

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



ITEM
2.6
(ID # 10169)

MEETING DATE:

Tuesday, June 18, 2019

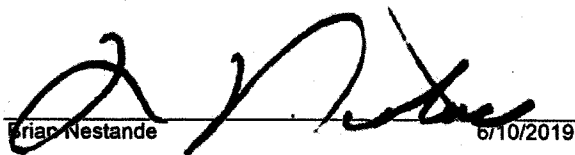
FROM : EXECUTIVE OFFICE:

SUBJECT: EXECUTIVE OFFICE: Receive and File the Letters of Support for the Rapid Response Reserve Fund and the Governors May Revision Proposal to Increase Homelessness Aid, All Districts [\$0].

RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Receive and file the attached letters that were sent to Sacramento.

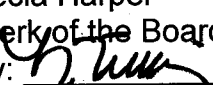
ACTION: Consent


Brian Nestande 6/10/2019

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

On motion of Supervisor Washington seconded by Supervisor Jeffries and duly carried by unanimous vote, IT WAS ORDERED that the above matter is received and filed as recommended.

Ayes: Jeffries, Spiegel, Washington, Perez and Hewitt
Nays: None
Absent: None
Date: June 18, 2019
EO

Kecia Harper
Clerk of the Board
By: 
2.6 Deputy

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

FINANCIAL DATA	Current Fiscal Year:	Next Fiscal Year:	Total Cost:	Ongoing Cost
COST	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
NET COUNTY COST	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
SOURCE OF FUNDS:			Budget Adjustment:	No
			For Fiscal Year:	

C.E.O. RECOMMENDATION: Approve

BACKGROUND:

Summary

Since the last meeting of the Riverside County Board of Supervisors, the following letters was delivered to all pertinent parties in order to voice Riverside County's Support:

Issue: Rapid Response Reserve Fund Trailer Bill Language

Position: Support

Background: The County has been responding to this immigration-related humanitarian crisis since March 28, 2019. The challenge has been significant and has impacted the County's ability to provide necessary services elsewhere in the County. As of the date of the letter, we have assisted more than 2,300 individuals (1,108 families) delivered to us from the Border Patrol facility in Yuma, Arizona.

The Rapid Response reserve fund appropriated \$5,000,000 to assist qualified community-based organizations and nonprofit entities during immigration or emergency situations when federal funding is not available to support such services. Local Government agencies were excluded from this proposal.

There is current Trailer Bill language that would appropriate an additional \$12,692,000 from the State's General Fund to the Rapid Response Reserve Fund and allow local government agencies to be eligible for reimbursement for the expenditures made in its effort during immigration emergency situations. This letter was sent to express our support of the trailer bill language and give our legislators an update of how the County is handling the immigration surge.

Issue: Governors May Revision Proposal to Increase homeless emergency aid from \$500 million to \$650 Million.

Position: Support

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

Background: This letter was a cooperative effort from all member counties of Urban Counties of California. The Governor's May revision increases the homeless emergency aid from \$500 Million to \$650 Million that will provide \$275 Million in funding directly to counties. This was a support letter to the Budget conference committee asking to approve the direct funding to counties to address the homelessness crisis.

June 4, 2019



Members of the Budget Conference Committee
State Capitol, Room 5050
Sacramento, CA 95814



Dear Senators and Assembly members:

Counties serve as subdivisions of the state in implementing important state and federal programs. We represent eleven of California's urban counties and we recognize the importance of having a unified voice on the most pressing policy areas that work on the state's behalf to administer and implement. Urban counties are unique given our overwhelming majority of caseloads in the health, welfare and justice areas, and our growing homelessness crisis. Across our counties, we represent close to 63% of the total California population.



Although not all of California's Housing and Urban Development Point In Time counts for homelessness have been released—preliminary numbers highlight what we already know—our homelessness crisis is deepening. Despite increases in recent years in affordable and permanent supportive housing, as well as shelter beds, outreach, and a multitude of services, we still have a crisis. We believe the severity of this crisis dictates additional funding, more local flexibility, and more targeted funding to the areas at the epicenter of this crisis. Urban counties are the epicenter of our state's homelessness crisis.



As such, we fully support the Governor's May Revision increases in homeless emergency aid from \$500 million to \$650 million, and most notably, provides \$275 million of that funding directly to counties. Counties provide the health and social services that keep people housed, a key factor in reducing and preventing homelessness in a meaningful manner. Given our expertise in contracting for services that directly serve the homeless, counties are ideally situated to coordinate and administer funding. Counties have also invested hundreds of millions of local dollars in building affordable housing. Additionally, counties can leverage their broader geographic coverage and connection to other major systems, including child welfare, criminal justice, and behavioral health.




Homelessness is a regional issue. A core mission of counties is to coordinate services regionally and we can bring this expertise to bear for homelessness and work with our cities, service providers and private partners. As safety net providers, counties have the experience and expertise to pair a wide array of services we already administer (SSI/SSP, GA) in conjunction with specific homelessness dollars.



