



East Valley Regional Steering Committee Meeting (EVRSC)

Thursday, November 16, 2023 • 10:00 to 11:00am

Joshua Tree Community Center

6171 Sunburst Street, Joshua Tree, CA 92252

AGENDA

OPENING REMARKS	PRESENTER
A. Call to Order (3 minutes) B. Pledge of Allegiance/Invocation C. Welcome and Introductions (10 minutes) D. Public Comment	Curtis Yakimow Designee Board Members
REPORTS & UPDATES	
E. Regional Board Member Representatives (3 mins each) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Town of Yucca Valley Representative b. Supervisor Dawn Rowe's office c. Department of Adult and Aging Services d. City of 29 Palms Representative e. Valley Star f. Morongo Basin ARCH g. Reach Out Morongo Basin h. Formerly MB Haven i. ICH update j. HPN update 	Curtis/Designee Glen Harris Meghan Cosgriff Octavious Scott Faith Nicholson Astrid Johnson Robin Schlosser Shelley Licata Curtis/Designee Astrid Johnson
CONSENT ITEMS (2 mins)	
F. Approve Meeting Minutes from October 19, 2023	Curtis Yakimow
PRESENTATIONS (15 mins)	
G. Governance Ad Hoc Committee Update	Dr. Pat Leslie
DISCUSSIONS (15 mins)	
H. PITC Discussion	Curtis Yakimow Astrid Johnson
I. Morongo Basin ARCH Financial Reporting	
J. Holiday Food Giveaway Resource List	Curtis Yakimow
CLOSING	
K. Future Agenda Items	Committee members
L. Adjournment	Curtis Yakimow
Next Meeting:	East Valley Regional Steering Committee next scheduled meeting: TBD Joshua Tree Community Center 6171 Sunburst Street, Joshua Tree CA 92252

Mission Statement

The Mission of the San Bernardino County Homeless Partnership is to provide a system of care that is inclusive, well-planned, coordinated and evaluated and is accessible to all who are homeless and those at-risk of becoming homeless.

THE SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY HOMELESS PARTNERSHIP MEETING FACILITY IS ACCESSIBLE TO PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES. IF ASSISTIVE LISTENING DEVICES OR OTHER AUXILIARY AIDS OR SERVICES ARE NEEDED IN ORDER TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PUBLIC MEETING, REQUESTS SHOULD BE MADE THROUGH THE OFFICE OF HOMELESS SERVICES AT LEAST THREE (3) BUSINESS DAYS PRIOR TO THE PARTNERSHIP MEETING. THE OFFICE OF HOMELESS SERVICES TELEPHONE NUMBER IS (909) 501-0610 AND THE OFFICE IS LOCATED AT 560 E. HOSPITALITY LANE, SUITE 200, SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92408-0044 <https://sbchp.sbcounty.gov/>
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**Minutes for San Bernardino County Office of Homeless Services
East Valley Regional Steering Committee Meeting**

November 16, 2023
10:00 A.M. – 11:00 A.M.
Joshua Tree Community Center

Opening Remarks	Presenter	Action/Outcome
<p>Call to Order</p> <p>Welcome and Introductions</p>		<p>The meeting was called to order at 10:01 a.m. by Curtis Yakimow.</p> <p>Attendees were welcomed to the meeting.</p> <p>East Valley Regional Steering Committee roll call:</p> <p>Curtis Yakimow, (co-chair) – present</p> <p>Astrid Johnson (co-chair)—present</p> <p>Octavious Scott (Councilmember, City of 29 Palms)— not present</p> <p>Glen Harris—(Supervisor Rowes Office)— present</p> <p>Meghan Cosgriff (Dept. of Aging & Adult Svcs)- present</p> <p>Shelley Licata — present</p> <p>Robin Schlosser (Reach Out Morongo Basin)— present</p> <p>Faith Nicholson (Valley Star) – not present</p> <p>Curtis welcomed everyone to the meeting and went around the room with attendee introductions.</p>

