



Santa Ana River Bottom Encampment Response Plan

A multi-jurisdictional and disciplinary approach

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Background

One of the largest concentrations of homeless encampments in Riverside County can be found along the Santa Ana River Bottom and thus is one of the highest priorities for encampment response and mitigation.

The Santa Ana River Bottom encampments offer unique challenges and opportunities to launch a coordinated response effort which addresses homelessness, restores habitat and prevents future encampments.

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Foundational Principles

Partners are committed to resolving and not simply managing homelessness. We recognize that a **sustained, long-term effort** is required to fully address all issues. At minimum, partners commit to dedicating their respective teams for a one-year time period.

Everyone experiencing unsheltered homelessness is vulnerable and deserving of being treated with dignity and respect. This effort is **not intended as a displacement intervention**, rather it seeks to provide meaningful resources to those experiencing homelessness.

Access to safe and secure housing is one of the most basic human rights. All persons should have **access to housing and services** which they can use as a platform to address key factors leading to their homelessness.

Every effort must be made to **address the health and basic human needs during this COVID** crisis. This includes but is not limited to encouraging social distancing, providing a medical response to those displaying symptoms and providing temporary needs for hygiene.

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Goals

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Rehouse existing encampment residents living in the Santa Ana River Bottom area.

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Remove and mitigate physical encampments.

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Conduct clean-up and habitat restoration.

4

Establish effective tools to prevent the reoccurrence of encampments.

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Potential Partners and Collaborating Agencies

Cities:

- Corona
- Eastvale
- Jurupa Valley
- Riverside
- Norco

County Departments:

- Animal Services
- Behavioral Health
- DPSS
- Flood Control
- HHPWS
- Public Health
- Probation
- Regional Park & Open Space District
- Sheriff
- Workforce Development

Other Partners:

- CityNet- through partnership with Corona, Norco & Riverside
- Operation Safehouse
- Orange County Water District
- Orange County Flood Control
- Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority
- Path of Life
- US Army Corps of Engineers
- US Fish and Wildlife Services

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Proposed Scope of Work & Timeline

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April 2021 – May 2021 Coordination, Initial Planning and Communication Strategy



Engagement conversations with all partners and key stakeholders.



Commitment of partners and resources.



Establishment of mutual goals, objectives and initial outreach plan.



Mapping of all encampment sites both active and abandoned.



Convening of multi-disciplinary outreach team.



Establishment of communication strategy.

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May 2021 – June 2021 Assessment and Mapping

Deployment of outreach teams to assess all encampment residents using VI-SPDAT.

Establishment of a "By Name List" of all residents based on vulnerability score.

Assessment of environmental conditions, hazards and immediate issues.

Formal report on homeless residents (demographics, service needs, etc.).

Provide access to testing and vaccinations as needed.

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July 2021 – August 2021 **Initial Outreach and Service Assessment**

- Map out service needs, sheltering options and long-term housing resources for each resident.
- Convene weekly case conferencing meeting among outreach workers, case managers and housing navigators.
- Begin intensive resident engagement.

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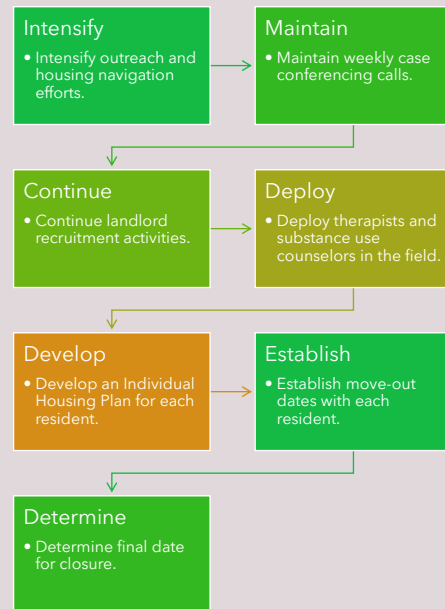
*August 2021 – October 2021***Service Provision, Sheltering and Housing Connections, Resource Events, Placements of Low-Acuity Residents & Medical Care**

- Provide a one day, one-stop resource fair to facilitate linkages to sheltering and services.
- Provide emergency shelter placements to eligible clients.
- Provide immediate housing placements for seniors, HIV affected, youth and other special needs residents.
- Coordinate placement in outpatient and inpatient recovery programs.
- Provide immediate medical care and transport.
- Provide a status report on housed and unhoused residents.
- Initiate landlord recruitment campaign.



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November 2021 – March 2022 **Intensive Resident Engagement, Identification of Medium -Long Term Housing**



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Last quarter of 2021 Clean-up efforts

- Coordinate with California Fish & Wildlife regarding nesting season
- Work with Parks and Flood

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Proposed Outcomes & Performance Measures

Placements into Housing, referrals
to services

Reduction of Environmental
Impacts, fire incidents

Trail Accessibility

Trash/Debris Removed

Recidivism

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