

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**



FROM: Supervisors Kevin Jeffries and John Tavaglione

SUBMITTAL DATE:
April 19, 2016

SUBJECT: Creation of a Multi-disciplinary Homeless Task Force

RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Board of Supervisors:

- 1) Direct the Executive Office to establish a multi-disciplinary task force which will meet regularly to address the issues of homelessness among individuals and families in Riverside County, and report back on form and structure of the group within 90 days

BACKGROUND:

Summary

The issue of homelessness throughout Riverside County recently garnered much attention as we were faced with the potential of El Nino weather and we moved to assist those homeless individuals living in or near flood channels, streambeds and storm drains to relocate so we could clear those areas to avoid flooding. During this time, numerous county agencies and departments came together as a working group to assist in those efforts.

*Background Continued
on Second Page*

JOHN TAVAGLIONE
Supervisor, 2nd District

KEVIN JEFFRIES
Supervisor, 1st District

FINANCIAL DATA	Current Fiscal Year:	Next Fiscal Year:	Total Cost:	Ongoing Cost:	POLICY/CONSENT (per Exec. Office)
COST	\$ Click here to	\$ 0	\$ Click here to	\$ 0	Consent <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
NET COUNTY COST	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	

SOURCE OF FUNDS:	Budget Adjustment: n/a
	For Fiscal Year:

C.E.O. RECOMMENDATION:

County Executive Office Signature

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

On motion of Supervisor Jeffries, seconded by Supervisor Ashley and duly carried,
IT WAS ORDERED that the above matter is approved as recommended.

Ayes: Jeffries, Washington, Benoit and Ashley
Nays: None
Absent: Tavaglione
Date: April 26, 2016
xc: Supvr. Jeffries, Supvr. Tavaglione, E.O., COBma

Kecia Harper-Ihem
Clerk of the Board
By:
Deputy

Prev. Agn. Ref.: | **District:** | **Agenda Number:**

Departmental Concurrence

- A-30
- Positions Added
- 4/5 Vote
- Change Order

SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

FORM 11: Creation of a Homeless Multi-disciplinary Task Force

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BACKGROUND Continued:

This proposal seeks to have the Executive Office formalize that group into a multi-disciplinary task force of the various agencies and departments who touch the issue of homelessness, to include: Riverside County Sheriff, Probation, Riverside University Health System (RUHS) - Behavioral Health, RUHS – Public Health, RUHS – Medical Center, Housing Authority, Department of Public Social Services, Code Enforcement, Animal Services, and other departments or entities that may be identified as necessary.

The issue of pervasive and chronic homelessness is something that the County has been grappling with for some time. We have seen the incidence of homeless encampments increase in recent years due to various factors which has had a great effect on public safety, as law enforcement is typically the first to respond when a complaint comes forward. As a result, Sheriff Sniff has dedicated two of his deputies to homeless outreach.

Often, homeless individuals do not wish to engage with those who can offer assistance because of various barriers that exist which keep them in homelessness. It requires numerous contacts before they are willing to accept assistance and this task becomes very labor intensive. With resources spread so thin, and the transient nature of these individuals, we often lose track of them. These deputies are able to build a rapport with homeless individuals through repeated positive contacts and ready them to accept assistance. Behavioral Health also utilizes homeless outreach teams. It is desirable to establish this task force to bring all of the resources together for a more systematic approach to triaging these homeless individuals and families. This task force will help us identify permanent solutions as a collective body.

Riverside County currently has several multi-disciplinary groups that have been established to address such issues as elder abuse, sexual assault and child abuse. This task force would operate similar to those groups.

Impact on Private Sector and Business

Creation of a homeless multi-disciplinary task force will facilitate better communication between currently independent county agencies and partners to identify permanent solutions to address the issues of homeless individuals and encampments that can create blight in our communities, for the benefit of both the homeless and those who live and work in the neighborhoods in which they are located.