



# County of Fresno

COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE  
**JEAN M. ROUSSEAU, CPA**  
COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

June 19, 2019

**Sent Via Email To: JCervantes@fresnocog.org**

Fresno Council of Governments  
2035 Tulare St., Suite 201  
Fresno, CA 93721

**RE: Homelessness Priorities 2019**

Dear Fresno Council of Governments:

On June 4, 2019, the Fresno County Board of Supervisors unanimously adopted Resolution No. 19-236, which included the Homelessness Priorities for Calendar Year 2019, enclosed for your review with related minute order and staff report. The list, which is not in priority order, was compiled through meetings with incorporated cities and the Directors of the Departments of Behavioral Health, Public Health, and Social Services.

With this letter, I respectfully request your adoption of the 14 priorities to affirm the Fresno Council of Governments' commitment to work collaboratively with the incorporated cities and the County to strategically address homelessness countywide. The list addresses jurisdictional boundaries, transportation, outreach, housing, data collection, direct services, and the preservation of public health and public safety. These priorities will allow County staff to focus on seeking funding, recommending for allocation, and/or utilizing flexible homeless funding to deliver related services. The list would be updated based on data-driven outcomes or at least once each calendar year.

I am committed to working with the Fresno Council of Governments to identify and address issues related to homelessness. Should you have any questions please contact me at (559) 600-1222.

Sincerely,

Sonia M. De La Rosa  
Principal Administrative Analyst

Enclosure



**County of Fresno**  
**Board of Supervisors**  
**Minute Order**

Hall of Records, Room 301  
2281 Tulare Street  
Fresno, California  
93721-2198  
Telephone: (559) 600-3529  
Toll Free: 1-800-742-1011  
[www.co.fresno.ca.us](http://www.co.fresno.ca.us)

**June 4, 2019**

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**Present:** 5 - Chairman Nathan Magsig, Vice Chairman Buddy Mendes, Supervisor Steve Brandau, Supervisor Brian Pacheco, and Supervisor Sal Quintero

Agenda No. 8.

Administrative Office - Confidential

File ID: 19-0690

**Re:** Adopt Resolution establishing the Homelessness Priorities for Calendar Year 2019, which will serve as the basis to address homelessness countywide

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY VICE CHAIRMAN MENDES, SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR BRANDAU, THAT THIS MATTER BE APPROVED AS RECOMMENDED. THE MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:**

**Ayes:** 5 - Magsig, Mendes, Brandau, Pacheco, and Quintero

Resolution No. 19-236



## Board Agenda Item 8

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DATE: June 4, 2019  
TO: Board of Supervisors  
SUBMITTED BY: Jean M. Rousseau, County Administrative Officer  
SUBJECT: Homelessness Priorities 2019

RECOMMENDED ACTION(S):

**Adopt Resolution establishing the Homelessness Priorities for Calendar Year 2019, which will serve as the basis to address homelessness countywide.**

Approval of the recommended action will adopt priorities to reduce homelessness in the County. This item is countywide.

ALTERNATIVE ACTION(S):

Your Board may amend the list; however, the 15 incorporated cities and the Directors of the Departments of Behavioral Health, Public Health, and Social Services compiled the priorities.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no Net County Cost associated with the recommended action. County services are provided to homeless individuals through various resources. Since FY 2016-17, the Board has allocated \$100,000 annually to offset the costs associated with homeless cleanup activities.

DISCUSSION:

On November 6, 2018, the Board received a presentation from the Fresno Housing Authority regarding a report entitled A Framework for Action authored by Barbara Poppe and Associates, which provided strategic recommendations to end homelessness in Fresno County; however, the report lacked input from the County's rural communities. The Board also directed the County Administrative Officer and designated Supervisor Nathan Magsig to participate as members of the Street2Home (S2H) Fresno County Planning Committee toward the development of a comprehensive plan to address homelessness, with input from the Directors of the Departments of Behavioral Health, Public Health, and Social Services.

On December 4, 2018, the Board adopted Resolution No. 18-0421 declaring a shelter crisis pursuant to Senate Bill 850 (Chapter 48, Statutes of 2018) and Government Code, section 8698.2 as required by the California Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council for the Homeless Emergency Aid Program grant funding distributed to the Fresno Madera Continuum of Care. The related agreements are pending Department of Social Services review, as the Administrative Entity, and are expected to be brought before the Board in June 2019. The shelter crisis resolution noted that the County had taken multiple efforts at the local level to combat homelessness and was developing a homeless plan.

As the S2H Fresno County Planning Committee works toward the establishment of the S2H Board, the



County has met with cities and used the input provided by city representatives and the County's Departments, to create a list of priorities to strategically address homelessness countywide.

Approval of the recommended action will adopt the County's Homelessness Priorities for Calendar Year 2019, which address jurisdictional boundaries, transportation, outreach, housing, data, direct services, and the preservation of public health and public safety. The recommended priorities, as outlined below, are intended to be a comprehensive list (County and 15 incorporated cities), which is a living document, updated as necessary based on data-driven outcomes or at least once a calendar year. The 15 cities are Clovis, Coalinga, Firebaugh, Fowler, Fresno, Huron, Kerman, Kingsburg, Mendota, Orange Cove, Parlier, Reedley, San Joaquin, Sanger, and Selma.