Reports and Updates	Presenter	
Interagency Council on Homeless Update	Debra Breidenbach	Provided a brief update. The board discussed as to whether to do an unhoused count for the upcoming PITC. Curtis asked what the committee's perspective was regarding that topic.
Morongo Basin Arch	Astrid Johnson	Provided a brief update.
PITC	Public/Members	<p>Astrid Johnson – In regards to the PITC, she feels it would be beneficial to have the unhoused count.</p> <p>Robin Schlosser – Robin agrees with Astrid.</p> <p>Glenn Harris – Mr. Harris would like to have a discussion about the PITC on the next agenda. He also announced that on October 3rd, Chair Rowe created a homeless committee.</p> <p>Wayne Hamilton – Mr. Hamilton supported the idea of doing the unsheltered count.</p> <p>Marjorie Smith – It would be good to have the unhoused count as it is helpful to identify those individuals during emergency events.</p>
Consent Items		
Approve Meeting Minutes from October 19, 2023		Recommendation by Shelley Licata to approve minutes, 2 nd from Astrid Johnson. Roll call vote taken; motion passed unanimously.
Discussion		
	Curtis Yakimow	<p>At the previous meeting, a suggestion was made to change the name of the steering committee. Janet Johnston provided a brief summary as to what the benefits to consider a name change. A couple of suggestions were mentioned and Curtis said that we would look into who to contact at the county to address this. The committee weighed in on the conversation and agreed to continue to research a name change. The majority would like to have the word Desert included.</p> <p>It was recommended by Robin Schlosser and 2nd from Meghan Cosgriff. Roll call vote taken; motion passed unanimously.</p>
	Astrid Johnson	<p>MB Arch provided a recap of funds for HHAP 1 & 2. Astrid provided a summary of HHAP 1 and referred to the report that was provided in the agenda. Astrid reviewed the HHAP 2 funding and referred to the report that was provided with the agenda. Janet Johnston will be managing QuickBooks for MB Arch moving forward. Glenn Harris commented that he would like to see the reports to be provided similar to a profit and loss statement. Shelley Licata asked for streamlined reporting regarding HAAP funding for MB Arch. Curtis mentioned to keep this on as a future agenda item.</p>

Closing	
Steering Committee/Public Comments	<p>Janet Johnston – Ms. Johnston mentioned that she would be sending out an email on the proposed working group.</p> <p>Billy Folsom – Mr. Folsom provided his background in working with the homeless. He worked for the city of Costa Mesa, and he was also a political consultant. He also participated on a homeless task force.</p> <p>Jenn Defalco – Ms. Defalco works with the unhoused population in 29 Palms. Made a request for warm clothing as the temperatures will be getting colder.</p> <p>Benita Brown – The Way Station is partnering with the Morongo Basin Transit for a turkey giveaway at Walmart on November 21st.</p> <p>Wayne Hamilton – On November 20, the Sportsman Club in Joshua Tree will be partnering with Community Action Partnership to give away 600 turkeys.</p> <p>Jenn Defalco – They have noticed a lot of RV's on the outskirts of the City of 29 Palms.</p> <p>Astrid Johnson – Very concerned about the Fentanyl crisis and how it is impacting the unhoused.</p> <p>Jenn Defalco – LA county provides small cans of Narcan to assist in preventing overdoses.</p> <p>Marjorie Smith – Marjorie informed the group that she has a Narcan supplier that she can provide the information for.</p> <p>Astrid Johnson – MB Arch is a hub for United Way. We have 3 directions for serving the unhoused community; HHAP, United Way and IEHP. The goal is to house everyone, identify barriers to assist them, and prevent individuals from being unhoused.</p> <p>Robin Schlosser – Mentioned they provide supplemental food boxes for housed and unhoused residents of the City of 29 Palms.</p> <p>Curtis requested to have a central holiday food giveaway list for the committee at the next meeting.</p> <p>Being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 10:58 a.m.</p> <p>The date for the next East Valley Regional Steering Committee will be TBD, at 10am. It will be held at the Joshua Tree Community Center.</p>
Adjournment	Curtis Yakimow
Next Meeting	

