

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.

⊙ CoC ○ City ○ County

Select from the list of continuums of care.

Merced City & County CoC

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)

Merced County Human Services Agency - Administrative Entity

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

94-6000521

Tax ID Form

Government Agency Taxpayer ID Form_Signed.pdf

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

GovTIN: <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		
John	Ceccoli	
First	Last	
This contact will receive ALL grant related corresponding hours, information requests, reporting, etc.)	ondence (inclusive o	f application, award, contract,
Job title		
Deputy Director		
job title		
Email		Phone
John.Ceccoli@countyofmerced.com		(209) 385-3000 x5233
This contact will receive ALL grant related corresponding application, award, contract, office hours, informal reporting, etc.)		
Secondary Contact Jewel	Wise	
First	Last	
L.L.ed.		
Job title		
Staff Services Analyst job title		
		Discours
Email		Phone (200) 285 2000 25570
jewel.wise3@countyofmerced.com This contact will receive ALL grant related corresponding application, award, contract, office hours, information reporting, etc.)		(209) 385-3000 x5579
Contact Person for Reporting		
See	Her	
First	Last	

Job title

Staff Services Analyst			
job title			
Email		Phone	
See.Her2@countyofmerced.com	See.Her2@countyofmerced.com		
This contact will ONLY receive gr (inclusive of guidance, report rele			
Authorized Representative			
Yvonnia		Brown	
First		Last	
Job title			
Director of Human Services Age	ncy		
job title			
Email		Phone	
Email Yvonnia.Brown@countyofmerce	d.com	Phone (209) 385-3000 x5642	
-		(209) 385-3000 x5642	
Yvonnia.Brown@countyofmerce The Authorized Representative has the eligible applicant	as authority to cor	(209) 385-3000 x5642	
Yvonnia.Brown@countyofmerce The Authorized Representative has the eligible applicant If this application is be mailed to? Address	as authority to cor	(209) 385-3000 x5642	
Yvonnia.Brown@countyofmercer The Authorized Representative has the eligible applicant If this application is be mailed to? Address P.O. Box 112	as authority to cor	(209) 385-3000 x5642	
Yvonnia.Brown@countyofmerce The Authorized Representative has the eligible applicant If this application is be mailed to? Address	as authority to cor	(209) 385-3000 x5642	
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Yvonnia.Brown@countyofmerce The Authorized Representative has the eligible applicant If this application is be mailed to? Address P.O. Box 112 Address Line 1	as authority to cor	(209) 385-3000 x5642 at address should the check	
Yvonnia.Brown@countyofmercer The Authorized Representative has the eligible applicant If this application is be mailed to? Address P.O. Box 112 Address Line 1 Address Line 2 Merced	as authority to corfunded, wh	(209) 385-3000 x5642 at address should the check 95341	
Yvonnia.Brown@countyofmerce The Authorized Representative has the eligible applicant If this application is be mailed to? Address P.O. Box 112 Address Line 1	as authority to cor	(209) 385-3000 x5642 at address should the check	
Yvonnia.Brown@countyofmercer The Authorized Representative has the eligible applicant If this application is be mailed to? Address P.O. Box 112 Address Line 1 Address Line 2 Merced	as authority to corfunded, wh	(209) 385-3000 x5642 at address should the check 95341	



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)

This project proposes to resolve homelessness for 12 individuals residing within an encampment in the City of Atwater. This encampment is located between Golden State Highway 99 and Atwater Boulevard between coordinates 37.349263, -120.619716 and 37.349740, -120.621059. Individuals residing within the encampment would be outreached and engaged by our service providers and offered the opportunity to transition into interim housing at a motel master lease. While at this location, our case managers and housing navigators will assist clients with document readiness for placement into permanent housing. Case management and Rapid Re-housing services would be provided to clients throughout the term of this agreement.

People Served

prioritized encampment site		encampment site during the grant term.	
	12	15	

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

12			
#			

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

27		
#		

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

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27
#
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Of people projected to be served across the entire grant period, number of people projected to transition into permanent housing

27

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

Is the prioritized encampment site part of a larger encampment area? ○ Yes ⊙ No

Encampment Information

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

On January 19, 2024, the Merced CoC surveyed the residents of this encampment. Five of the twelve individuals residing there were open to responding to our survey questions. All twelve residents observed were adults with one female and eleven males. There was one male and female couple that engaged in our survey. The household composition of the rest of the residents are unknow. Three dogs were also observed. One large dog is owned by one of the male residents. The remaining two dogs, one large and one medium dog belong to the couple. All five respondents requested income and disability services. Two respondents identified that they require mental health services. Three respondents indicated they require medical services. Finally, three of the respondents requested substance use disorder treatment services. Of the individuals surveyed, three indicated that they are able to live in a single occupancy setting and one person indicated that they cannot live with others in a shared occupancy setting. All five respondents indicated that they were okay with being permanently housed in a city other than Atwater.

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 prioritized encampment is located in a dirt area between Atwater Boulevard and Golden State Highway 99 between coordinates 37.349263, -120.619716 and 37.349740, -120.621059. This encampment runs along railroad tracks and is approximately 450-feet long and 90-feet wide. The residents live in tents throughout this area. A few of the residents live in a secluded section that can only be accessed by going through a fenced perimeter. No vehicles are stationed in this region. This region is composed mostly of dry dirt, however, with the amount of rain fall this area has grown tall grass throughout the property. This encampment is stationed 1,000 feet before the North bound on ramp of Golden State Highway 99 and its adjacent underpass.

