oro, facilitate self-sufficiency workshops (education, financial/budgeting, employment readiness, resume-building, etc), provide light-touch case management.  |

| Shift<br>Supervisor -<br>EIH                            | No<br>Yes/No  | 2.0<br># FTE | ERF<br>ERF/Lev/Both | Provides oversight of all Via del<br>Oro operations during absence<br>of Program Manager during<br>swing and graveyard shifts,<br>supervises staff during swing<br>and graveyard shifts.  |
|---|---------------|--------------|---------------------|---|
| Community<br>Engagement<br>Coordinator -<br>EIH         | No<br>Yes/No  | 0.5<br># FTE | ERF<br>ERF/Lev/Both | Manages volunteers for meal services and other community-building opportunities. Builds relationships with community groups to solicit volunteers and in-kind drives.   |
| Clinical Social<br>Worker                               | No<br>Yes/No  | 0.5<br># FTE | ERF<br>ERF/Lev/Both | Linkage to mental health and<br>substance use resources;<br>provides supportive counseling<br>to ERF project participants at<br>Via del Oro site.   |
| Housing<br>Specialist,<br>Housing<br>Placement -<br>EIH | No<br>Yes/No  | # FTE        | ERF<br>ERF/Lev/Both | On-site staff at Via del Oro dedicated to Housing Problem Solving for ERF project participants; assists with identifying housing options for clients; provides landlord mediation services and incentives to landlords for engaging with clients. |
| Emergency<br>Interim<br>Housing<br>Director             | Yes<br>Yes/No | 0.1<br># FTE | Lev<br>ERF/Lev/Both | Ensures all grant reports are submitted in a timely manner and data is properly entered into HMIS.  |
| Program<br>Manager -<br>HomeFirst<br>(HF) Outreach      | No<br>Yes/No  | 1.0<br>#FTE  | ERF<br>ERF/Lev/Both | Day-to-day oversight,<br>operations, and supervision of<br>outreach team of 7 mobilized at<br>targeted encampment   |

| Case Manager - HF                       | No<br>Yes/No  | 2.0<br># FTE  | ERF<br>ERF/Lev/Both | Provide intensive CM and housing navigation to encampment residents, maintain By-Name list, coordinate with County to identify clients with PSH opportunities, facilitate transition to Via del Oro. 3 FTE in year 1, 2 FTE in year 2, and 1 FTE in year3  |
|---|---------------|---------------|---------------------|--|
| Outreach<br>Specialist - HF             | No<br>Yes/No  | 2.0<br># FTE  | ERF<br>ERF/Lev/Both | Provide street-based services to encampment including basic needs & resource connections. Build relationships with clients on the field. Enroll into CES. 3 FTE in year 1, 2 FTE in year 2, and 1 FTE in year 3.   |
| Program<br>Clinician - HF               | Yes<br>Yes/No | 0.25<br># FTE | Lev<br>ERF/Lev/Both | Provide clinical CM to encampment residents, assist with client crises in the field, and support with linkage to clinical resources for the betterment of clients' health. Existing HF Program Clinician will be leveraged for this project area at .25FTE |
| Program Director, Street Based Services | Yes<br>Yes/No | 0.2<br># FTE  | Lev<br>ERF/Lev/Both | Provides leadership to all street-<br>based services staff, coordinates<br>with OSH for PSH eligible clients<br>and smooth transition, oversees<br>overall outreach strategies.  |
|   | Yes/No        | # FTE         | ERF/Lev/Both        |  |

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)

HomeFirst is the outreach provider that will be servicing the Cherry Avenue encampment. They are responsible for engaging and enrolling encampment residents into HMIS, administering VI-SPDAT assessments, connecting folks to County services, City resources (EIH and other leveraged programs), and outreach resources (client financial assistance, case management). HomeFirst Outreach also participated in CSJ's ERF-1 project as a leveraged resource to encampment residents.

The City is currently undergoing procurement process to competitively select a provider to operate Via del Oro. Provider will have to abide by Operations Guidelines, developed after extensive HomeBase analysis of City EIH program, LEAB involvement, and stakeholder/community engagement. EIH staff provide rapid support to newly placed encampment residents to help them acclimate to the site, stabilize, and begin engaging in programming which includes housing navigation, case management, and self-sufficiency workshops.