October 19, 2023, Attendees

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	ORGANIZATION	PHONE NUMBER	EMAIL ADDRESS
Anderson	Donshaya	Molding Hearts		
Fansler	Sheree	Morongo Basin Healthcare District		
Brown	Benifa	The Way Station		
Hall	Bandit	Inland SoCal United Way		
Hamilton	Wayne	MUSD		
Folsom	William			

Draft Holiday Food Giveaway List

29 Palms High School Interact Club

Turkey Giveaway (300)

Saturday, November 18th

8am-11am

29 Palms residents only

Community Action Partnership & The Sportsman's Club of Joshua Tree

Turkey Giveaway (500) at new Joshua Tree Elementary School

Monday, November 20th

10am-2pm

The Way Station & Morongo Basin Transit

Thanksgiving Holiday Giveaway at the Way Station

8am

Tuesday, November 21st

The Way Station will be collecting items for the giveaway on the 21st at Walmart on Friday, November 17th

7am – 7pm

YV Community Center

USDA Food Giveaway

Monday, November 20th – Monday, December 18th

9am-11am

Information regarding a food distribution event at a local church to be determined...

This attachment is for informational purposes regarding the EVSCR name change from the discussion which took place at the previous meeting on October 19th.

October 30, 2023

Office of Homeless Services
Mr. Marcus Dillard, Chief
560 E. Hospitality Lane
Suite 200
San Bernardino, CA 92408

Dear Mr. Dillard;

At the October 19th meeting of the East Valley Regional Steering Committee meeting, the members discussed a request of the public regarding the naming convention of the Committee. The letter from the public is attached for reference.

In summary, the letter identifies a number of concerns related to the name of the committee, given its geographical location within the County. After discussion, the Committee unanimously agreed that the current name of the committee does not capture the geography served. Additionally, "East Valley" has multiple connotations within the County's service responsibilities, but is generally *not* used to describe the Morongo Basin area. As a result, the local community is often unaware of the activities, benefits, and representation of the committee, thereby affecting public input and involvement.

The committee members felt that the majority of the committee's work is in the Morongo Basin, and the name should be reflective of that. Understanding that the City of Needles is also represented within the geographical area of the committee, a few alternative names were proposed:

- East Desert RSC
- Morongo Basin RSC

The committee is seeking guidance on how to advance this request for consideration of a formal name change. Please feel free to contact me at cyakimow@yucca-valley.org with any questions or to discuss further.

Sincerely,

Town of Yucca Valley
Curtis Yakimow
East Valley RSC Co-Chair

Morongo Basin ARCH
Astrid Johnson
East Valley RSC Co-Chair



The Town of
Yucca Valley

57090 Twentynine Palms Highway • Yucca Valley, California 92284
760/369-7207 • Fax (760) 369-0626



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CONSENT ITEMS (2 mins)	
F. Approve Meeting Minutes from September 21, 2023	Curtis Yakimow
DISCUSSIONS (15 mins)	
G. Suggested EVRSC name change H. Recap of HHAP funding received by Morongo Basin ARCH	Curtis Yakimow Astrid Johnson
CLOSING	
I. Future Agenda Items J. Adjournment	Committee members Curtis Yakimow
Next Meeting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> East Valley Regional Steering Committee next scheduled meeting: Thursday, November 16, 2023, 10:00am – 11:00am Joshua Tree Community Center 6171 Sunburst Street, Joshua Tree CA 92252 	

Mission Statement

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CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you can confirm the sender and know the content is safe.

