

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



**ITEM: 3.5**  
(ID # 21637)

**MEETING DATE:**  
Tuesday, April 18, 2023

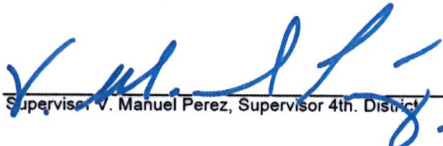
**FROM :** SUPERVISOR V. MANUEL PEREZ:

**SUBJECT:** SUPERVISOR V. MANUEL PEREZ: Adopt Resolution No. 2023-085, authorizing the County of Riverside to enter into a funding agreement with the State Water Resources Control Board and Designating a Representative for the Oasis Mobile Home Park Bottled Water Project. [\$0]

**RECOMMENDED MOTION:** That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Adopt Resolution No. 2023-085, authorizing the County of Riverside to enter into a funding agreement with the State Water Resources Control Board for the Oasis Mobile Home Park Bottled Water Project;
2. Authorize and designate the Deputy Director of Economic Development and Housing and Workforce Solutions, or designee, to represent the County of Riverside in carrying out the County of Riverside's responsibilities under the funding agreement; and,
3. Direct the Deputy Director of Economic Development and Housing and Workforce Solutions, or designee, to authorize and to sign for and on behalf of County of Riverside, the funding agreement for the Project and any amendments thereto.

**ACTION:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Supervisor V. Manuel Perez, Supervisor 4th. District 4/11/2023

---

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

On motion of Supervisor Perez, seconded by Supervisor Spiegel and duly carried by unanimous vote, IT WAS ORDERED that the above matter is approved as recommended.

Ayes: Jeffries, Spiegel, Washington, Perez, and Gutierrez  
Nays: None  
Absent: None  
Date: April 18, 2023  
xc: BOS-Dist. 4, O.E.D.

Kimberly A. Rector  
Clerk of the Board

By:   
Deputy

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

**BACKGROUND:**

**Summary**

For a number of years, the Federal, State and Riverside County governments have been dealing with a crisis in the Oasis Mobile Home Park in the Eastern Coachella Valley. The mobile home park has been cited repeatedly by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for arsenic in its water and for having substandard housing conditions. There are problems with lack of maintenance on the mobile homes, overflowing trash, and other health and safety concerns. The challenges to improving living conditions are vast, as it involves a number of complex issues including a mix of Federal and County jurisdiction on the park; tribal reservation lands; multiple property owners (now involved in a probate action); lack of infrastructure; and very limited number of other affordable housing options in the Eastern Coachella Valley. In the meantime, conditions continue to worsen.

To meet this challenge, the County has partnered with the Federal and State governments, water boards, non-profit organizations, and advocacy groups. Notably, Assemblymember Eduardo Garcia was able to secure \$30 million in the Fiscal Year 21/22 state budget for Riverside County to provide emergency housing and infrastructure improvements for the residents of the Oasis Mobile Home Park. This was a critical investment with the real potential to improve the quality of life for the more than 1,000 residents of Oasis. The County has been actively working to relocate families. The effort has not been easy, and we have much more work to do. Meanwhile, the park owners continue to allow new residents to move into substandard conditions.

The County of Riverside has submitted an application to the State Water Resources Board for funding for the Oasis Mobile Home Park Bottled Water Project (Project). Prior to the State Water Resources Control Board's executing a funding agreement, County of Riverside is required to adopt a resolution authorizing an agent, or representative, to sign the funding agreement, amendments, and requests for disbursement on behalf of County of Riverside, and to carry out other necessary Project-related activities.

**Attachments:** Resolution No. 2023-085

  
Aaron Gettis, Deputy County Counsel 4/11/2023

2  
3 RESOLUTION NO. 2023-085

4 RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE  
5 AUTHORIZING ENTERING INTO A FUNDING AGREEMENT WITH THE STATE WATER  
6 RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD AND DESIGNATING A REPRESENTATIVE FOR THE OASIS  
7 MOBILE HOME PARK BOTTLED WATER PROJECT.  
8

9 **WHEREAS**, County of Riverside has submitted an application to the State Water Resources  
10 Board for funding for the Oasis Mobile Home Park Bottled Water Project (Project); and

11 **WHEREAS**, prior to the State Water Resources Control Board’s executing a funding  
12 agreement, County of Riverside is required to adopt a resolution authorizing an agent, or representative, to  
13 sign the funding agreement, amendments, and requests for disbursement on behalf of County of Riverside,  
14 and to carry out other necessary Project-related activities.

15 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AND ORDERED** by the Board of  
16 Supervisors of the County of Riverside, in regular session assembled on April 18th, 2023, as  
17 follows:


- 18 1. The County of Riverside is hereby authorized to carry out the Project, enter into a  
19 funding agreement with the State Water Resources Control Board, and accept and  
20 expend State funds for the Project.
- 21 2. The Deputy Director of Economic Development and Housing and Workforce Solutions,  
22 or designee, is hereby authorized and designated to sign, for and on behalf of County of  
23 Riverside, the funding agreement for the Project and any amendments thereto.
- 24 3. The Deputy Director of Economic Development and Housing and Workforce Solutions,  
25 or designee, is hereby authorized and designated to represent the County of Riverside in  
26 carrying out the County of Riverside’s responsibilities under the funding agreement,  
27 including certifying invoices and disbursement requests for Project costs on behalf of the  
28 County of Riverside and compliance with applicable state and federal laws.