SCC OSH takes a service coordination and systems support role in this project proposal. OSH staff will coordinate with the outreach provider and EIH service team to support encampment residents that are eligible for PSH opportunities to follow through with necessary paperwork and appointments to qualify for placement into the PSH program.

### 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)

City worked with the local CoC on the design of the EIH projects throughout the city. These projects were developed in alignment with our regional Community Plan to End Homelessness with the goal of doubling our interim housing capacity, adding an extra 1000 beds, by 2025. The main goal of this proposal, human-centered encampment resolution, is the foundation of our community plan to improve the health and well-being of encampment residents. Specifically, CSJ and CoC partners collaborated on the strategies for encampment resolutions, specifically prioritizing encampment residents for placement in interim shelter programs either through the Coordinated Entry System or direct referral. Partners in the local CoC reviewed and provided feedback during the drafting of this proposal, as well as strategized around the implementation of this program – aligning expectations for all partners within the CoC to best support the encampment residents and meet the goals of the State and the CoC.

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

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)

Valley Water (VW) owns the majority of the property. The City has confirmed with VW that the proposed ERF program is in alignment with their future plans for the project area, which include construction of an EIH, restoration of the surrounding area, and maintaining the Water Resources Protection Zone. VW supports the City's proposal to resolve the Cherry Avenue encampment, after which VW plans to actively restore the site: Mitigation areas will be cleared of trash and waste, soils will be prepared for seeding with native trees and shrubs to establish cover, prevent erosion, and restore the intended mixed riparian forest habitat conditions.

Caltrans owns a small portion of the property where Highway 85 sits known as the "breezeway". CSJ has discussed this project scope, timeline, and expectations for the resolution of the encampment, and Caltrans is committed to minimizing activities at the project area that may affect or displace those residing at the site.

#### **Accelerated Timeline**

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

HomeFirst Outreach teams have been actively supporting residents of the Cherry Avenue encampment as part of the City-wide Outreach program since April 2023. They provide assistance to those individuals by referring them to resources available through partnerships they've established in Santa Clara County. These resources include assistance with SSI/SSDI/other benefits applications through Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), Pet services through the Humane Society Silicon Valley, and health care supports via the Community Health Initiative. Valley Water is providing temporary restrooms to the prioritized encampment. Community Advocates and the LEAB have existing relationships with those residing at this encampment – the City will leverage these relationships to engage the encampment, build rapport, and deliver resources more effectively.

# 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)

Cherry Ave encampment has been a site in our Citywide outreach program since April 2023. During this time, staff has developed trust with residents at this encampment, started the development of a by-name list (76 engaged as of April 2024) and completed VI-SPDAT assessments for 45 individuals.

Recently, CSJ has redesigned its outreach strategy to a targeted approach to better support encampment residents. Outreach will continue to support clients ahead of new agreements beginning in July 2024. Outreach will build a list of 75 individuals who will be swiftly transitioned to Via del Oro EIH upon opening in January 2024. There is a partnership in place between the County's PSH program for close collaboration between outreach staff and the County regarding eligible PSH clients once this project commences. The City is undergoing a procurement process and an operator for Via del Oro will be selected by June 2024. Ramp-up and hiring will be complete before opening in January 2025.

### **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<br>Milestone   |
|------------|---|--------------------|--|
| 5/1/2024   | Construction of Via del<br>Oro EIH begins                                 | Place              | Groundbreaking construction date May 1, 2024. Development of site is expected to last through December 2024.   |
| 7/1/2024   | Outreach grant agreement  | Project Management | Negotiate and execute<br>a 3-year grant<br>agreement with<br>HomeFirst to deliver<br>street outreach to ERF<br>targeted encampment   |
| 7/1/2024   | Official project start date and commencement of outreach at Cherry Avenue | Project Management | HomeFirst outreach staff will begin the development of a By-Name list, use engagement tools to build rapport, develop housing pathways for engaged participants, direct participants to appropriate services/resources, and begin Housing Problem Solving. |
| 11/30/2024 | Via del Oro EIH Grant<br>Agreement  | Project Management | Negotiate and execute a grant agreement with the competitively procured provider for Via del Oro EIH.  |

