

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN
THE CITY OF RIVERSIDE AND THE COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE
FOR A COORDINATED RESPONSE TO HOMELESSNESS**

This Memorandum of Understanding ("MOU") is entered into on this 6th day of July, 2022 ("Effective Date"), by and between THE CITY OF RIVERSIDE, a California charter city and municipal corporation ("City"), and THE COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, a political subdivision of the State of California ("County") (each individually, a "Party," and collectively as the "Parties".) This MOU is made with respect to the following:

- A. City and County are committed to supporting the social and economic well-being of all residents, including those individuals and populations at high risk of social, economic, medical, and behavioral, health challenges. Poverty, unemployment, family disruptions, substance abuse, and disability can threaten independence and self-sufficiency and increase a person's risk of homelessness.
- B. A federally mandated homeless "point-in-time" ("PIT") count is conducted every year of all people experiencing sheltered and unsheltered homelessness on a single night. (Note: The 2021 count was cancelled due to the COVID-19 public health crisis.) Data collected is used to demonstrate need for federal and state funding, inform policy decisions related to services and rescue planning, and to inform the community about homelessness. According to the 2022 Riverside County Homeless Point-in-Time (PIT) Count, there were 3,316 individuals experiencing homelessness across the County, including 1,980 unsheltered individuals. Below is a chart showing the unsheltered count in the City and the County in recent years and the County's data broken down by cities is show in Attachment A.

Jurisdiction	2019	2020	2021	2022	% of 2022 Total
Countywide	2045	2155	n/a	1,980	n/a
City	439	587	n/a	514	26%

- C. The unsheltered homeless population in the City is approximately 26% of the County total, while the total population of the City is approximately 13% of the County total.
- D. The City has taken numerous steps to reduce homelessness and meet the needs of this vulnerable population. Below are some examples:
- 1) The Office of Homeless Solutions develop public and private partnerships and provides direct outreach services that coordinates services directed towards reducing and preventing homelessness by providing a wide range of services and resources for homeless persons and increasing permanent supportive housing opportunities for very low income and long-term homeless persons to end their homelessness in the City.
 - 2) The City adopted a series of homeless service initiatives, which set forth the City's policies, goals, and objectives in addressing homeless issues through the strategic alignment of municipal and regional resources, with an emphasis on providing homeless

individuals with housing first and then wrap-around services ("Housing First Strategy").

- 3) The City created the Public Safety and Engagement Team Program ("PSET"), a City multi-departmental engagement team whose purpose is to address the challenges brought forth by homelessness, maintaining order in the public realm while providing those individuals experiencing homelessness a path to exit the condition.
 - 4) The Riverside Police Department ("RPD") has also created a Community Behavioral Assessment Team ("CBAT"), to consist of two specially trained RPD officers and two County clinical therapists who respond to service calls involving behavioral health issues.
 - 5) The City approved the creation of twenty (20) Park and Neighborhood Specialists ("PANS") to promote safety and welfare in City parks, trails, neighborhoods, and public spaces. PANS will be working directly with PSET.
- E. The County is instrumental in addressing risks pertaining to homelessness and addressing issues associated with vulnerable populations. Below are some examples:
- 1) Housing and Workforce Solutions ("HWS") administers the Continuum of Care ("CoC"), which provides homeless assistance by leveraging funding needed through the federal government's Housing and Urban Development Consolidated Application, allowing for collaboration between providers of housing and homeless assistance programs and other federal programs. The CoC is a network of private and public sector homeless service providers, designed to promote community-wide planning and the strategic use of resources addressing homelessness. The CoC has adopted an action plan that seeks to improve coordination and integration with mainstream resources and other community programs for people who are experiencing or are at-risk of becoming homeless, while improving and expanding the collection of data countywide, developing performance measurements, and allowing for each community to tailor its' program to the particular strengths and challenges within that community.
 - 2) HWS also offers access to hotel/motel vouchers, affordable housing programs and job training services and engages in research to help reduce future homelessness. HWS is a lead partner in Riverside County HomeConnect, which is a county-wide coordinated response system for those in housing crisis. The network of agencies collaborates to help support individuals in a housing crisis by linking them to services and resources.
 - 3) Riverside University Health System Department of Behavioral Health ("RUHS/BH") has a number of homeless outreach teams regularly contacting homeless individuals with a goal of connecting them with behavioral health services as necessary. Additionally, RUHS/BH operates the Homeless Housing Opportunities, Partnership & Education ("HHOPE") program which manages, coordinates and monitors all programs providing housing support services.
 - 4) The Riverside Sheriff's Department ("RSO"), in addition to general law enforcement,

operates the Homeless Outreach Team ("HOT"), which is committed to assisting the community with issues related to homelessness through education and outreach. HOT addresses issues surrounding quality of life, encampments, and makes assessments of housing, substance abuse, and behavioral health needs through a collaborative effort with local county agencies and nonprofit partners.