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)

In collaboration with Merced CoC and Caltrans, District 10, the City of Atwater selected this prioritized encampment site. It was prioritized due to its location, safety risks, size, and popularity. This site's proximity to the highway, railroad track, and busy city street is a safety concern to encampment residents, commuters, and surrounding business and residential properties. In addition, during the Winter and Spring rainy season, tall grass grows throughout this entire area. During the summer, this grass becomes dry as serves as an increased fire risk to those residing in the encampment and to the CFN Fleet Fueling station located across the street. Another reason this encampment was selected is due to its size. The City of Atwater has a highly mobile homeless population, but this site has proven to consistently have the highest number of encampment residents. Lastly, this site has existed for many years and is a popular location for unsheltered individuals within Atwater.

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

City of Atwater Encampment Maps.pdf

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

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

O No O Yes - partially ⊙ Yes - entirely

Attachment: Caltrans Letter of Support

Caltrans District 10 Letter of Support V2.pdf

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

- This letter must include confirmation from Caltrans that they are aware of and in support of the ERF project, including the projected timeline, and that they will only take action on that encampment site in collaboration with and at least 2 weeks-notice to the ERF grantee, unless critical circumstances exist when an encampment poses an imminent threat to life, health, safety, or infrastructure and must be immediately addressed.
- This letter should be signed by the local Caltrans Deputy District Director of Maintenance (DDDM)

- or their designee.
- This letter may also include Caltrans role in the proposal and what Caltrans resources are being leveraged.

Proposal's Outcomes

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

This proposal seeks to exit from unsheltered homelessness into permanent housing the 12 individuals currently residing within the prioritized encampment located in the City of Atwater by June 30, 2027. This proposal also seeks to permanently house a potential encampment inflow of 15 unsheltered individuals by June 30, 2027.

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

Based on the demographics and needs of this encampment, the activities for this proposal would include street outreach, service coordination, interim sheltering, rapid rehousing, operating subsidies, system support, and administration. The Merced CoC would have outreach teams conduct intake assessments and make appropriate referrals to the established ERF-3-R non-congregate housing project, Coordinated Entry System (CES), and other community resources as applicable. The non-congregate housing will include onsite case management which can include resources to employment, mainstream benefits, transportation, procurement vital documents, and referrals to health care, and legal service, mental health services as well as developing a housing plan to secure and maintain permanent housing. Other proposed services include rental assistance for up to 24 months with ongoing case management.

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

Progress will be measured utilizing the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS). Merced CoC currently utilizes this system for all project types and tracks several measurable benchmarks. Some of these include, but are not limited to, the number of households returning to homelessness, household patterns, populations served, service duplication, exits to permanent housing, interim housing, and outreach. In addition, contracted vendors undergo bi-annual grant monitoring to ensure their service delivery is in alignment with the scope of work, measurable outcomes, and overall service agreement. For this project, to ensure collaboration with our partnered agencies, we will hold regular meetings to ensure continued progress. Monthly project progress updates and/or grantee reports will be provided to the CoC Board and general membership

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)

To prevent external factors from hindering the achievement of the proposed outcomes, the Merced CoC has collaborated with the City of Atwater, the Atwater Police Department, and Caltrans to ensure support and receive feedback from all necessary partners. The Merced CoC has also secured letters of support from the City of Atwater and Caltrans demonstrating this effort. Merced CoC has also reached out to the Union Pacific in anticipation of any potential challenges our prioritized encampment may pose since it is located along a railway. Potential limiting factors of this proposal are the contracting process for a master lease or for bridging houses to serve as the mini navigation centers for interim housing services. An additional potential challenge might be the securing of dedicated affordable housing units. Merced CoC has partnered with the City of Atwater's Community and Economic Development department to help with navigating these challenges early.

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

O Standalone O Larger initiative

If it is part of a larger initiative, describe the role and significance of this project in achieving the objectives of the larger initiative. (1000-character limit)

This project and its proposed outcomes serve as a progression of the Merced CoC's Regionally Coordinated Homelessness Action Plan. The Regional Plan is a concerted effort by many partners, including those with lived experience, to address homelessness and its effects. This plan has been designed to lay out strategic approaches for actionable advances to improve key measurable outcomes. It also emphasizes collaborative roles and responsibilities of partnerships within the homeless response system. This proposal seeks to progress four out of the seven system performance measures identified within the Regional Plan. There are three incorporated cities within the Merced CoC that report 92% of the total population experiencing homelessness. Merced and Los Banos already have established or planned permanent housing projects. The City of Atwater is the next region of focus for permanent housing planning efforts. This proposal seeks to progress four out of the seven Regional Plan's SPM.

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)

On January 19, 2024, the Merced CoC surveyed the residents of the prioritized encampment to incorporate their feedback into the service and housing needs of this proposal. In addition, the Merced CoC has developed relationships with the Trusted Advisory Group which is a committee made up of individuals with lived experience that meets weekly. Merced CoC continues to actively recruit individuals with lived experience to be part of the Board and general membership where they can participate in the policy, program, and funding decision-making process. The Merced CoC continuously engages individuals with lived experience through committee meetings, monthly open meetings, and the CoC website. During our 2024 Point-In-Time count, the unsheltered individuals within the City of Atwater were also asked a series of survey questions ranging from what services could be offered to help them secure housing to what services would they accept if offered.

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

This proposal exemplifies Housing First approaches by providing low-barrier program entry and housing placement. All contracted homeless service providers are required to follow a Housing First approach, and this is also exemplified by the CoC Written Standards. Residents of the prioritized encampment will be eligible for program entry regardless of sobriety or use of substances, completion of treatment, or participation in services. Clients will not be rejected on the basis of poor credit or financial history, poor or lack of rental history, criminal convictions unrelated to tenancy, or behaviors that indicate a lack of housing readiness. Case managers and service coordinators are trained annually to employ evidence-based practices for client engagement, such as trauma informed care, motivational interviewing, and client-centered counseling. Our support staff emphasize engagement and problem solving and develop service plans that are highly tenant-driven without predetermined goals.