| 12/31/2024 | Finalize list of encampment residents that will be transitioned to Via del Oro                              | People             | 75 individuals, including names and household information, sent to Via del Oro EIH provider for initial placement   |
|------------|---|--------------------|---|
| 1/15/2025  | Via del Oro EIH construction complete and staff onboarding and training complete                            | Place              |   |
| 1/30/2025  | At least 10 clients successfully transitioned to Permanent Housing destinations by HomeFirst outreach staff | People             | Housing Problem Solving: Diversion, Family Reunification, and Rental Assistance will allow the transition of at least 10 lower- acuity participants to transition into permanent housing destinations |
| 1/30/2025  | 75 clients moved into<br>Via del Oro EIH  | People             |   |
| 6/30/2025  | 50% of ERF-3-R dollars will be expended   | Project Management |   |
| 12/31/2025 | At least 37 project participants at Via del Oro will exit to various permanent housing destinations         | People             | Enter PSH from queue, obtain rental opportunity, HPS and short term rental assistance-supported exits to rental by client, service-supported exits to rental by client                                |

#### 6/30/2026

75 total project participants will be transitioned into various permanent housing destinations from the encampment and from Via del Oro

#### People

Enter PH through RRH, enter PSH from queue, obtain rental opportunity, HPS and short term rental assistance-supported exits to rental by client, service-supported exits to rental by client

#### 7/1/2026

All new encampment inflow will either transition into Via del Oro, permanent housing opportunity, or other pathways to permanent housing

#### People

Via del Oro will have capacity for all new individuals (up to 75) as they are engaged and transitioned from encampment by HomeFirst staff. 3 Outreach staff will continue to maintain presence at encampment.

#### 6/30/2027

At least 105 project participants successfully transition to Permanent Housing

#### People

Enter PH through RRH, enter PSH from queue, obtain rental opportunity, HPS and short term rental assistance-supported exits to rental by client, service-supported exits to rental by client.

| 6/30/2027 | Project end and ERF-3-R funds fully expended | Project Management | City-wide targeted Outreach program will continue to be leveraged past June 2027 to support any remaining encampment residents. Participants at Via del Oro that have yet to transition into PH will continue to be supported by EIH program. |
|-----------|--|--------------------|---|
|           |  |                    |   |

### Table 5: Projected Milestones

Answer the following questions in relationship to April 30, 2024. Cal ICH assumes disbursement will occur approximately 3-6 months after April 30, 2024.

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

Outreach to the This proposal will The first planned exit The last planned exit of a people residing in reach full operating of a person or person or household from capacity in mm/yyyy. the prioritized encampment the prioritized household from the encampment site prioritized will occur in mm/yyyy. began / will encampment will occur begin in mm/yyyy. in mm/yyyy. 07/2024 07/2024 06/2027 01/2025

### **CERTIFICATION**

Before certifying, applicants are <u>strongly encouraged</u> to review the NOFA.

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

| Name                                      |                            |
|---|----------------------------|
| Ryan                                      | Sanders                    |
| First                                     | Last                       |
| This does not have to be an authorized re | presentative or signatory. |
| Title                                     |                            |
| Senior Development Officer                |                            |
|   |                            |
| Email                                     |                            |

