

**COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
TUESDAY, MAY 20, 2025**

MINUTE ORDER NO. 14

SUBJECT: REALLOCATION OF WILLOW RECREATIONAL VEHICLE PARKING SITE FUNDS TO THE TROY STREET SLEEPING CABINS AND REGIONAL HOMELESS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (DISTRICTS: ALL)

OVERVIEW

On March 12, 2024 (18), the San Diego County Board of Supervisors approved the design and development of the Willow Recreational Vehicle (RV) Senior and Family Parking Project in the unincorporated Lakeside community. The site was intended to provide 17 RV parking spaces with on-site case management and housing navigation services for individuals experiencing homelessness. However, the project was paused on August 27, 2024 (16) pending further review as part of the County's forthcoming Enterprise-wide Assessment of Homeless Services Report.

Approximately \$4.9 million was allocated for the Willow RV site through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Framework. Prior to the project being put on pause, \$531,432 was expended on site design, assessment, and permitting, leaving a balance of \$4,368,568, of which \$4,256,966 is currently encumbered in a Major Maintenance Capital Project account. Today's item proposes reallocating a portion of the remaining funds towards two high-impact programs: \$3.5 million for approximately one year of operations at the Troy Street Sleeping Cabins in Lemon Grove, and \$868,568 to the Regional Homeless Assistance Program (RHAP) for continued emergency housing services.

RHAP has been successful in exiting individuals into permanent housing and annually serves hundreds of people. RHAP's current ARPA Framework funds are expected to be exhausted early in Fiscal Year (FY) 2026-27, making today's item urgent for this program's continuation. This loss of funding would risk displacing dozens of individuals each night and halting the momentum RHAP has built in its mission to reduce homelessness through compassionate measures.

The Troy Street Sleeping Cabins project is expected to establish 60 cabins that will serve an estimated 140 individuals annually. This program will provide full wraparound services onsite, including case management, housing navigation, transportation, connections to social service programs, meals, hygiene facilities and more.

If approved, these additional funds will help support ongoing operations of the Troy Street Sleeping Cabins and RHAP programs in service to our region's unhoused population. This program will play a vital role in addressing homelessness by combining immediate shelter with support services that help individuals stabilize and transition out of homelessness. These programs provide critical, person-centered emergency housing options for individuals experiencing homelessness, especially in unincorporated areas. This reallocation ensures continued progress toward the County's Framework for Ending Homelessness by focusing on proven, scalable solutions.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

SUPERVISOR JOEL ANDERSON AND SUPERVISOR MONICA MONTGOMERY STEPPE

1. Approve the reallocation of \$4,368,568 from the balance initially allocated in the American Rescue Plan Act Framework for one-time Willow Road RV Parking Site costs, \$4,256,966 of which is in Major Maintenance Capital Project 1026799, Willow Road Recreational Vehicle Senior and Family Parking, to the Troy Street Sleeping Cabins operations for \$3.5 million and the Regional Homeless Assistance Program for \$868,568.
2. Cancel appropriations of \$4,256,966 from the Major Maintenance Capital Project 1026799, Willow Road Recreational Vehicle Senior and Family Parking, based on Operating Transfer from the General Fund.
3. Authorize the Deputy Chief Administrative Officer of the Health and Human Services Agency or designee, to apply for future funding opportunities that support maintaining existing RHAP capacity.

EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT

Between 2022 to 2023, San Diego County saw a 20% increase in homelessness. Furthermore, data from the Homeless Management Information System (October 2022 to September 2023) published by the Regional Task Force on Homelessness found that, on average, for every 10 persons that find housing, 16 new persons experience homelessness. The 2024 Point-in-Time Count of people experiencing homelessness identified 10,605 individuals who were living on the streets or in shelters throughout San Diego County on one night. Of those, 201 were counted in the unincorporated areas of the county. In Fiscal Year (FY) 2023-24, 526 households were served by RHAP, of which 44% were male, 56% were female, 29% were living with a disability, 8% were African American, 3% were American Indian, and 21% were Hispanic/Latino. A similar population is expected to be served on the future Troy Street Sleeping Cabins site.

Funding the sleeping cabins would directly address the most urgent needs of vulnerable subgroups within the unsheltered population. The sleeping cabins will provide a low-barrier, dignified non-congregate shelter option to support older adults, women, veterans, and those experiencing chronic homelessness. By offering private and secure spaces with supportive services, sleeping cabins create safer environments that can be tailored to the diverse needs of these populations, helping to reduce disparities in access to shelter and stabilize those most at risk. This approach not only meets immediate survival needs but also serves as a stepping stone toward long-term housing solutions, aligning with principles of equity and inclusive care.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT

N/A

FISCAL IMPACT

Funds for these requests are included in the Fiscal Year 2024-25 Operational Plan for the Health and Human Services Agency based on existing available General Purpose Revenue through the ARPA framework originally allocated to the Willow Road RV Senior and Family Parking project. If approved, this request would result in costs and revenue of \$3,500,000 for the Troy Street Sleeping Cabins operations and \$868,568 for RHAP. There will be no change in net General Fund costs and no additional staff years.

BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT

N/A

ACTION:

ON MOTION of Supervisor Montgomery Steppe, seconded by Supervisor Anderson, the Board of Supervisors took action as recommended.

AYES: Anderson, Lawson-Remer, Montgomery Steppe, Desmond

ABSENT: (District 1 Seat Vacant)

State of California)

County of San Diego) §

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of the Original entered in the Minutes of the Board of Supervisors.

ANDREW POTTER

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors



Signed

by Andrew Potter