12. Describe how each of the following service delivery practices are incorporated into the outreach, interim shelter (if applicable), and permanent housing aspects of the proposed ERF project: (a) individual participant choice and (b) trauma informed care. (1000-character limit)

The Merced CoC protocols require each temporary and permanent housing provider to provide a complete screening to assess risks and vulnerabilities. It also includes safety planning protocols that prioritize the individual's safety while respecting and maximizing client choice. Confidentiality is always maintained. A trauma-informed approach is used to establish a safe physical and emotional environment where basic needs are met, safety measures are in place, and provider responses are consistent, predictable, and respectful. A victim centered approach is also integrated to help restore survivor's feelings of safety and security. The Merced CoC endeavors to offer as much client choice as possible regarding type and location of housing while ensuring safety and confidentiality.

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)

All homeless service providers are trained annually in trauma informed and harm reduction principles. This information is included in all contracts as well as the CoC Written Standards. Providers are expected to provide services that are informed by a harm-reduction philosophy, such as recognizing that substance use, and addiction is part of some participants lives. Participants are to be engaged in non-judgmental communication regarding their behavior and offered education regarding how to avoid risky behaviors and engage in safer practices. These practices are expected for all services, including street outreach and engagement, interim housing, and permanent housing. Providers are also monitored twice a year to ensure that all applicable laws, regulations, and policies are being implemented within programmatic operations.

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)

Outreach teams are the first contact encampments residents have with County and CoC resources. Outreach workers are trained to identify cognitive and behavioral problems that impair the individual's ability to exit unsheltered homelessness. When there are issues that they cannot handle, outreach workers collaborate with other professionals such as mental health workers for assistance to ensure the safety of clients while attempting to improve the situation. Health conditions and physical disabilities may make it difficult for some individuals experiencing homelessness to request assistance. When these problems arise, outreach workers contact healthcare workers that are willing to see clients the same day or within 24 hours. At times, healthcare workers join outreach workers to visit persons living in hidden or remote areas. Outreach teams also have bi-lingual members that speak Spanish to assist with language barriers. Outreach teams ensure a harm reduction approach is always utilized.

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)

The Merced CoC's collaboration with Atwater Code Enforcement, Police Department, and Caltrans will ensure that all ERF-3-R funded parties will not penalize homelessness. This collaboration will ensure that communication is fostered about the definition, actions, and plans to avoid penalizing homelessness. Regular meetings will be conducted to ensure communication being shared amongst all interested parties and that no "sweeping" of encampments are conducted within the City of Atwater during this project period. All interested parties are of the same mind with the same purpose, to ensure the success of this project and obtain permanent housing for all the individuals experiencing homelessness within the prioritized encampment.

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)

The prioritized encampment is within walking distance of a number of public restrooms and business locations. This allows for access to services such as solid waste disposal, human waste disposal, portable drinking water connections, and heating and cooling options. This proposal places high emphasis on transitioning encampment residents into the identified interim housing project as quickly as possible after program implementation. This is the quickest and most reliable method for providing access to consistent sanitation and habitability services.

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)

Our proposed outreach and engagement strategy is to provide street outreach five days a week (Monday through Friday, 8:00 am to 5:00 pm) to the prioritized encampment site. Outreach teams, comprised of bilingual workers, have been trained in harm reduction, motivational interviewing, Housing First, and trauma informed methods. Service providers would be expected to immediately begin to outreach with individuals and connect them directly to resources that assist with obtaining immediate interim sheltering. At interim sheltering, clients will be assigned to a case manager/housing navigator at a ratio of 20 to 1. Following a stabilization period, the client will be assessed for service needs and vital documentation in preparation to transition into permanent housing. The targeted length of interim housing service period is proposed at six months or less per client prior to placement into permanent housing. During the interim housing service period, clients will be assessed for possible family reunification, physical health, Social Security needs, eligibility for specific subpopulation services (i.e., mental health and substance use disorders services, veteran services, domestic violence, adult protective services, transitional aged youth, CalAIM, etc.), and workforce development.

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)

CES has policies and procedures in place to prioritize individuals for services based on vulnerability scores. This ensures that housing resources are being allocated effectively. The CES administrator will refer individuals for services based on eligibility, service vulnerability scores, and length of time experiencing homelessness. Within this system, projects are established for identifying subpopulations that meet certain project criteria. To serve individuals experiencing homelessness more effectively within the City of Atwater, CES will be utilized to prioritize unsheltered individuals to be served under the ERF-3-R. CES and HMIS will be used in this proposal to ensure efficient outreach, decreased duplication of services, and enhanced case management for the target population identified within the Encampment Resolution Funding Round 3 proposal.