|   | ELIGIBLE USE CATEGORY  | ~5 WORD DESCRIPTION   | NAME OF ENTITY OR PART<br>OF PROPOSAL  |                     |  |   | ERF-3-R<br>PROPOSED<br>BUDGET   | LEVERAGED<br>FISCAL SUPPORT   | -2 SENTENCE DESCRIPTION   |
|---|--|---|--|---------------------|--|---|---|---|---|
| This budget template may be slightly<br>modified to meet local needs. If awarded<br>funding, this budget, once approved, wit<br>serve as your communitys official project<br>budget. Any future changes to this budg<br>must be authorized through the change<br>request process. | и<br><del>1</del>  | Enables Cal ICH to immediately understand<br>the line item.   | Enables Cal ICH to associate the<br>line item with specific entities or<br>parts of a proposal.  |                     |  |   | Only ERF-3-R Funds  | Non. ERF-3-R Funds That<br>WILL be Used to Support<br>this Proposal   | Enables Cal ICH to better understand the line item, context, and / or other pertinent information r<br>the proposed line item.  |
| PERSONNEL COSTS   |  |   | Via Del Oro Emergency Interim  | SALARY              | FTE  | MONTHS  |   |   |   |
|   | Interim Sheltering   | Program Manager   | Housing (EIH) Program  | 95,800.00           | 0.50   | 30 months   | 119,750.00  |   | Oversees Via del Oro ElH program, coordinates direct referrals from Outreach team, and supervises   |
|   | Interim Sheltering   | Case Manager  | Via Del Oro Emergency Interim<br>Housing (EIH) Program   | 62,160.00           | 3.00   | 30 months   | 466,200.00  |   | Provides intensive case management, housing navigation services, housing problem solving, and ser<br>coordination to ERF project participants placed at Via del Oro. Coordinates with SCC OSH to iden   |
|   | Interim Sheltering   | Resident Advocate   | Via Del Oro Emergency Interim<br>Housing (EIH) Program   | 54,293.00           | 5.00   | 30 months   | 678,662.50  |   | Assist with navigating resources at Via del Oro, facilitate self-sufficiency workshops (education,<br>financial/budgeting, employment readiness, resume-building, etc), provide light-touch case manage   |
|   | Interim Sheltering   | Shift Supervisor  | Via Del Oro Emergency Interim<br>Housing (EIH) Program   | 74,057,00           | 2.00   | 30 months   | 370,285.00  |   | Provides oversight of all Via del Oro operations during absence of Program Manager during swing<br>gravevard shifts, supervises staff during swing and gravevard shifts.  |
|   | Interim Sheltering   | Community Engagement Coordinator  | Via Del Oro Emergency Interim<br>Housing (EIH) Program   | 64,480.00           | 0.50   | 30 months   | 80,600.00   |   | Manages volunteers for meal services and other community-building opportunities. Builds relation community groups to solicit volunteers and in-kind drives.   |
|   | 5  |   | Via Del Oro Emergency Interim  |                     |  |   |   |   | Linkage to mental health and substance use resources; provides supportive counseling to ERF proj-   |
|   | Interim Sheltering   | Clinical Social Worker  | Housing (EIH) Program<br>Via Del Oro Emergency Interim   | 90,000.00           | 0.50   | 30 months   | 112,500.00  |   | participants at Via del Oro site.  On-site staff at Via del Oro dedicated to Housing Problem Solving for ERF project participants; as   |
|   | Delivery of Permanent Housing  | Housing Specialist, Housing Placement   | Housing (EIH) Program<br>Via Del Oro Emergency Interim   | 62,000.00           | 1.00   | 30 months   | 155,000.00  |   | identifying housing options for clients; provides landlord mediation services and incentives to land  |
|   | Interim Sheltering   | Program Staff Fringe Benefits - 25%   | Housing (EIH) Program  |                     |  | 30 months   |   | 495,749.38  | Employee Health Benefits for EIH staff  |
|   | Interim Sheltering   | Emergency Interim Housing Director  | Via Del Oro Emergency Interim<br>Housing (EIH) Program   | 121,500.00          | 0.10   | 30 months   |   | 30,375.00   | Ensures all grant reports are submitted in a timely manner and data is properly entered into HMIS.  |
|   | Street Outreach  | Program Manager   | Targeted Engagement Services<br>Program (Outreach)   | 96,000.00           | 1.00   | 36 months   | 288,000.00  |   | Day-to-day oversight, operations, and supervision of outreach team of 7 mobilized at targeted enc-  |
|   | Street Outreach  | Case Manager  | Targeted Engagement Services Program (Outreach)  | 62 000 00           | 2.00   | 36 months   | 372,000.00  |   | Provides intensive case management and housing navigation services to encampment residents, de-<br>maintains Rv-Name list coordinates with SCC OSH to identify clients with PSH conortunities. fi   |
|   |  |   | Targeted Engagement Services   | 02,000              |  |   |   |   | Provides street-based services to encampment residents including basic needs services, resource or  |
|   | Street Outreach  | Outreach Specialist   | Program (Outreach)<br>Targeted Engagement Services   | 59,485.00           | 2.00   | 36 months   | 356,910.00  |   | and builds relationships with clients on the field. Completes referrals for clients into Via del Oro<br>Provides clinical case management to encampment residents, assists with client crises in the field,   |
|   | Street Outreach  | Program Clinician   | Program (Outreach) Targeted Engagement Services  | 86,080.00           | 0.25   | 36 months   |   | 64,560.00   | with linkage to clinical resources for the betterment of the encampment clients' health. Existing He<br>Provides leadership to all street-based services staff, coordinates with OSH for PSH eligible client  |
|   | Street Outreach  | Program Director, Street Based Services   | Program (Outreach)   | 121,333.00          | 0.20   | 36 months   |   | 72,799.80   | transition, oversees overall outreach strategies.   |