From: janetjohnstn@earthlink.net <janetjohnstn@earthlink.net>

Sent: Tuesday, September 26, 2023 11:44 AM

To: Curtis Yakimow <cyakimow@yucca-valley.org>; Debra Breidenbach <dbreidenbach@yucca-valley.org>

Cc: skyviewfarm29@gmail.com; 'Steve Bardwell' <steve@infinityranch.net>

Subject: Proposed name change for the East Valley Regional Steering Committee

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Curtis Yakimow and Debra Breidenbach:

I would like to follow up on the public comment I made at the East Valley Regional Steering Committee (EVRSC) on Thursday, September 21st. I suggested that it is worth considering a name change for the EVRSC.

As you know, the EVRSC is one of five regional committees of the San Bernardino County Homeless Partnership. It is an official body which reviews applications for the Homeless Housing Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) grants. The Chair of each Regional Committee (EVRSC co-Chair is Curtis Yakimow of Yucca Valley) sits on the County Interagency Council on Homelessness (ICH). Astrid Johnson, of Morongo Basin Aligning Resources Challenging Homelessness (ARCH), a non-profit, is the other co-Chair of EVRSC. She also sits on the ICH, as well as the HPN (Homeless Provider Network).

In order for a committee or non-profit to have "reach" in the community, its name has to reflect its mission and area of focus.

The name "East Valley Regional Steering Committee" (EVRSC) has no name recognition in the Morongo Basin as we are not in the Valley region of the County, we are in the Desert.

To be truly effective at the boots-on-the-ground level, our regional committee needs to focus on the complexities of our sprawling region. The boundaries of Morongo Unified School District (MUSD), just a part of our EVRSC area, is the size of Rhode Island. Wayne Hamilton, the Homeless Liaison for MUSD, has reported that close to 10% of the student body is considered homeless/housing insecure via the McKinney/Vento definition. That is close to 800 kids. He also reported at the September 21, 2023 EVRSC meeting, that upon driving the streets of the Morongo Basin over recent weeks conducting a survey, he counted 1,480 off-grid living units. These are folks living in their RV, tent, car, etc. We have plenty to focus on right here in the Morongo Basin and we need community-wide

support.

For our community to know what the current EVRSC does and for it to be more effective, I suggest that:

1. Needles joins the Desert Region, or potentially forms a sixth region, and our name changes to the "Morongo Basin Regional Steering Committee".

or
2. If Needles wants to stay with us, the name changes to "East Desert Regional Steering Committee". The current Desert Region could then become the "North Desert".

There is precedence for either name change, as you can see in this summary here. Please see the attached document for more background.

County Land Use Regions

Four Regions: Valley, Mountain, North Desert, East Desert

211/CES (Coordinated Entry System) Regions

Five Regions: Central, West End, Mountain, High Desert, Morongo Basin

SB County HUD Regions

Six Regions: East Valley, West Valley, Central Valley, Mountains, High Desert, Morongo Basin

SB County Homeless Partnership(SBCHP) and Interagency Council on Homelessness (ICH) Regions

Five Regions: West Valley, Central Valley, Mountain, Desert, East Valley

Note that the "East Valley" region in the SB County HUD Regions is NOT the same as our "East Valley" of the SB County Homeless Partnership.

At the Sept 21st meeting, I also discussed the creation of the "Morongo Basin Housing Working Group" to work alongside the EVRSC. That will be discussed in another email.