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)

To resolve homelessness for the residents of the City of Atwater's prioritized encampment, the Merced CoC is proposing a two-step approach. The first phase is to transition the encampment resident into interim shelter in the form of a master lease. The Valley Inn motel is an ideal interim shelter location, as it is located 2,000 feet away from the encampment and is centrally located to resources. The majority of the rooms would be non-congregate, with a few exceptions. If this option is not available, Merced CoC will utilize bridging houses to serve as non-congregate mini navigation centers. This will help connect clients into service-enriched environment intended to quickly bring individuals experiencing homelessness off the streets, provide stabilization, safety, basic needs, and connection to case managers to help restore hope, dignity, and identity. Each interim shelter would be staffed with an onsite Housing Manager (HM) or Resident Assistant (RA) in addition to a case manager. The priority for the interim shelter is to accommodate pets, partners, possessions, and privacy. Once placement is secured within the interim shelter, phase two of our proposal would be to transition individuals from interim shelter to permanent housing through rapid rehousing efforts. Rapid rehousing would also include up to two years of continued case management post permanent housing placement. This model was implemented as part of the Merced CoC's participation in 2022 during the Governor's 100 Day Challenge to house 20 individuals within the city of Los Banos. In 100 days, utilizing the above strategy, the 100 Day Challenge team was able to achieve its goal by housing 42 individuals within the 100 period. This model was also followed within a subsequent 100 Day Challenge to house 100 children and youth in need. A total of 284 children and youth were housed within this second 100 Day Challenge.

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)

This proposal is tailored to meet the needs and preferences of individuals within the prioritized encampment by utilizing the Merced CoC's experience from prior housing projects which utilized the proposed model of interim shelter, case management, landlord engagement, permanent housing identification. From our history with the City of Los Banos, Project Roomkey, and the 100 Day Challenge, this model has been proved to be effective for transitioning individuals from encampment to permanent housing. CoC protocols require each temporary and permanent housing vendor to provide a complete screening that assesses risks and includes safety planning protocols that prioritize a person's safety while respecting and maximizing client choice. Confidentiality is always maintained. Annually, vendors are required to complete a Housing First Assessment for their programs. A trauma-informed approach is used that helps establish a safe physical and emotional environment where basic needs are met, safety measures are in place, and provider responses are consistent, predictable, and respectful. A client centered approach is also utilized when servicing survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking to help restore survivor's feelings of safety and security. CoC endeavors to offer as much client choice as possible regarding type and location of housing while ensuring safety and confidentiality. In our experience, providing interim housing choices which account for pets, partners, possessions, and privacy are preferred interim housing solutions.

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

The survey that was conducted on January 19, 2024, focused on discovering current encampment residents needs and preferences for achieving permanent housing stability. This survey highlighted the individual's choice by asking if certain services related to this project proposal were offered, would they be willing to accept them and why or why not. The Merced CoC also inquired about ways to improve our proposal to better serve the encampment residents. We also asked how comfortable each survey respondent would be with sharing a room and then asked how they would feel about living alone. We also made sure to include if the respondents have pets, partners, or special possessions. Another question was included that shaped this proposal was the location of the interim and permanent housing solutions and how important is it that these residences are within the City of Atwater. The answer to these questions is how we determined that the proposal must focus on quick placements from encampment into interim housing. That the location of interim and permanent housing should remain within the City of Atwater.

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

Table 1: Projected Living Situations Immediately Following the Encampment

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

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

Briefly Describe Each Projected Living Situation Immediately Following the Encampment	Is This Permanent Housing?	Quantify the Capacity (e.g., number of beds/units, frequency of bed/unit availability)	Prioritized or Set- Aside for ERF-3-R?	Is this living situation funded by ERF-3-R and / or Leveraged Funds?	% of Served Persons Projected to Fall Within This Living Situation
Interim Sheltering at a single occupancy or double occupancy motel room.	No Yes/No	Up to 27 beds	Set-Aside Pri/Set-Aside/Neither	ERF-3-R ERF/Lev/Both	100 %
Interim Sheltering at mini navigation centers aka bridge housing.	No Yes/No	Up to 27 beds	Set-Aside Pri/Set-Aside/Neither	ERF-3-R ERF/Lev/Both	100

Permanent	Yes	Up to 27 units	Set-Aside	ERF-3-R	100
housing	Yes/No		Pri/Set-Aside/Neither	ERF/Lev/Both	%
Unsheltered	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	0
	Yes/No		Pri/Set-Aside/Neither	ERF/Lev/Both	%

Table 2: Permanent Housing Opportunities

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

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

Describe the Permanent Housing Opportunity	Prioritized or Set- Aside for ERF-3-R?	Quantify the Capacity of the Housing and Service Opport unity	nded by ERF-
Dedicated affordable housing units	Set-Aside Pri/Set- Aside/Neither	Up to 27 units	Both ERF/Lev/Both
	Pri/Set- Aside/Neither		ERF/Lev/Both
	Pri/Set- Aside/Neither		ERF/Lev/Both
	Pri/Set- Aside/Neither		ERF/Lev/Both

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

Merced CoC's partnership with the City of Atwater Code Enforcement and Caltrans District 10 will be instrumental for ensuring individuals are not displaced from the prioritized encampment site during the execution of this program. This collaboration will ensure that action is not taken on the prioritized encampment without prior notice and coordination. Regular meetings will be conducted to ensure communication being shared amongst all interested parties and that no "sweeping" of encampments are conducted during this project period.

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)

ERF-3-R funds will be utilized to fund housing navigation services that include developing a housing plan, addressing any identified barriers, assisting the individuals and families in acquiring documents and completing forms required for housing (i.e. birth certificates and identification cards). Case managers will also conduct one-on-one follow-up sessions to develop and track progress towards client goals. Client centered supportive services are how we propose to mitigate returns to unsheltered homelessness for program participants.

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)

With how popular and pervasive this encampment site has been historically; this proposal is accounting for a potential inflow of people into the geographically identified region. This proposal is prepared to resolve homelessness for the 12 individuals currently residing within the encampment as well as a potential inflow of 15 additional individuals.

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)

Merced CoC has contracted with service providers to operate several interim shelters. Our providers offer personal possession storage, per the contract agreement, and have onsite access for individuals to access their personal possessions when transitioning from encampment to interim shelter. One possible solution is the rental of a storage locker to accommodate excess possession aside from those allowed onsite.