FORM APPROVED COUNTY COUNSEL  
BY:  4/18/23  
STEPHANIE K. NELSON DATE

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28

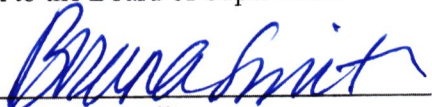
4. Any and all actions, whether previously or subsequently taken by the County of Riverside, which are consistent with the intent and purposes of the foregoing resolution, shall be, and hereby are, in all respects, ratified, approved, and confirmed.

**ADOPTED, SIGNED AND APPROVED** this 18th day of April 2023, by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Riverside.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Chair of the Board of Supervisors  
Kevin Jefferies

ATTEST:

Kimberly Rector  
Clerk to the Board of Supervisors

By:   
\_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy

ROLL CALL:

Ayes: Jeffries, Spiegel, Washington, Perez and Gutierrez  
Nays: None  
Absent: None

The foregoing is certified to be a true copy of a resolution duly adopted by said Board of Supervisors on the date therein set forth.

KIMBERLY A. RECTOR, Clerk of said Board  
By:   
\_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy

04.18.2023 3.5

April 17, 2023

Board of Supervisors 4080 Lemon  
St 4th floor Riverside, CA 92501



**RE: April 18th Board of Supervisors Meeting - Items 3.5 and 3.43**

Dear Members of the Riverside County Board of Supervisors,

On behalf of Juntos Por Un Mejor Oasis (Juntos) and residents of Oasis Mobile Home Park in the Eastern Coachella Valley, we submit this letter in response to agenda items 3.5 and 3.43. We thank and support Riverside County and Housing and Workforce Solutions staff for presenting the Oasis Housing Opportunity Program (OHOP) and requesting an allocation of up to \$15 million for relocation assistance for Oasis MHP residents. Although Leadership Counsel and residents are supportive of this program's approval, we remain concerned about the relocation process the County is leading and the use of the \$30 million allocation that residents successfully advocated for from the State in 2021.

One of the challenges we continue to face is the poor and inconsistent communication with residents. This has created an atmosphere of doubt, disillusionment, and continued disappointment within the community. The County must seriously improve their methods for communicating and working with the community, as well as improve the structure and substance of their monthly community meetings with residents. We recommend that this space be used to update residents on the progress that the County and other agencies have made in the previous month, what steps they will take in the following month, answer questions, and continue taking input on a long-term strategy for relocation.

As requested before, Juntos Por Un Mejor Oasis asks the County to develop a comprehensive relocation plan that includes the following components:

- Policies and programs that will help advance the construction of affordable housing and infrastructure,
- An infrastructure project pipeline with a clear plan for acquiring investments and resources to facilitate housing development,
- A list of housing projects that Oasis residents can relocate to and a clear timeline for construction completion, and
- A written strategy on how the County and partnering agencies will comply with HCD's requirement that they meaningfully consult and communicate with Oasis MHP residents regarding the relocation process and the use of the \$30 million fund.

This relocation plan should be co-developed with and informed by Juntos and Oasis MHP residents, translated into Spanish, and presented to the community. Hundreds of families are still living in uninhabitable dire conditions at Oasis MHP and as the summer approaches, looming power outages and fire hazards await the community, on top of the \$100 rent increase that management issued earlier this year. The County and partnering agencies must present the community with a clear path forward for a full and expeditious relocation to safe and affordable housing and work to prevent further landlord abuse.

Additionally, as Oasis MHP's water system remains unreliable, residents continue to depend on bottled water, either purchased or distributed. We support the continued efforts of Riverside County and others to distribute bottled water. However, residents continue to face challenges with accessing the bottled water offered through this program and that required from Oasis MHP. Timing, location, and inequitable distribution of water has meant that many residents are not receiving the amount of water required per individual. As a result, many residents opt for personally purchasing their own bottled water. We ask that Riverside County, the State Water Resources Control Board, and the EPA, carefully investigate the effectiveness of the water distribution program and make improvements based on residents' experiences and ensure all park residents receive the required number of gallons they are entitled to per day with no obstacles.

Leadership Counsel and Juntos are available to meet to discuss these requests further. For questions, please contact Lupita Lua ([mlua@leadershipcounsel.org](mailto:mlua@leadershipcounsel.org)) and Rebecca Zaragoza ([rzaragoza@leadershipcounsel.org](mailto:rzaragoza@leadershipcounsel.org)).

Sincerely,

Rebecca T. Zaragoza Regional  
Policy Manager  
Leadership Counsel for Justice and Accountability

4/18/23 3.5

## Maxwell, Sue

---

**From:** Rebecca Zaragoza <rzaragoza@leadershipcounsel.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 17, 2023 11:23 AM  
**To:** COB  
**Cc:** Lupita Lua  
**Subject:** Written Comments - Items 3.5 and 3.43 (4/18/23)  
**Attachments:** BOS Written Comments 3.5 and 3.43.pdf

**CAUTION:** This email originated externally from the **Riverside County** email system. **DO NOT** click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Good morning,

I am submitting the attached comment letter in response to Items 3.5 and 3.43 of the Board of Supervisors agenda for tomorrow, April 18th.

Thank you,

Rebecca T. Zaragoza (she/her/ella)  
Regional Policy Manager | Eastern Coachella Valley  
85350 Bagdad Ave, Coachella, CA. 92236  
Cell: (760) 774-3528

Website: [www.leadershipcounsel.org](http://www.leadershipcounsel.org)  
Twitter: @LCJandA  
Instagram: @leadership\_counsel