Thank you,

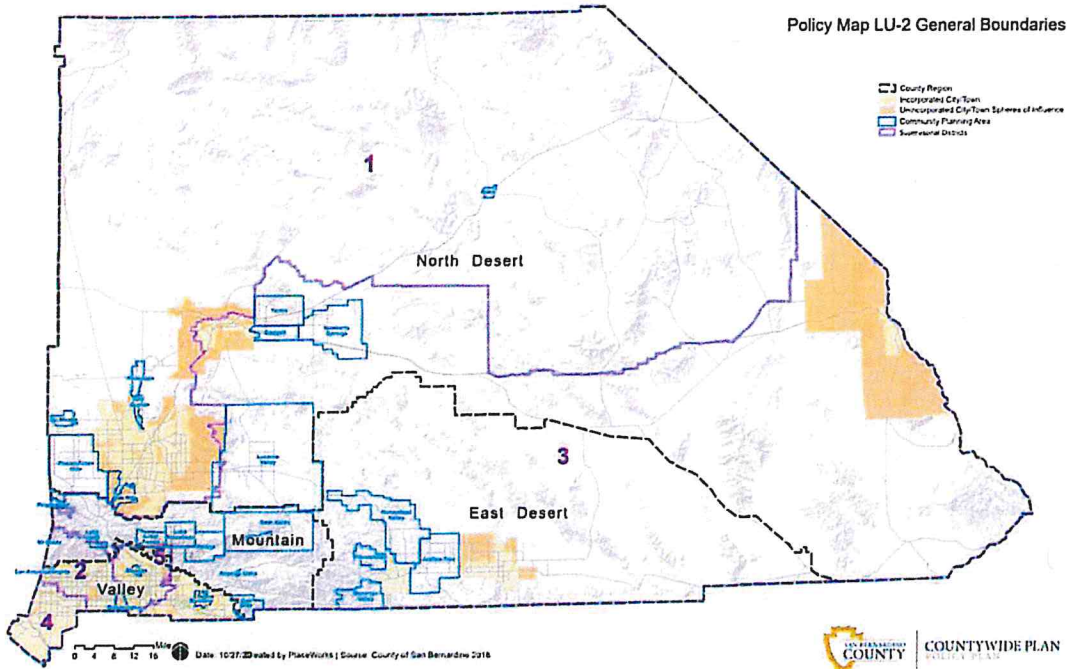
Janet Johnston

The Shifting Regional Boundaries of San Bernardino County

County Land Use Boundaries

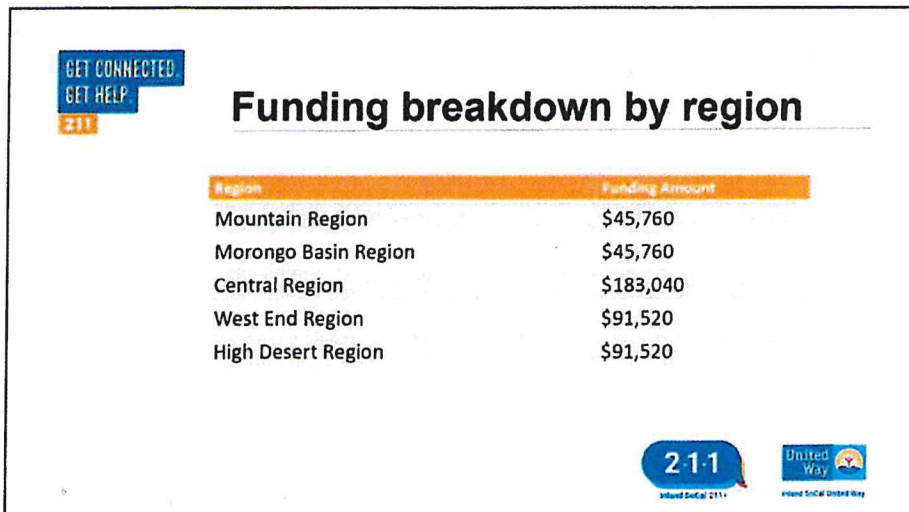
Four Regions: Valley, Mountain, North Desert, East Desert

<https://countywideplan.com/wp-content/uploads/sites/68/2021/02/LU-2-General-Boundaries-06232023.pdf>



211/CES (Coordinated Entry System) facilitated by United Way and now by the Interagency Council on Homelessness(ICH) Committee

Five Regions: Central, West End, Mountain, High Desert, Morongo Basin



San Bernardino County HUD Regions

As defined in the 2020-2025 Consolidated Housing Plan, Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER), and Annual Action Plan. Note the "East Valley" here is different than that designated by the SB County Homeless Partnership. This here refers to the very southeastern tip of the county, in the highly populated Valley Region.