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)

As a condition of the Request for Proposal (RFP), providers will have to work with the CoC to identify solutions for any barriers which limit participation of clients experiencing homelessness, including client pets and/or service animals. Of the encampment residents surveyed, two pet owners have a combined total of three dogs. That is why Merced CoC has identified a motel that is pet friendly as an interim shelter location. The Merced CoC recognizes that a connection to pets is a vital and important factor in returning to permanent housing and requires this policy for all interim shelter projects. Merced CoC has contracted with several service providers that offer interim sheltering including support for persons experiencing homelessness and their pets and/or services animals. Merced CoC will work with the property management to include pet protections within leasing agreements.

Budget and Resource Plan

27	State the	total amoun	t of FRF-3-R	funds requested
Z I .	STATE THE	IOIAI AIIIOIIII	I () FRF=.)=R	IIIIIOS IEGUESIEG

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

\$560,258.64

\$

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)

The identified non-ERF-3-R resources include personnel costs for staff from partnered organizations. The City of Atwater has applied for Homekey funding up to \$949,257 for a five-year period to assist individuals experiencing or are at risk of homelessness. Housing Authority of Merced County has issued 456 vouchers to Merced County for individuals experiencing homelessness which consist of, 10 to Adult Protective Services, 50 to the Housing Support Program, 150 to CES, 68 to EHV, and 123 to HUD VASH. These vouchers coupled with this proposal will make our clients more competitive in securing and maintaining permanent housing. The Homeless Court is another in-kind contribution. Other additional resources that will be leveraged maximize project outcomes include Housing Court, CalAIM ECM, BHRS, and the Homeless Hiring Tax Credit. The City of Atwater has applied and adopted a 5-year plan under PLHA.

Applicants are directed to provide a detailed description of other fund sources, and system capacity, that will be leveraged to achieve the outcomes proposed for the ERF-3-R funded project (**especially as it relates to meeting this proposal's permanent housing outcomes**) and, if applicable, to sustain the new programming beyond the end of the grant term.

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

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

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

30. Describe how the proposal is a prudent and effective use of requested funding relative to the number of people it seeks to serve, the types of services and housing to be provided, and any benefits to the community's efforts to address homelessness that will extend beyond the grant term, including ongoing expansion of interim and permanent housing capacity. Include an

explanation of how the requested ERF-3-R amount was determined. (1000- character limit)

This is a prudent and effective use of funding because responding to unsheltered homelessness utilizing a low barrier, Housing First approach has been shown to be much more cost effective than responding to those experiencing homelessness through the crisis response system. To meaningfully reduce the unsheltered homeless population means to provide permanent housing solutions. This proposal was formulated to assist 27 individuals and considers the potential inflow of individuals during the project. Calculations relating to interim sheltering, street outreach, system support, and services coordination were informed by our current contracts for these same activities. Rapid rehousing move-in costs were evaluated based on the average costs of all Merced County & CoC homeless programs and includes rent reasonableness. Rapid rehousing rent payments were calculated based on the HUD FY 2024 Fair Market Rent for one-bedroom units.

Attachment: Standardized Budget

ERF Standardized Budget Merced CoC 04.23.xlsx

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 implementing organization is the Merced CoC. In 2018, Merced County became the Collaborative Applicant/Administrative Entity (CA/AE) and administered homeless initiatives alongside county entitlement programs. In 2021, Merced County established the Housing & Support Services Branch (HSSB) to consolidate housing services and better coordinate service delivery. The CA/AE and its staff, which is the legal entity for the Merced CoC, are a component of HSSB which runs the administrative and legal functions at the direction of the Merced CoC. Merced CoC will operate as the grant manager, program oversight, the solicitor of bids and proposals, and contract manager. Merced CoC and their county staff have managed projects such as Project Roomkey, Housing for Harvest, and Operation Safe Harbor. Merced CoC also manages \$7.9 million in grant funding comprised of Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) rounds 1 to 4, California Emergency Solutions and Housing (CESH) rounds 1 and 2, and Emergency Solutions Grants – Cares Act (ESGCV) funding. Merced CoC projects include emergency shelters and interim shelters to individuals experiencing homelessness and connected them to supportive services that lead to permanent housing. Merced CoC's have built partnerships with numerous organizations assisting with individuals from all backgrounds and jurisdictions such as but not limited to: Los Banos, Livingston, Santa Nella, to youths, domestic violence survivors, and veterans.

Table 3: Key Staff

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

Title	Currently Filled Position?	FTE of Staffing for This Proposal	Funded by ERF-3-R and / or Leveraged Funds?	Brief Description of Duties
Program	Yes	1	Both	Assists with the general
Manager	Yes/No	#FTE	ERF/Lev/Both	management and administration of the various programs or services provided. Plans, organizes, directs, manages, and coordinates the operations, programs, and services of an assigned group of units within the Division.
Staff Services Analyst	Yes Yes/No	2 #FTE	Both ERF/Lev/Both	Performs a variety of general analytical work, system, and
				program development, and provides administrative support for division or department assigned. Gathers, analyzes, and presents information/data. Also works with other governmental agencies.
Fiscal Manager	Yes Yes/No	1 # FTE	Both ERF/Lev/Both	Develops, administers, and implements department financial policies and procedures. Directs the fiscal, personnel, office services, and general business activities of the department.
	Yes/No	#FTE	ERF/Lev/Both	
	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)

Some of the key partners for this proposal include the City of Atwater, Atwater Police Department, Caltrans, Merced CoC and its Board, and Merced County. The Merced CoC and Merced County share staffing and processes, therefore all procurement and contract services go through an in-depth county review for the CoC. The Merced CoC adheres to all county rules and regulations for procurement, contracting, and grant management and monitoring. The collaboration with Merced CoC, City of Atwater, and Atwater PD will be instrumental in ensuring that the unsheltered residents of the encampment are not displaced during the encampment resolution process. Highly effective communication will need to be well fostered between all these organizations. The Merced CoC will ensure this plan aligns with the Action Plan for Preventing and Ending Homelessness in California Plan adopted by the California Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council as this is one of our leading pillars for our regional planning in Merced County.