|   | Street Outreach  | Targeted Engagement Services Staff Fringe<br>Benefits - 25%   | Targeted Engagement Services<br>Program (Outreach)   |                     |  | 36 months   |   | 288,567.45  | Employee Health Benefits for Outreach staff   |
|   | Street Outreach  | Peer Outreach   | Lived Experience Advisory Board<br>(LEAB)  |                     | 2.00   | 24 months   |   |   | People with lived experience compensated for support with engagement with ERF project particip<br>facilitate service coordination.  |
|   | Services Coordination  | Program Manager   | Santa Clara County Office of<br>Supportive Housing   | 80,000.00           | 0.25   | 36 months   |   |   | Coordinates with support service staff and City of San Jose on Coordinated Entry system; identifi-<br>eligible for PSH and RRH placement and supports with acquiring necessary documentation to que   |
|   |  | 5 5   | City of San Jose - Housing   |                     |  |   |   |   |   |
|   | Services Coordination  | Development Officer   | Department<br>City of San Jose - Housing   | 158,112.00          | 0.50   | 36 months   |   | 237,168.00  | Oversees program implementation, coordinates with outreach team, and coordinates with Via del C   |
|   | Services Coordination  | Senior Development  | Department<br>City of San Jose - Housing   | 193,778.00          | 0.50   | 36 months   |   | 290,667.00  | Supervises Development Officer staff, moniters grantee operating agreements, coordinates with Co<br>Provides support with submitting ERF quarterly reports and provides systems support during prog   |
|   |  |   |  |                     |  |   |   |   |   |
| Subtotal Bosconnol Costs  | Systems Support  | Analyst   | Department   | 140,000.00          | 0.15   | 36 months   | \$ 2,000,007,50   |   | implementation.   |
| Subtotal - Personnel Costs  | Systems Support  | Analyst   |  | 140,000.00          | 0.15   | 36 months   | \$ 2,999,907.50   |   | implementation.   |
|   | Systems Support  | Analyst   |  | 140,000.00          | 0.15   | 36 months   | \$ 2,999,907.50   |   | implementation.   |
|   |  | Flexible Funding (Client Financial  | Department  Targeted Engagement Services   | UNIT                | RATE   |   |   |   | implementation.  Flexible client assistance for motel hotel placements, other costs (work attire, whicle repairs, edu   |
|   | System Support Street Outroach   |   | Department  Targeted Engagement Services Program (Outrocch)  | 7,77                |  |   | \$ 2,999,907.50<br>75,000.00  |   | Irelable client assistance for motel hard placements, other costs (work attire, whicle repairs, other espenses, transportation)   |
|   |  | Flexible Funding (Client Financial  | Targeted Engagement Services Program (Outreach) Targeted Engagement Services Program (Outreach)  | UNIT                | RATE   |   |   |   | Flexible client assistance for motel hotel placements; other costs (work attire, whicle repairs, edu executes, transportation) are moved in costs, security deposits, etc.) for client who are bounded to the cost of the cost  |
|   | Street Outrach   | Flexible Funding (Client Financial<br>Assistance)   | Targeted Engagement Services Program (Outreach) Targeted Engagement Services Program (Outreach) Targeted Engagement Services Program (Outreach) Targeted Engagement Services   | UNIT 75             | RATE \$1,000   |   | 75,000.00   |   | Flexible client assistance for motel hotel placements, other costs (work attire, whicle repairs, educescus, transportation) Financial support (familium, mos-in costs, security deposits, etc.) for clients who are bound the   |
|   | Street Outreach Delivery of Permanent Housing  | Flexible Funding (Client Financial<br>Assistance) Housing Problem Solving   | Department  Tangeted Engagement Services Program (Outreach) Tangeted Engagement Services Program (Outreach) Tangeted Engagement Services Program (Outreach) Via del Ore Energency Interim Via del Ore Energency Interim Housing (EBB) Demogramey Interim Housing (EBB) Services  | UNIT 75 20          | RATE<br>\$1,000<br>\$5,000   |   | 75,000.00<br>100,000.00   |   | Hesible client assistance for mored hotel placements, other costs (work attire, whicle repairs, other expenses, transportation).  Financial support (familium, more in costs, security deposits, etc.) for clients who are housed the Housing Problems Growing (IPP) strategies. Devosite, family-lifered mentilication, shared beauting Financial support (familium, more in costs, security deposits, etc.) for clients who are housed that PDPS strategies. Devosite, family-friend confidencies, shared beauting, and retails yet leaf for client who are thought of the strategies. Devosite, family-friend confidencies, shared beauting, and retails yet leaf for client who are the strategies of the strategies. The strategies of the strategies o  |
|   | Street Outreach Delivery of Permanent Housing Delivery of Permanent Housing  | Flexible Funding (Client Financial<br>Assistance) Housing Problem Solving Housing Problem Solving   | Department  Tagged Engagement Services Program (Outroca) Targede Engagement Services Program (Outroca) Via del Oro Energency Interim Via del Oro Energency Interim Via del Oro Energency Interim   | UNIT 75 20 40       | \$1,000<br>\$5,000<br>\$5,000  |   | 75,000.00<br>100,000.00<br>200,000.00<br>120,000.00   |   | Hesible client assistance for motel hard placements, other costs (work attire, whicle repairs, observes, transportation) Financial support (familium, move-in costs, security deposits, etc.) for clients who are housed the Housing Problems Society (IPPS) strategies. Diversion, family/friend reasonilations, shared beausing Financial support (familium, move-in costs, security deposits, etc.) for clients who are housed that PSPS strategies. Devois, family/friend reminification, shared beausing, and results by client for clients of the control of the cost of  |
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### California Department of Transportation

