



County Administrative Office
Governmental & Legislative Affairs

Bradley A. Jensen
Director

March 14, 2022

Senator Nancy Skinner
Chair, Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review
1020 N Street, Room 502
Sacramento, CA 95814

Assemblymember Phil Ting
Chair, Assembly Budget Committee
1021 O Street, Suite 8230
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Governor Newsom's Homeless Encampment Resolution Grant Program - SUPPORT

Dear Senator Skinner and Assemblymember Ting,

On behalf of San Bernardino County, I write in strong support of Governor Newsom's Homeless Encampment Resolution Grant Program, which allocates \$500 million in grants to local governments to help the homeless move from encampments to permanent housing. We agree with the Governor's focus on a housing-first policy and the administration's desire to partner with local agencies to address the homeless crisis in the state.

In the 2021 budget, the Governor proposed \$50 million be directed towards homeless encampment clearing, with a priority on urban areas and encampments of over 50 people. Although no specific priorities have been selected in this year's encampment clearing budget proposal, we would recommend a balanced approach to ensure that all regions of the state are eligible for this funding.

San Bernardino County is the largest county in the nation, covering over 20,000 square miles. Our communities range from highly populated urban cities to remote rural hamlets. Homeless camps in our County are frequently less than 50 people and are found in non-urban areas such as dry riverbeds, washes, and mountain areas. We hope that the guidelines for this encampment clearing funding will enable us to address our unique homelessness challenges as well as those in other, more urban areas of the state.

We are grateful for the Governor's commitment to help the homeless across California. San Bernardino County supports this proposal and asks for your support for this item throughout the budget process.

If you have any questions regarding the County's position, please contact Brad Jensen, Legislative Affairs Director, at (909) 387-4821 or Bradley.Jensen@cao.sbcounty.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Curt Hagman".

Curt Hagman
Fourth District Supervisor
Chairman, San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors

cc: The Office of Governor Gavin Newsom
San Bernardino County State Legislative Delegation

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

COL. PAUL COOK (RET.)
First District

JANICE RUTHERFORD
Second District

DAWN ROWE
Vice Chair, Third District

CURT HAGMAN
Chairman, Fourth District

JOE BACA, JR.
Fifth District

Leonard X. Hernandez
Chief Executive Officer