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

The Merced CoC and the City of Atwater have had several discussions and meetings to collaborate on the design and implementation of this proposal. Within these meetings, we discussed several challenges and solutions for the individuals experiencing homelessness residing within the City of Atwater. All interested parties have considered multiple locations within the city for potential renovation projects as well as different proposals involving interim sheltering and came to a consensus on the proposed project. The city as well as other interested parties have gone to their local jurisdictional council meetings to gain support as well as provide letters of support for this proposal.

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 City of Atwater Letter of Acknowledgement.pdf

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

Sections of the proposed encampment reside in a state right of way. Caltrans District 10 has been involved in the planning phase of this proposal and has provided their support along the way. Merced CoC has met and collaborated with Caltrans District 10 Encampment Coordinator. Merced CoC and District 10 are also collaborating on the initiation of a joint taskforce to continue regularly scheduled communications. All parties will meet regularly to evaluate innovative efforts to transition individuals experiencing homelessness out of encampments and into safe and suitable housing. Caltrans will work with the Merced CoC to ensure that all regulatory and legal requirements are achieved, while providing updates.

Attachment: Letter of Local Acknowledgement

City of Atwater Letter of Acknowledgement.pdf

Local Jurisdictions have priority to apply for ERF programs on state right-of-ways. If a CoC is applying for an ERF project for an encampment that is entirely or partially on a state right-of-way before May 1, 2024, the CoC must include a Letter of Local Acknowledgment from each overlapping jurisdiction. This letter must confirm that the applicant has communicated with each overlapping Local Jurisdiction and that no overlapping jurisdiction intends to apply for ERF-3-R funds for this particular encampment.

Accelerated Timeline

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

Outreach and Engagement services are conducted by a community-based organization that has several years of outreach experience. These outreach efforts have been an ongoing effort in Atwater to attempt to secure permanent housing. Teams provide outreach five days a week and target areas that have visible and hidden encampments within Atwater. Teams immediately begin to connect with them and connect them directly to resources that assist with obtaining permanent housing. Connecting with them includes engagement consisting of multiple contacts to develop rapport and trust. Referring to CES, where protocols are in place to ensure that persons have immediate access to assistance with obtaining permanent housing. Outreach teams are trained to identify cognitive and behavioral problems that impair people to exit life on the streets. When there are problems that they cannot handle, they contact other professionals such as mental health workers who often come the same day.

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)

Some of our current support to all individuals experiencing homelessness within the Merced CoC geographical area, including Atwater, include ongoing outreach, referrals to CES, current rapid rehousing funding, and referrals to current Homekey projects. The Merced CoC and partnering community organizations hosted a homeless outreach event on June 9, 2023, and is preparing for the June 2024 event. This event assisted in connecting 83 individuals experiencing homelessness to community resources that included showers, haircuts, meals, DMV waivers, mainstream benefits, and so much more. Administratively, our staff will also begin preparing procurement documents in anticipation of awarded funds. Due to short time frames, having prepared and reviewed documentation will ensure a swift execution of this project.

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
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Milestone

6/30/2024	ERF-3-R Award Announcement		
7/1/2024	RFP Launch	Project Management	Request for Proposal launched to locate qualified and experienced bidder to conduct street outreach, interim shelter, rapid rehousing, and service coordination.
8/1/2024	RFP Close	Project Management	Deadline for RFP submissions
10/4/2024	Merced CoC Meeting	Project Management	Contract authorization by CoC
10/22/2024	Board of Supervisors Meeting	Project Management	Requesting authorization for Budget Transfer
12/1/2024	Contract Start Date	Project Management	Contract Initiated
1/1/2025	Outreach & Engagement	People	Relationships built between outreach workers and encampment residents
2/1/2025	Master Lease or Bridge Houses Secured	Project Management	Interim housing agreements established
2/1/2025	Dedicated Affordable Housing Units Agreement Established	Project Management	Agreement established between developer to dedicate affordable housing units at Waterstone Apartments

3/1/2025	Interim Housing Units	Place	ERF-3-R clients are transitioned to interim housing.
5/1/2025	Permanent Housing/Rapid Re- Housing	Place	ERF-3-R clients are transitioned to permanent housing with established leases.
6/30/2025	Deadline to Expend 50% of Allocation	Project Management	
6/30/2025	Deadline to Obligate 100% of Allocation	Project Management	
12/1/2026	Last client exited from prioritized encampment.	Place	Last client transitioned from encampment into interim housing or directly into permanent housing.
6/30/2027	Deadline to Expend 100% of Allocation	Project Management	

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 people residing in the prioritized encampment site began / will begin in mm/yyyy.	This proposal will reach full operating capacity in mm/yyyy.	The first planned exit of a person or household from the prioritized encampment will occur in mm/yyyy.	The last planned exit of a person or household from the prioritized encampment will occur in mm/yyyy.
01/2025	02/2025	03/2025	12/2026

CERTIFICATION

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

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

Name	
Jewel	Wise
First	Last
This does not have to be an authorized representative	e or signatory.
Title	
Staff Services Analyst	
Email	
jewel.wise3@countyofmerced.com	