Six Regions: East Valley, West Valley, Central Valley, Mountains, High Desert, Morongo Basin

<https://sbcountycdha.com/community-development-and-housing-department/hud-plans-reports/>

<https://content.sbcounty.gov/uploads/CDH/Reports/consolidated-plans/FINAL-San-Bernardino-County-Con-Plan-2.2.21.pdf>

page 236 of the Consolidated Plan.

AP-50 Geographic Distribution - 91.420, 91.220(f)

Description of the geographic areas of the entitlement (including areas of low-income and minority concentration) where assistance will be directed

Over the 2020-2021 program year, the County of San Bernardino will allocate CDBG funds for use in each of the 13 cooperating cities and in unincorporated areas of the County, as shown below. Annual funding percentages are determined by the County using a formula based on population, poverty rate, and rate of overcrowded housing conditions.

Available HOME funds will be used for new construction or rehabilitation of multifamily housing units; eligible areas include the unincorporated County and all HOME Consortium cities. While the County has not identified specific target areas for the use of HOME funds, priority will be given to affordable rental housing projects located in high opportunity (i.e. high school proficiency, high labor market engagement, and high job access), low poverty areas (poverty concentrations below 50%), as described in the County's 2020-2025 Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice.

ESG funds will be allocated geographically among population centers in each of the County's six regions – East, West, and Central Valleys, Mountain communities, High Desert and the Morongo Basin.

Geographic Distribution

TABLE 54 - GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION

Target Area	Percentage of Funds
Adelanto	7%
Barstow	5%
Big Bear Lake	1%
Colton	8%
Grand Terrace	1%
Highland	8%
Loma Linda	3%
Montclair	6%
Needles	1%
Redlands	8%
Twentynine Palms	3%
Yucaipa	6%
Town of Yucca Valley	2%
Countywide	0%
Chino Hills	0%
Rancho Cucamonga	0%
Unincorporated County	42%

San Bernardino County Homeless Partnership (SBCHP) / Interagency Council on Homelessness (ICH) Regions

Five Regions: West Valley, Central Valley, Mountain, Desert, East Valley

<https://wp.sbcounty.gov/dbh/sbchp/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/2020/09/ICH-Bylaws-8.28.19.pdf> Page 3

A. ICH Membership Composition

The membership of the ICH shall be broadly based with representation from all sectors of the community, including but not limited to: homeless service providers, representatives of federal, state and local government, corporations, and concerned individuals. Due to the large size of San Bernardino County (22,000+ square miles) and to encourage collaboration among members, representation on ICH will be on a regional basis. The regions will be as follows:

- West Valley Region:** Encompasses the cities of Chino, Chino Hills, Montclair, Ontario, Rancho Cucamonga, Upland, and the surrounding unincorporated communities.
- Central Valley Region:** Encompasses the cities of Colton, Fontana, Grand Terrace, Highland, Loma Linda, Redlands, Rialto, San Bernardino, Yucaipa, and the surrounding unincorporated communities.
- East Valley Region:** Encompasses the cities of Needles, Twenty-nine Palms, Yucca Valley, and the surrounding unincorporated communities.
- Desert Region:** Encompasses the cities of Adelanto, Apple Valley, Barstow, Hesperia, Victorville, and the surrounding unincorporated communities.
- Mountain Region:** Encompasses the city of Big Bear and the unincorporated communities which include Blue Jay, Cedar Glen, Cedarpines Park, Crestline, Forest Falls, Green Valley Lake, Lake Arrowhead, Rim Forrest, Running Springs, Skyforest, Sugarloaf, and Twin Peaks.

A member whose service area covers more than one Region shall designate a Region as their primary service area. Members may participate in meetings and activities outside of their designated Region, but may only hold the office of Regional Representative in their designated Region

BYLAWS OF THE INTERAGENCY COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS

San Bernardino County Homeless Partnership Interagency Council on Homelessness

BY-LAWS

Adopted March 22, 2010

Amended August 15, 2018

Amended August 28, 2019

Amended May 18, 2022

Amended June 28, 2023

A Continuum of Care is a community plan to organize and deliver housing and services to meet the specific needs of people who are homeless as they move to stable housing and maximum self-sufficiency. The mission of the San Bernardino County Homeless Partnership is to provide a system of care network that is inclusive, well planned, coordinated, evaluated and accessible to all who are homeless or at-risk of being homeless.