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR
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January 30, 2024

Sacramento, CA 95814

Attn: Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council (HCFC) Encampment Resolution Funding Program, Round 3 (ERF-3-R) 915 Capitol Mall

### RE: Letter of Support for Encampment Resolution Funding (ERF-3-R) for the City of San Jose's Cherry Avenue Encampment Resolution Program

On behalf of the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans Bay Area-District 4), I want to express our support and partnership for the City of San Jose's application to the Encampment Resolution Funding Program. We are supportive of the City's decision to focus this effort on serving 200 unsheltered individuals over the course of the grant period (7/1/2024 – 6/30/2027). The project area is bound by Branham Lane on the North, Blossom Hill Road on the South, Cherry Avenue on the West, and the outer bounds of Perc Pond on the East. The project area is primarily Santa Clara Valley Water District property. Highway 85 Northbound and Southbound is within these limits. This Caltrans portion of the project area currently contains 25 impacted unsheltered individuals who will receive services as part of the project. The number of individuals on Caltrans property is subject to fluctuate over the course of the grant period, but the objective is to engage and shelter all individuals in the area by 6/30/2027.

This proposal seeks to immediately decrease the number of individuals living unsheltered in the City of San Jose by:

- Targeted outreach and engagement at the encampment to assess housing needs
- Transition to interim shelter units in the City's Emergency Interim Housing (EIH) program, 100 of which will be prioritized for individuals from the project area.
   Offer intensive case management, along with a full suite of supportive services, to support individuals on a pathway to self-sufficiency and permanent housing.

 Complete VI-SPDATs to place individuals on a community queue for Permanent Supportive Housing, Rapid Rehousing, and Transitional Housing programs. Coordinate closely with the Office of Supportive Housing to identify potential Permanent Supportive Housing opportunities for encampment residents.