The Department of Public Social Services ("DPSS") works with county and community partners to provide wrap-around services that help at-risk adults and families. Among other self-sufficiency programs, DPSS' CalWORKS program offers cash assistance, temporary housing assistance, hotel/motel vouchers, and rental assistance.

- F. While the Parties, individually and collectively, have been working to reduce homelessness and address related issues, more collaboration and coordination is necessary to ensure that all levels of government are working together to prevent homelessness in Riverside and provide individuals in Riverside experiencing homelessness the shelter and services they need.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the foregoing, with a joint understanding of the challenges facing the community with regards to homelessness and to identify a common agenda by which the Parties will move forward, collaboratively, with coordinated actions, it is hereby agreed among the Parties:

1. The Parties, in recognition that they have complementary expertise and overlapping interests, will share knowledge, expertise, and best practices.
2. The Parties will alert each other as soon as practical to significant issues and/or developments involving individuals experiencing homelessness in the City, including mandated jail releases and the Parties will identify points of contact to act as leads for this purpose.
3. The Parties will work together to identify gaps in behavioral health services for homeless individuals, including individuals with high acuity of behavioral health illnesses that require a higher level of care, and work to fill those gaps. To help understand the gaps in services, the County will provide to the City on a quarterly basis a performance outcome report on ETS/IF, ARC/Sobering Center and the Restorative Transformation Center. Data should include: (1) Client demographic breakdown, (2) Referral type, (3) Referral cities, (4) Average length of stay, (5) Discharge reasons, and (6) discharge type.
4. The Parties will work together to create a community-wide, coordinated ecosystem to support the behavioral health needs of those experiencing homelessness, to include partners in the public, private, non-profit, faith based, and academic sectors.
5. The Parties will work together to implement: (1) the Homeless Outreach Mediation & Education (HOME) Program to provide an alternative sentencing program developed for those who are facing criminal prosecution for low-level crimes and are experiencing homelessness, and (2) to implement a "CARE Court" in the civil justice system, if such a framework is enacted by the state.

6. The Parties will work together to develop and effectively coordinate a strategic advocacy plan to obtain State and Federal funding for increasing local and regional capacity to assist individuals experiencing homelessness and those who are suffering with behavioral health issues, including substance use disorders. Joint advocacy request to be submitted to our delegation by early December of each year.
7. The Parties will work together to expand the City's CBAT effort, with the City funding additional positions and the County recruiting and hiring for those positions.
8. The Parties will work together to ensure the safety and security of the community surrounding the ETS/ITF, the ARC, and Restorative Transformation Center located on County Farm Road, including the County's consideration in this calendar year of assigning Sheriff's personnel, paying for increased service levels for the Riverside Police Department, contracting with private security at the locations to provide security at the facilities as necessary and appropriate.
9. The County will ensure that Restorative Transformation Center program staff will inform the County District Attorney's Office when program participants fail to complete the program.
10. The Parties, through use of multidisciplinary teams that include, but are not limited to the Mobile Crisis Management Team (MCMT), County CalAim Enhanced Care Management (ECM) team, PSET and Outreach teams, will identify those individuals who have frequent contacts with County, City, and the partners interacting with the homeless population and regularly work together to prioritize their needs for enhanced case management.
11. The Parties will work together to coordinate and ensure service delivery and warm hand-offs as individuals experiencing homelessness transition from County services and partners to external services and partners.
12. The Parties will work together to identify future program and facility needs moving forward, including the development of new facility projects, and will work with and engage with the community before new solutions are implemented.
13. The County will expand the Riverside Inmate Destination Endeavor ("RIDE") program to provide voluntary taxi vouchers to those individuals released from custody at the Robert Presley Detention Center who are without transportation and quarterly report to the City on the number of released inmates needing transportation assistance.
14. The County will develop a program modeled after the RIDE program to offer voluntary taxi vouchers to those individuals who are discharged from ETS/ITF, ARC, and Restorative Transformative Center who are without transportation and quarterly report to the City on the number of released patients needing transportation assistance.