		ELIGIBLE USE CATEGORY	~5 WORD DESCRIPTION	NAME OF ENTITY OR PART OF PROPOSAL				ERF-3-R PROPOSED BUDGET	LEVERAGED FISCAL SUPPORT	~2 SENTENCE DESCRIPTION
Guidance and Intended Use	This budget template may be slightly modified to meet local needs. If awarded funding, this budget, once approved, will serve as your communitys official project budget. Any future changes to this budget must be authorized through the change request process.		Enables Cal ICH to immediately understand the line item.	d Enables Cal ICH to associate the line item with specific entities or parts of a proposal.				Only ERF-3-R Funds	Non ERF-3-R Funds That WILL be Used to Support this Proposal	Enables Cal ICH to better understand the line item, context, and / or other pertinent information related to the proposed line item.
	PERSONNEL COSTS				SALARY	FTE	MONTHS			
		Services Coordination	Case Management		Case Manager	\$85,000 per year	3 Years	255,000.00		Case management entry and client services
		Street Outreach	Outreach & Engagement Coordinator		Coordinator	\$100,000 per year	3 Years	300,000.00		Coordinates outreach servies, provide field case management via SO
	Subtotal - Personnel Costs							\$ -	\$ -	

NON-PERSONNEL COSTS			UNIT	RATE	TIME		
	Interim Sheltering	Mini Navigation Centers or Motel Costs Valley Inn or Bridge House	s 27 Units	\$600,00 per year	3 Years	1,800,000.00	Bridge Housing
	Street Outreach	Outreach & Engagement supplies	1 Project	\$100,000 per year	3 Years	300,000.00	
	Systems Support	HMIS	1 Project	\$60,000 Per year	3 Years	180,000.00	
	Rapid Rehousing	Move-In Costs	27 People	\$3,000 per person		81,000.00	Housing applications, security deposits, and first months rent
	Rapid Rehousing	Rent Payments	27 Rooms	\$13,908 per year	2 Years	751,032.00	2024 FMR for one bedroom in Merced County
Subtotal - Non-Personnel Costs						\$ 3,112,032.00	\$ -

ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS							
		6 P	W 10.0	5%	155 (01 (0		
	Administrative Costs	5 Percent	Merced CoC		155,601.60		
Subtotal - Administrative Costs					\$ 155 601 60	<u>_</u>	

TOTAL BUDGET	\$ 3,267,633.60 \$ -
	\$ 272,302.80

\$

163,381.68

California Department of Transportation

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT 10 MAINTENANCE P.O. BOX 2048 | STOCKTON, CA 95201 (209) 986-6837 | TTY 711 www.dot.ca.gov





February 23, 2024

Ms. Jeannie McKendry Grants Development Section Chief California Interagency Council on Homelessness 801 Capitol Mall, Suite 601 Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. McKendry:

Caltrans District 10 supports the City of Merced and Merced County Continuum of Care's (Merced CoC) proposal and projected timeline for their Encampment Resolution Funding Round 3 application within the City of Atwater.

The Merced CoC and partnering agencies have provided homeless services, including emergency shelter, rapid rehousing, case management, Housing Support Program (HSP), Housing and Disability Advocacy Program (HDAP), grant management, and administrative services for six years. They are committed to the region and have shown their willingness to collaborate and to improve the quality of life for those most in need by providing homeless and housing resources.

However, more resources are needed to ensure all individuals experiencing unsheltered homelessness are provided with housing solutions and not returning to or establishing new encampments along the state right of way.

Caltrans has worked closely with Merced CoC and the City of Atwater to mitigate encampments along State Route 99, a primary route for commuters, shoppers, and semi-trucks.

Although the City of Atwater has a smaller population of PEH (36 individuals) when compared to the City of Merced (571), this region is being prioritized due to several factors. Based on the 2023 Point-in-Time Count, 27 of the 36 individuals experiencing homelessness were unsheltered. With this population size, the geographical area of Atwater, and its jurisdiction, this proposal has the potential to achieve functional zero through street outreach, interim shelter, case management, and rapid rehousing.

Ms. McKendry February 23, 2024 Page 2

As a result, this will reduce the devastating environmental impacts and increase public health and safety for all members of this community and ensure individuals are offered a safe place to reside.

Merced CoC has the staffing and experience to make significant strides in reducing homelessness and provide resources to encourage a harm-reduction, trauma-informed, and housing-first approach.

Caltrans District 10 has implemented a plan to support this request by initiating a Cal-ICH program liaison, Bob Highfill, to meet with our partners, discuss the grant, listen to our partner's plan, and provide administrative assistance with documentation to help secure the grant. As we work with Merced CoC on this program, the skills of an Encampment Coordinator within this role will promote reasonable program goals and more effective outreach and engagement. This collaboration will also ensure that Caltrans District 10 can mitigate actions taken upon the prioritized encampment and thereby reduce the dispersal of populations being targeted by this project proposal.

By promoting the Merced CoC's Cal-ICH grant application, it is anticipated that additional funding to support future projects could be sourced by partnering with other private and community-based agencies who also recognize the benefit of this proposal. Seeing this project progress will be a great source of confidence for the community at large.

Caltrans District 10 is eager to be part of the Merced CoC partnership so we can strengthen and expand resources that connect individuals experiencing homelessness with new opportunities within the community

Sincerely,

TANYA SANGUINETTI

Acting Deputy District Director Maintenance

Cc: Rick Estrada, Homeless Encampment Liaison, Caltrans
Bob Highfill, Homeless Encampment Coordinator, Caltrans



February 27, 2024

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER 1160 FIFTH STREET ATWATER, CA 95301 (209) 357-6300

Merced City and County Continuum of Care 2222 M Street Merced, CA 95340

Subject: Letter of Local Acknowledgment for Merced City and County Continuum of Care

RE: Encampment Resolution Funding Round 3 Application

To the Merced City and County Continuum of Care,

The City of Atwater is writing this letter of local acknowledgment for the Merced City and County Continuum of Care (Merced CoC) CA-520 application for the Encampment Resolution Funding Round 3 (ERF-3-R) program.