The City will be mobilizing targeted outreach and engagement services in the project area from July 2024 to July 2027. During this time, Caltrans is committed to minimizing activities in the project area that may affect this project and/or displace people residing at the site. Caltrans will only take action at the project area in collaboration with and with at least one month's 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).

We are committed to continuing our partnership with the City to serve the unhoused community members living publicly in Caltrans properties. I fully support the City, including the California Encampment Resolution Funding Grant. These state resources will be instrumental in serving unsheltered people at the Cherry Ave site.

Sincerely,

Leah Budu

Look Budy

District Director, Maintenance

### **County of Santa Clara**

Office of Supportive Housing

150 W. Tasman Drive, San Jose, CA 95134 (408) 278-6400 Main (669) 220-1444 Fax



January 30, 2024

Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council (HCFC)
Encampment Resolution Funding Program, Round 3 (ERF-3-R)
915 Capitol Mall
Sacramento, CA 95814

### RE: Letter of Support for Encampment Resolution Funding (ERF-3-R) for the City of San Jose's Cherry Avenue Encampment Resolution Program

Dear HCFC Council Members,

On behalf of the County of Santa Clara's Office of Supportive Housing, I want to express our support for the City of San Jose's application to the Encampment Resolution Funding Program. We are supportive of the City's decision to focus this effort on serving 200 unsheltered individuals over the course of the grant period (7/1/2024 – 6/30/2027) at the Cherry Avenue encampment. The proposal aligns with the Santa Clara County Community Plan to End Homelessness (Community Plan), most notably with Strategy 3 which calls for a doubling of the number of temporary housing units in our community.

As the collaborative applicant for the Continuum of Care, the Office of Supportive Housing has been charged with oversight of the Supportive Housing System including the management of the local coordinated entry system. Ensuring program participants are assessed and connected to pathways to permanent housing is a key success of the County's partnership with the City of San Jose.

This system will be a crucial in linking program participants to Permanent Supportive Housing opportunities when they are eligible through the community queue. The Office of Supportive Housing previously partnered with the City of San Jose to demobilize an encampment and connect unsheltered households to interim and permanent housing. The City's proposal

We will closely coordinate with the City of San Jose and other community partners to identify individuals from the encampment that are eligible for Permanent Supportive Housing and support their pathway to permanent housing. The Encampment Resolution program aligns with the Community Plan to End Homelessness's strategies to decrease the number of individuals living unsheltered in the City of San Jose through a coordinated effort to assess unsheltered individuals to determine their housing intervention, provider the offering of interim housing, and connecting people to pathways to permanent housing.

We are committed to continuing our partnership with the City of San Jose to serve the community members experiencing unsheltered homelessness. I fully support the City of San

Board of Supervisors: Sylvia Arenas, Cindy Chavez, Otto Lee, Susan Ellenberg, S. Joseph Simitian County Executive: James R. Williams

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Jose's application for the State of California Encampment Resolution Funding Grant and are prepared to once again partner with the City of San Jose's Housing Department. The ERF-3-R grant is a crucial resource to support the individuals living in the Cherry Avenue encampment.

Sincerely,

Consuelo Hernandez, AICP

Director, Office of Supportive Housing

Page 2 of 2 Board of Supervisors: Sylvia Arenas, Cindy Chavez, Otto Lee, Susan Ellenberg, S. Joseph Simitian County Executive: James R. Williams





January 29, 2024

Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council (HCFC) Encampment Resolution Funding (ERF) Program 915 Capitol Mall Sacramento, CA 95814

### RE: Letter of Support for Encampment Resolution Funding for City of San José's Safe Encampment Resolution program

Dear HCFC Council Members,

Valley Water supports the City of San José's application to the Encampment Resolution Funding (ERF) program to support the City's Safe Encampment Resolution program (SER). In collaboration with Valley Water and other community partners, the SER program will aim to resolve homelessness for residents living along Guadalupe River Reach 12 between Branham Lane and Blossom Hill Road in San José.