1. Address jurisdictional overlaps (local, State, Federal, and private) collaboratively.
2. Increase transportation to outpatient programs and regular prenatal/medical care for pregnant and parenting women and children who are homeless.
3. Roving formalized coordinated community outreach and in conjunction with law enforcement, through Fresno Madera Continuum of Care or otherwise, to ensure that efforts are aligned and data is tracked.
4. Assistance to build housing stock, increasing safe overnight housing (24-48 hours), and a centralized approach to single room occupancy units.
5. Priority access to emergency housing for pregnant and parenting women and their children also families with children with significant medical issues as it is difficult to manage the continuum of care when the family is homeless.
6. Real time accurate number of shelter beds available and increase the number of non-faith based shelters.
7. Additional "wet" shelters that do not require the person to participate in a program, person can be high or drunk to use the facility and not be turned away.
8. Education regarding available services and shareable system to track linkages
9. Improved data on the homeless such as length of homelessness (acute vs chronic), cause of the homelessness, is it a family, individual, minor without family support.
10. A formalized assessment of housing and shelter needs in rural communities.
11. Strong centralized structure for homeless funding and service decisions and expanded distribution of funding opportunities.
12. Comprehensive case management for homeless clients and improved access to primary healthcare and medication for chronic diseases; perhaps partnering with Federally Qualified Health Clinic or UC San Francisco.
13. Increased substance use disorder services and mental health services throughout county.
14. Enforce ordinances that address hazardous or unsanitary conditions, which constitute fire, health, and/or safety risks.

OTHER REVIEWING AGENCIES:

The priorities were shared and reviewed by representatives of the 15 incorporated cities; it is anticipated the cities will adopt the priorities through city council action.

REFERENCE MATERIAL:

BAI #8, December 4, 2018

BAI #5, November 6, 2018

ATTACHMENTS INCLUDED AND/OR ON FILE:

Resolution

CAO ANALYST:

Sonia M. De La Rosa

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BEFORE THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
OF THE COUNTY OF FRESNO  
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE MATTER OF ADOPTING )  
HOMELESSNESS PRIORITIES FOR )  
CALENDAR YEAR 2019 )

RESOLUTION NO. 19-236

WHEREAS, the County of Fresno has undertaken multiple efforts at the local level to combat homelessness; and

WHEREAS, the County of Fresno seeks to establish a basis/plan to address homelessness countywide; and

WHEREAS, the County of Fresno is charged with the preservation of public health and public safety in the County; and

WHEREAS, on December 4, 2018, the County of Fresno declared a shelter crisis pursuant to California Government Code, section 8698.2, which did not eliminate the County's procurement process for funds awarded to service providers; the declaration shall expire December 3, 2019 unless reauthorized by the Board of Supervisors; and

WHEREAS, the County of Fresno has met with cities and used the input provided by city representatives and the County's Departments of Behavioral Health, Public Health, and Social Services to compile list of priorities to strategically address homelessness countywide.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Fresno County Board of Supervisors that the following list of priorities will serve as the basis/plan to address homelessness countywide:

1. Address jurisdictional overlaps (local, State, Federal, and private) collaboratively.
2. Increase transportation to outpatient programs and regular prenatal/medical care for pregnant and parenting women and children who are homeless.
3. Roving formalized coordinated community outreach and in conjunction with law enforcement, through Fresno Madera Continuum of Care or otherwise, to ensure that efforts are aligned and data is tracked.



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4. Assistance to build housing stock, increasing safe overnight housing (24-48 hours), and a centralized approach to single room occupancy units.
5. Priority access to emergency housing for pregnant and parenting women and their children also families with children with significant medical issues as it is difficult to manage the continuum of care when the family is homeless.
6. Real time accurate number of shelter beds available and increase the number of non-faith based shelters.
7. Additional "wet" shelters that do not require the person to participate in a program, person can be high or drunk to use the facility and not be turned away.
8. Education regarding available services and shareable system to track linkages
9. Improved data on the homeless such as length of homelessness (acute vs chronic), cause of the homelessness, is it a family, individual, minor without family support.
10. A formalized assessment of housing and shelter needs in rural communities.
11. Strong centralized structure for homeless funding and service decisions and expanded distribution of funding opportunities.
12. Comprehensive case management for homeless clients and improved access to primary healthcare and medication for chronic diseases; perhaps partnering with Federally Qualified Health Clinic or UC San Francisco.
13. Increased substance use disorder services and mental health services throughout county.
14. Enforce ordinances that address hazardous or unsanitary conditions, which constitute fire, health, and/or safety risks.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that said list is a living document, to be updated as necessary based on data-driven outcomes or at least once a calendar year.

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THE FOREGOING, was passed and adopted by the following vote of the Board of Supervisors  
of the County of Fresno this 4th day of June, 2019, to wit:

AYES: Supervisors Brandau, Magsig, Mendes, Pacheco, Quintero  
NOES: None  
ABSENT: None  
ABSTAINED: None

  
Nathan Magsig, Chairman of the Board of Supervisors of  
the County of Fresno

**ATTEST:**  
Bernice E. Seidel  
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
County of Fresno, State of California

By: Susan Bishop  
Deputy