15. The County will work to secure funds and build and or renovate a new acute behavioral health facility with larger capacity in a location better suited to meet the regional demand for services to replace ETS/ITF.
16. The Parties will develop a Memorandum of Understanding with partnering government agencies in the Santa Ana River Bottom to address homelessness including creating and implementing anti-camping ordinance(s) for each jurisdiction and equitable enforcement and maintenance of the river bottom area to mitigate health potential health and safety impacts to surrounding businesses and residents.

The undersigned have read the foregoing agreement, fully understand the terms and provisions set forth herein, and execute this Memorandum of Understanding as of the date first set forth below.

CITY OF RIVERSIDE

By: _____

Interim City Manager

Date: _____

Approved as to Form:

By: _____

City Attorney

Attested to:

By: _____

City Clerk

COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE

By: _____

County Executive Officer

Date: 7-6-22

Approved as to Form:

By: _____

County Counsel

COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE 2019-2022 HOMELESS POINT IN TIME COUNT

CITY	DISTRICT	2019	2020	% of 2020 PIT COUNT	INCREASE/ DECREASE	2022	% of 2020 PIT COUNT	INCREASE/ DECREASE
Banning	5	39	43	2%	10%	54	3%	26%
Beaumont	5	15	16	1%	6%	16	1%	0%
Blythe	4	48	73	3%	52%	79	4%	8%
Calimesa	5	16	17	1%	6%	8	0%	-53%
Canyon Lake	1	0	0	0%	0%	0	0%	0%
Cathedral City	4	82	44	2%	-46%	61	3%	39%
Coachella	4	51	78	4%	53%	74	4%	-5%
Corona	2	164	109	5%	-34%	110	6%	1%
Desert Hot Springs	4	45	68	3%	51%	48	2%	-29%
Eastvale	2	0	4	0%	400%	6	0%	50%
Hemet	3	112	93	4%	-17%	82	4%	-12%
Indian Wells	4	2	1	0%	-50%	0	0%	-100%
Indio	4	52	83	4%	60%	105	5%	27%
Jurupa Valley	2	139	103	5%	-26%	96	5%	-7%
Lake Elsinore	1	66	50	3%	-24%	35	2%	-30%
La Quinta	4	9	3	0%	-67%	7	0%	133%
Mecca	4	0	0	0%	0%			
Menifee	5	17	19	1%	12%	28	1%	47%
Moreno Valley	5	38	165	8%	334%	77	4%	-53%
Murrieta	3	17	18	1%	6%	12	1%	-33%
Norco	2	11	12	1%	9%	14	1%	17%
Palm Desert	4	23	18	1%	-22%	26	1%	44%
Palm Springs	4	196	189	9%	-4%	222	11%	18%
Perris	5	77	52	2%	-32%	59	3%	14%
Rancho Mirage	4	6	12	1%	100%	3	0%	0%
Riverside	1 & 2	439	587	27%	34%	514	26%	-12%
San Jacinto	3	48	31	1%	-35%	57	3%	84%
Temecula	3	59	59	3%	0%	28	1%	-53%
Wildomar	1	13	6	0%	-54%	7	0%	17%
CITY	DISTRICT	2019	2020	% of 2020 PIT COUNT	INCREASE/ DECREASE	2022	% of 2020 PIT COUNT	INCREASE/ DECREASE
Unincorporated	1	45	44	2%	-2%	24	1%	-46%
Unincorporated	2	44	31	1%	-30%	27	1%	-13%
Unincorporated	3	65	54	3%	-17%	48	2%	-11%
Unincorporated	4	98	58	3%	-41%	45	2%	-22%
Unincorporated	5	9	15	1%	67%	8	0%	-47%
TOTAL		4,064	4,175	100%		1,980	100%	

2022 DISTRICTS PIT COUNT

DISTRICT	NO. OF HOMELESS	% OF PIT COUNT	CITY OF RIVERSIDE	% OF CITY OF RIVERSIDE
1	373	19%	307	82%
2	460	23%	207	45%
3	227	11%		
4	670	34%		
5	250	13%		
TOTAL NO.	1,980	100%	514	