**Homeless Encampment Management Policies Questionnaire**

From: County of Santa Barbara

1. Do you have a policy on encampment management and removal?
   1. Yes; the County Board of Supervisors approved an [Encampment Resolution Strategy and Encampment Response Protocol on August 31, 2021](https://santabarbara.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=5119688&GUID=A700C6B9-5FBB-4AB1-9E93-B3D10A0C2B2C&Options=&Search=)
2. Is there a corresponding protocol?
   1. Yes; visit the link above to view the Encampment Response Protocol
3. What county / city department is point on the policies and protocols?
   1. Community Services/Housing and Community Development houses the Encampment Response Coordinator, and works closely with the Encampment Response Team: Public Health/Environmental Health Services, Fire, Sheriff, and homeless service providers (street outreach housing navigators)
4. What is the relationship between the City and County and their responsibilities?
   1. The County is working with cities, Caltrans, and railroad companies to develop an MOU addressing access to sites and strengthening coordination, communication, and collaboration
5. Who are the primary people/departments responsible and accountable for implementation, and who would be the best point of connection?
   1. Community Services/Housing and Community Development houses the Encampment Response Coordinator: Lucille Boss [LBoss@countyofsb.org](mailto:LBoss@countyofsb.org)
6. How is it working / not working?
   1. Please see the [6-month progress report](https://santabarbara.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=5657113&GUID=DCF2B00D-E07A-4983-B4AA-15E95255F093&Options=&Search=) presented to the County’s Board of Supervisors on May 24, 2022
7. What, if any, barriers, opposition, or significant impacts?
   1. Legal
   2. Political
   3. Operational
   4. Fiscal

Please see the challenges outlined in the documents presented on 8/31/21 or 5/24/22.

1. What would you suggest we adopt or do differently based on your experience thus far?
   1. The Encampment Response Protocol is a living/working document and will be updated following a year of implementation
   2. We recommend implementing a complete strategy focused on resolving encampments/homelessness for persons who are currently unsheltered; a complete strategy will differ depending on community data and needs analysis, but it may include:
      1. Encampment Response Protocol and Team
      2. Increasing access to shelter
      3. Leveraging long-term rental subsidies
      4. Creating new permanent housing units
      5. Robust outreach and engagement
      6. Sustained adequate funding
2. Are there any creative solutions or strategies you are considering or have heard of that would be good to consider?
   1. The United States Interagency Council on Homelessness recently released “Principles for Addressing Encampments” and will be incorporated into our local year-one implementation progress report
3. Who else would be a good resource to talk to about your homeless policies and practices?
   1. Kimberlee Albers, Homeless Assistance Program Manager [KAlbers@countyofsb.org](mailto:KAlbers@countyofsb.org)
4. Any other agencies that you would recommend I talk with that have successful encampment policies?
   1. Helene Schneider, USICH Regional Coordinator can refer you to other communities in planning and implementation phases
5. What is your definition of success – the metrics and data you track and report on?
   1. The following are outlined in the Encampment Resolution Strategy and Encampment Response Protocol as goals and performance measures:
      1. Number of encampments assessed
      2. Number of encampments resolved
      3. Number of persons identified in assessed encampments
      4. Participants in resolved encampments who accept alternate shelter/housing
      5. Participants who accept alternative shelter or services are permanently housed
      6. Resolved encampments not re-established at 3-months
      7. Resolved encampments not re-established at 6-months
      8. Resolved encampments not re-established at 12-months
      9. Reduce calls for service to encampment locations (incidents leading to service requests, reduce drug-related and criminal activity)
   2. The following are outlined in draft reporting:
      1. Number of households receiving eviction prevention services (including legal representation).
      2. Number of affordable housing units preserved or developed.
      3. Number of encampment sites recorded
      4. Number of encampment clusters (areas with large numbers of encampment sites) assessed
      5. Number of encampment sites assessed
      6. Number of persons identified in assessed sites
      7. Number of encampment sites resolved
      8. Number of persons identified in resolved sites
      9. Participants in resolved encampments who accept alternate shelter/housing
      10. Participants who accept alternative shelter or services are permanently housed: not yet applicable
      11. Resolved encampments not re-established at 3-months
      12. Resolved encampments not re-established at 6-months
      13. Resolved encampments not re-established at 12-months
      14. Reduce calls for service to encampment locations (incidents leading to service requests, reduce drug-related and criminal activity)
6. Please send a copy of your policies, protocols, and supporting documents
   1. Linked throughout this document