Valley Water owns and manages approximately 73.3 miles of streams and riparian and aquatic habitat throughout the City of San José, including most of the property along Guadalupe River Reach 12, which is the location of the encampment site at the center of the City's ERF application. Encampments along the waterways contribute largely to local pollution and the degradation of water quality and habitat in streams. These areas include threatened and endangered species, sensitive habitats, and public infrastructure critical to water supply, groundwater recharge, and flood risk reduction activities. Valley Water welcomes the opportunity to help coordinate a compassionate approach to resolving the large encampment within Guadalupe River Reach 12. The City's SER program aligns with Valley Water's environmental mission, as well as its recently granted authority to work toward providing shelter and services that can improve outcomes for unsheltered people.

As mentioned above, the encampment site is located in a reach of the Guadalupe River that Valley Water and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers refer to as Reach 12 (from Blossom Hill Road to Branham Lane crossings) of the Upper Guadalupe River Flood Risk Management Project. This reach requires protection from encampment uses and commonly associated impacts because it includes critical water supply infrastructure, endangered species and other ecological resources, and significant financial investments to provide legally required habitat mitigation.

- Guadalupe River in Reach 12 helps recharge groundwater, and there are several off-stream
  groundwater percolation ponds. Groundwater is used to supply water to Santa Clara County and needs
  to be protected from contamination and water quality impacts that can be associated with
  encampments, such as biowaste, hazardous chemicals and materials, and trash.
- Steelhead, Chinook salmon, and other native species use the channel and floodplain in Reach 12.
   Encampments and associated uses can degrade water quality, obstruct fish passage, and damage and destroy habitats that these species depend on. In addition, Guadalupe River, its floodplain, and vegetation are protected waters and wetlands that provide habitat, convey flood waters, help recharge groundwater, and provide other "ecosystem services." Trampling, vegetation removal, and increased fire frequency associated with encampments are damaging these resources and limiting their associated ecosystem services.



**HCFC Council Members** Page 2 January 29, 2024

> Trampling, vegetation removal, and increased fire have also damaged and destroyed legally required habitat mitigation in Reach 12. These impacts are preventing the successful establishment of 2.5 acres of river and floodplain habitat enhancements that were implemented, at considerable cost and effort, to provide advance mitigation for the Upper Guadalupe River Project. Failure to successfully establish the mitigation is limiting the value of this investment and substantially increasing the time and cost to comply with regulatory mitigation requirements.

Once encampments in this area have been resolved, active restoration of mitigation areas would depend on physical site conditions, mitigation requirements, and degree of impact from previous encampments. Mitigation areas will be cleared of trash and waste, soils will be de-compacted, roughened, and amended to prepare for seeding and/or planting with native trees and shrubs to re-establish cover, prevent erosion, and restore the intended mixed riparian forest habitat conditions.

Additionally, Valley Water and the City of San José are currently in active negotiations for the City to construct nearly 100 Emergency Interim Housing (EIH) units along this portion of the Guadalupe River. Valley Water's interest in having the City develop EIH on its property is to facilitate the safe relocation of encampments of unsheltered individuals living in this reach of the Guadalupe River into an EIH community, thereby enabling protection of the waterway from encampment generated environmental impacts. Through a collaborative effort, Valley Water and the City have developed the concept of creating a Water Resources Protection Zone (WRPZ) along Guadalupe River from Blossom Hill Road in the south to Branham Lane in the north. After the safe relocation of unsheltered individuals currently living in encampments into the EIH community, this reach of the waterway would be designated as a WRPZ—an identified zone to be kept clear of camping, fires, damage to vegetation and wildlife, and pollution to the water. If the City can successfully secure Encampment Resolution Funding, it will go a long way toward ensuring the successful transition of Reach 12 encampment residents into housing, the establishment of the WRPZ, and restoration of Guadalupe River Reach 12 mitigation areas.

For these reasons, Valley Water strongly recommends funding for this encampment resolution program. If you have any questions, please reach out to me at JCodianne@valleywater.org.

Sincerely,

B78805F5A810445.. Jennifer Codianne

-DocuSigned by:

Deputy Operating Officer

Pennifer Copinnne

Watersheds Operations & Maintenance Division

### Attachment A: Project Area Map