Article I

Purpose

The Interagency Council on Homelessness ("ICH") is a vital component of the San Bernardino County Homeless Partnership ("Partnership"). The ICH serves as the policy making body of the Partnership and oversees the implementation of the 10-Year Strategy to End Homelessness in San Bernardino County ("10-Year Strategy"). The ICH will focus on resource development to ensure the funding of homeless projects and 10-Year Strategy recommendations. In addition, ICH serves as the HUD-designated primary decision-making group and oversight board of the City of San Bernardino & County (hereinafter referred to as the "geographic area") Continuum of Care for the Homeless (CA-609) funding process, (hereinafter referred to as the "CoC").

Article II

Vision

Provide leadership in creating a "comprehensive countywide network" of service delivery for the homeless population. Identify families and individuals at-risk of homelessness and circumstances leading to homelessness through facilitation of better communication, planning, coordination, and cooperation among all entities that provide services and/or resources for the relief of homelessness in the County of San Bernardino in a united effort to eliminate homelessness county-wide.

Article III

Duties

The ICH is charged with directing, coordinating and evaluating all of the activities related to implementation of the 10-Year Strategy to End Homelessness. The ICH Members are directed to report progress on the implementation of the 10-Year Strategy to their colleagues and constituents following each meeting of the ICH. The ICH will promote

From: [Curtis Yakimow](#)
To: "[pastorjessicaalexander@gmail.com](#)"; "[marcus.dillard@hss.sbcounty.gov](#)"
Cc: [Debra Breidenbach](#); [Terry Foster](#); [skyviewfarm29](#)
Subject: RE: FW: Proposed name change for the East Valley Regional Steering Committee
Date: Monday, October 30, 2023 8:49:00 AM
Attachments: [EVRSC Name Change Request.pdf](#)

Good morning Mr. Dillard and Ms. Alexander,

Attached please find the formal letter requesting the East Valley RSC discussed below. We look forward to guidance as appropriate. Thanks much...Curtis

Curtis Yakimow

Town Manager

Town of Yucca Valley
57090 29 Palms Hwy
Yucca Valley, CA 92284
(760) 369-7207 ext. 232
cyakimow@yucca-valley.org

This email and any files transmitted with it may contain privileged or otherwise confidential information. If you are not the intended recipient, or believe that you may have received this communication in error, please advise the sender via reply email and delete the email you received.

From: Debra Breidenbach <dbreidenbach@yucca-valley.org>
Sent: Thursday, October 26, 2023 9:43 AM
To: Curtis Yakimow <cyakimow@yucca-valley.org>
Subject: FW: FW: Proposed name change for the East Valley Regional Steering Committee

From: Jessica Alexander <pastorjessicaalexander@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 25, 2023 8:54 PM
To: Debra Breidenbach <dbreidenbach@yucca-valley.org>
Cc: Dillard, Marcus <Marcus.Dillard@hss.sbcounty.gov>
Subject: Re: FW: Proposed name change for the East Valley Regional Steering Committee

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Hi Debra,

This is an interesting request. I don't know of any restrictions on changing a steering committee's

name. Personally, I believe a community/region should be known by a name they're comfortable with.

I suggest having the discussion within your region tomorrow and getting feedback from community members. Let me know the outcome, and I'll reach out to counsel to make sure we are OK to proceed with the name they suggest. She may suggest that the East Valley RSC name change come before the board if it impacts official records, but either way I will certainly support it!

Jessica

On Wed, Oct 25, 2023, 8:58 AM Debra Breidenbach <dbreidenbach@yucca-valley.org> wrote:

Good morning Jessica. Please let me know when you might have a few minutes to discuss. Hope the meeting went well!