We respectfully request that the Budget Conference Committee provide direct funding to counties to address the homelessness crisis.


Sincerely,



Keith Carson, Vice President
Board of Supervisors
Alameda County



Nathan Magsig, Chairman
Board of Supervisors
Fresno County



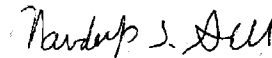
Sachi A. Hamai
Chief Executive Officer
Los Angeles County



Lisa Bartlett, Chairwoman
Board of Supervisors
Orange County



Kevin D. Jeffries, Chairman
Board of Supervisors
Riverside County



Navdeep S. Gill
County Executive
Sacramento County



Dianne Jacob, Chairwoman
Board of Supervisors
San Diego County

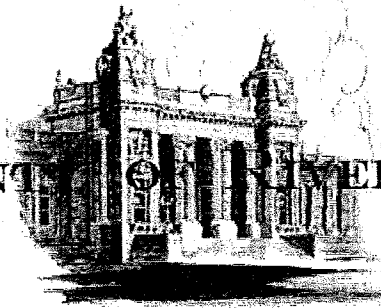


Carole Groom, President
Board of Supervisors
San Mateo County



Michael Powers
County Executive Officer
Ventura County

COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE



Board of Supervisors

District 1 <i>Chairman</i>	Kevin Jeffries 951-955-1010
District 2	Karen Spiegel 951-955-1020
District 3	Chuck Washington 951-955-1030
District 4	V. Manuel Perez 951-955-1040
District 5	Jeff Hewitt 951-955-1050

June 4, 2019

The Honorable Holly Mitchell, Chair
Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Committee
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Phil Ting, Chair
Assembly Budget Committee
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Rapid Response Reserve Fund – SUPPORT

Dear Senator Mitchell and Assembly Member Ting:

On behalf of the Riverside County Board of Supervisors, I write to express our support for the Governor's May Revision proposal and proposed trailer bill language to provide funding for the Rapid Response Reserve Fund, funding that will provide resources to entities who are working to address the needs of asylum seekers who have been released in eastern Riverside County by the United States Border Patrol.

The County has been responding to this immigration-related humanitarian crisis since March 28, 2019. The challenge has been significant and has impacted the County's ability to provide necessary services elsewhere in the County.

As of the date of this letter, we have assisted more than 2,300 individuals (1,108 families) delivered to us from the Border Patrol facility in Yuma, Arizona. In recent weeks, the average daily number of asylum seekers has almost tripled (from 25 to 65 people); and, we have recently been informed by Customs and Border Protection that the number of drop-offs will only grow for the foreseeable future. We are facing a crisis that is directly impacting Riverside County, specifically the eastern portion of the County.

To date, the effort and coordination of our County team has been extraordinary. Dedicated personnel, primarily from the Economic Development Agency, the Department of Public and Social Services, Riverside University Health System, and Probation, have been on site from day one and are providing services which include receiving the asylum seekers, transportation to cooling centers and emergency shelters, providing health screenings, and, most recently, connecting them with relatives across the country. While we are proud of our contribution to this effort, we are dependent on the partnerships we have forged with our local non-profit and faith-based organizations. The Blythe Spanish Seventh-Day Adventist Church has been providing shelter, food, and clothing. Our Lady of Soledad Church in Coachella, supported by Catholic Charities, has been providing the same services, as well as identifying relatives and/or sponsors and coordinating transportation for the asylum seekers awaiting their hearings. And, before we even started receiving individuals from Yuma, the Galilee Center in Mecca has been assisting families seeking asylum out of the El Centro Border Patrol facility. Even with this assistance, we are currently beyond the capacity of our available shelter beds. We are looking at other options with limited space, but it is becoming increasingly clear that we will need to stand up new emergency shelters – requiring greater County and non-profit investment.

The Honorable Holly Mitchell and The Honorable Phil Ting
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The County's ability to continue to assist to this population is entirely dependent on the identification of new funding. Additional state and/or federal funding is necessary to support the County and our non-profit partners in providing the following activities: short-term housing, transportation, legal services, health screenings, medical support, and food. To that end, we appreciate the thoughtful consideration of other entities' eligibility to participate in grant and contract opportunities from the Rapid Response Reserve Fund that is included in the proposed trailer bill prepared by the Administration and are supportive of the additional resources proposed in the May Revision.

We respectfully encourage your approval of funding and of proposed trailer bill language that would allow the County of Riverside to seek funding from the Rapid Response Reserve Fund to help us address the needs of asylum seekers that arrive in our County. If you have any questions about the County's position, please do not hesitate to contact Deputy County Executive Officer, Brian Nestande at (951) 955-1110 or bnestande@rivco.org. Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,



Kevin Jeffries, Chair
Riverside County Board of Supervisors

cc: Members and Consultants, Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Committee
Members and Consultants, Assembly Budget Committee
Keely Bosler, Director, Department of Finance
Gina DaSilva, Senior Policy Advisor for Immigration, Governor's Office