The City of Atwater will not be submitting an ERF-3-R application for our local jurisdiction, therefore are in full support of the Merced CoC's application with the intent of reaching functional zero homelessness with this grant.

The Merced CoC has collaborated with the City of Atwater to help unsheltered residents within in the encampments of the jurisdiction move from homelessness to safe and stable housing.

The Merced CoC is committed to addressing homelessness using a wide range of tools and interventions that aid in connecting individuals experiencing homelessness to permanent housing. resources, and services through its network of participating organizations.

Sincerely

Greg Thompson, Interim

Manager Cky of Atwater

Michael Salvador, Chief of Police

City of Atwater

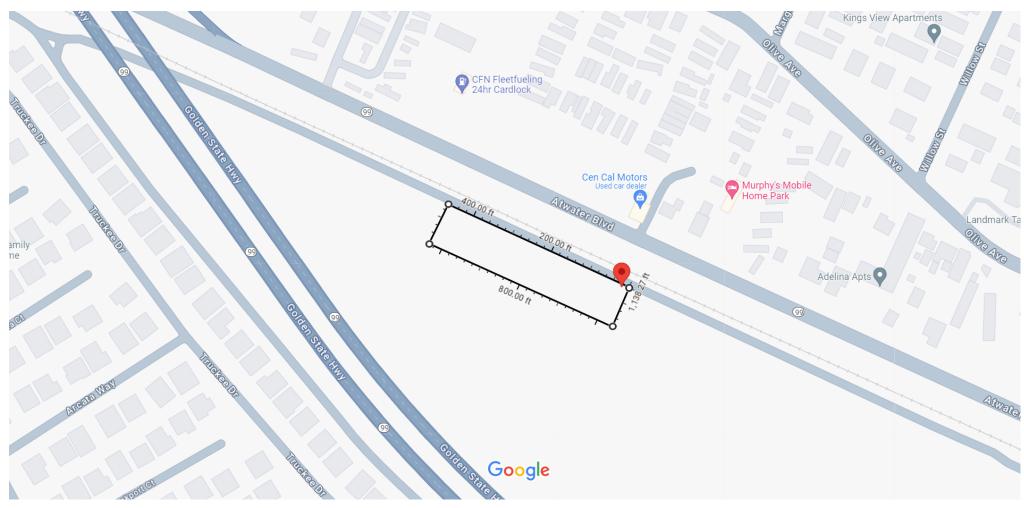
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Imagery ©2024 Airbus, CNES / Airbus, Maxar Technologies, USDA/FPAC/GEO, Map data ©2024 100 ft

Measure distance

Total area: $47,561.72 \text{ ft}^2 (4,418.63 \text{ m}^2)$ Total distance: 1,138.27 ft (346.94 m)



Map data ©2024 Google 100 ft ■

Measure distance

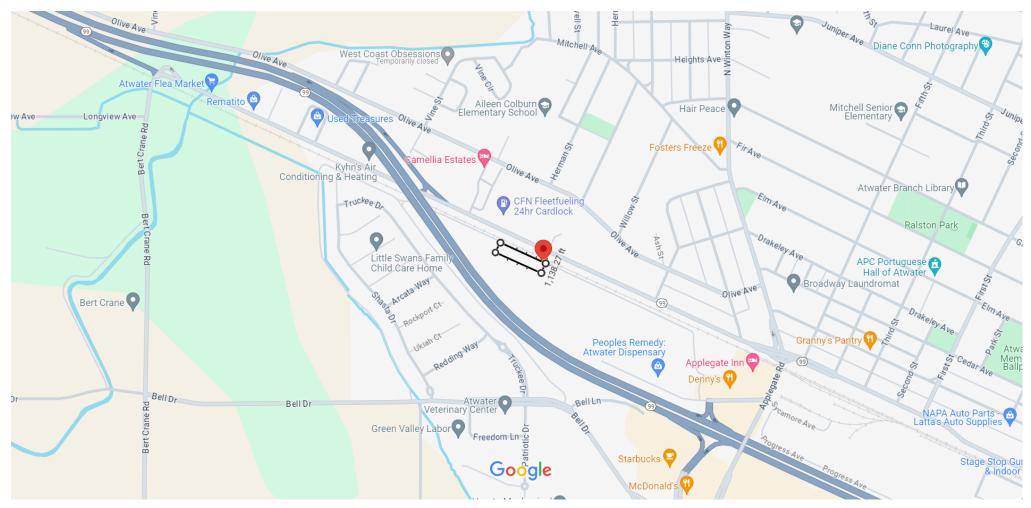
Total area: $47,561.72 \text{ ft}^2 (4,418.63 \text{ m}^2)$ Total distance: 1,138.27 ft (346.94 m)



Imagery ©2024 Airbus, CNES / Airbus, Maxar Technologies, USDA/FPAC/GEO, Map data ©2024 Google 500 ft

Measure distance

Total area: $47,561.72 \text{ ft}^2 (4,418.63 \text{ m}^2)$ Total distance: 1,138.27 ft (346.94 m)



Map data ©2024 Google 500 ft **■**

Measure distance

Total area: 47,561.72 ft² (4,418.63 m²) Total distance: 1,138.27 ft (346.94 m)