Thank you,

Debra

From: Woodard, Joy <Joy.Woodard@hss.sbcounty.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, October 24, 2023 5:52 PM

To: Debra Breidenbach <dbreidenbach@yucca-valley.org>; Dillard, Marcus <Marcus.Dillard@hss.sbcounty.gov>

Subject: RE: Proposed name change for the East Valley Regional Steering Committee

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Hello Debra,

Can you please reach out to Jessica Alexander to discuss this issue? Since she is the chair of ICH she would have to address that.

Thank you

From: Debra Breidenbach <dbreidenbach@yucca-valley.org>

Sent: Tuesday, October 24, 2023 5:20 PM

To: Dillard, Marcus <Marcus.Dillard@hss.sbcounty.gov>

Cc: Woodard, Joy <Joy.Woodard@hss.sbcounty.gov>

Subject: FW: Proposed name change for the East Valley Regional Steering Committee

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Good afternoon, Marcus, I hope this email finds you well.

At the last couple East Valley Regional Steering Committee meetings, the topic was raised to potentially change the name of the Committee to something that would align more with our area, e.g., Mountain Region, Desert Region. The Town Manager, Curtis Yakimow asked me to reach out to see who we could contact to explore this possibility. We have not identified what the proposed new name would be but wanted to get the process started.

Curtis will be attending the meeting tomorrow so you will be able to meet him. Hope it goes well.

Debra

From: janetjohnstn@earthlink.net <janetjohnstn@earthlink.net>

Sent: Tuesday, September 26, 2023, 11:44 AM

To: Curtis Yakimow <cyakimow@yucca-valley.org>; Debra Breidenbach <dbreidenbach@yucca-valley.org>

Cc: skyviewfarm29@gmail.com;

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In order for a committee or non-profit to have "reach" in the community, its name has to reflect its mission and area of focus.

The name "East Valley Regional Steering Committee" (EVRSC) has no name recognition in the Morongo Basin as we are not in the Valley region of the County, we are in the Desert.

To be truly effective at the boots-on-the-ground level, our regional committee needs to focus on the complexities of our sprawling region. The boundaries of Morongo Unified School District (MUSD), just a part of our EVRSC area, is the size of Rhode Island. Wayne Hamilton, the Homeless Liaison for MUSD, has reported that close to 10% of the student body is considered homeless/housing insecure via the McKinney/Vento definition. That is close to 800 kids. He also reported at the September 21, 2023 EVRSC meeting, that upon driving the streets of the Morongo Basin over recent weeks conducting a survey, he counted 1,480 off-grid living units. These are folks living in their RV, tent, car, etc. We have plenty to focus on right here in the Morongo Basin and we need community-wide support.

For our community to know what the current EVRSC does and for it to be more effective, I suggest that:

1. Needles joins the Desert Region, or potentially forms a sixth region, and our name changes to the "Morongo Basin Regional Steering Committee".

or

2. If Needles wants to stay with us, the name changes to "East Desert Regional Steering Committee". The current Desert Region could then become the "North Desert".

There is precedence for either name change, as you can see in this summary here. Please see the attached document for more background.

County Land Use Regions

Four Regions: Valley, Mountain, North Desert, East Desert

211/CES (Coordinated Entry System) Regions

Five Regions: Central, West End, Mountain, High Desert, Morongo Basin

SB County HUD Regions

Six Regions: East Valley, West Valley, Central Valley, Mountains, High Desert, Morongo Basin

SB County Homeless Partnership(SBCHP) and Interagency Council on Homelessness (ICH) Regions

Five Regions: West Valley, Central Valley, Mountain, Desert, East Valley

Note that the "East Valley" region in the SB County HUD Regions is NOT the same as our "East Valley" of the SB County Homeless Partnership.

At the Sept 21st meeting, I also discussed the creation of the "Morongo Basin Housing Working Group" to work alongside the EVRSC. That will be discussed in another email.

Thank you,

Janet Johnston