



San Bernardino County Homeless Partnership
East Desert Regional Steering Committee

Thursday, May 21, 2026 • 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Old Joshua Tree Elementary School Rm # 19
 6051 Sunburst Street, Joshua Tree, CA 92252

Committee members will attend the meeting in person.

To address the East Desert Regional Steering Committee (Committee) regarding an item on the agenda, or an item within its jurisdiction but not on the agenda, please complete and submit a Public Comment Request form or if you are joining us virtually, indicate by typing “Public Comment” in the chat box. Requests must be submitted before the item is called for consideration. Speakers may address the Committee for up to three (3) minutes on Public Comment, up to three (3) minutes on each item on the Discussion agenda, and up to three (3) minutes on the consent agenda.

East Desert Regional Steering Committee Meeting Agenda

OPENING REMARKS	PRESENTER
A. Call to Order (3 minutes) B. Pledge of Allegiance/Invocation C. Roll Call D. Round Table Introductions (Name and Organization)	Co-Chair Robin Schlosser Designee
E. Individual Committee Member Comments (3 mins. each) or at the end of the agenda under closing. a. Town of Yucca Valley Representative b. Supervisor Dawn Rowe’s Office Representative c. Vacant government seat d. City of Twentynine Palms Representative e. Molding Hearts f. Morongo Basin Conservation Association g. Reach Out Morongo Basin h. Rescue + Residence	a. Curtis Yakimow b. Glen Harris c. Vacant d. April Ramirez e. Lakita Johnson f. Janet Johnson g. Robin Schlosser h. Daniel Belew
PUBLIC COMMENT	
F. Any member of the public may address the Committee on any matter not on the agenda that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Committee.	
CONSENT CALENDAR	
G. Approve Meeting Minutes from April 9, 2026 (Special Meeting).	Co-Chair Robin Schlosser
PRESENTATIONS	
H. Receive a presentation from Light House Social Services on program and resources.	Amy Hopkins, Program Manager.
I. Receive an update from Morongo Basin Arch on Homeless Housing Assistance and Prevention program.	Alfredia Wright, Program Director
J. Receive a presentation on Prop 36 Laws and Provisions.	Committee Member Ramirez
DISCUSSIONS	
K. Receive nominations for the appointment of a new member to the open government seat and elect new member to the Committee.	Co-Chair Robin Schlosser
L. Receive nominations and elect government representative as Co-Chair to the Committee	
M. Approve changes to the date and time of Committee meetings.	Committee Member Johnston

CLOSING

N. Future Agenda Items <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Discussion on the Code of Conduct of Committee• HHAP 3, 4, and 5 update• HMIS and 211 workshop• Department of Behavioral Health follow-up presentation• Brown Act presentation O. Adjournment	Committee Members Co-Chair Robin Schlosser
Next Meeting: Thursday, June 18, 2026, 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Old Joshua Tree Elementary School Room #19 6051 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 you require a reasonable modification or accommodation for a disability in order to participate in the public meeting, requests should be made through the Office of Homeless Services (OHS) at least three (3) business days prior to the partnership meeting. The OHS telephone number is (909)501-0610 and the office is located at 560 E. Hospitality Lane suite 200. San Bernardino ca 92415. Agenda and documentation can be obtained there or by email.

OHS@HSS.SBCOUNTY.GOV



Minutes for East Desert Regional Steering Committee “Special” Meeting

April 9, 2026

10:00 A.M.

Luckie Park Activity Center - 74325 Joe Davis Drive,
Twentynine Palms, CA 92277

Minutes were recorded and transcribed by Christina Benton, Board Secretary

TOPIC	PRESENTER	OPENING REMARKS
Call to Order	Co-Chair Robin Schlosser	The meeting was called to order at 10:06 A.M.
Pledge of Allegiance / Invocation	Designee	Curtis Yakimow Co-Chair James announced that we will be moving Items D and E after the discussion items due to Committee Member Yakimow and Ramirez must leave early to attend other appointments.
Roll Call		The following Committee Members or their alternates were present at the meeting: Yakimow, Harris, Johnston, Co-Chair James, Co-Schlosser. Members arriving late: April Ramirez Members absent: Johnson, Belew

		PUBLIC COMMENT
Item F. Public Comment – non-agenda items.	Co-Chair Stone James	The Co-Chair opened the floor to Public Comments: <i>Janeen Duff, Morongo Basin Healthcare District – announced the Spring Health Fair scheduled for Saturday, May 2, 2026, 10am – 2pm. at the Yucca Valley Community Center.</i> <i>Diane Bailey, Twentynine Palms resident and businessowner – discussed the need for homeless assistance in the area.</i> <i>Sara Haddow, Jewish Family Services of San Diego – present to speak and/or answer questions about Jewish Family Services of San Diego.</i>
		CONSENT ITEMS

		<p>results. This baseline amount helps the less-resourced regions fund needed infrastructure to participate in Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) and develop programs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hi-Desert voiced support, and offered that the Hi-Desert, Mountains, and East Desert form a united front for funding and programs. Due to our large unincorporated areas, and smaller cities, with less tax base. They also offered help in 211 Coordinated Entry System (CES) for our Region, while we develop a Regional Hub. • All of the Regions voiced that they want to develop strong Regional Hubs for 211(CES) to serve as the central location for regional service coordination.
TOPIC	PRESENTER	DISCUSSION ITEM ACTION/OUTCOME
<p>ITEM H. Received and approve the Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) Round 5 grant recommendation from regional evaluators and submit recommendation to the Continuum of Care Board (CoC) Board.</p>	<p>Co-Chair Stone James</p>	<p>The Co-Chair opened ITEM H. and recognized Co-Chair Stone James.</p> <p>Co-Chair Stone James provided the following: He read the script (green section) provided by Office of Homeless Services (OHS) see attached. Jewish Family Services is the Evaluator recommendation for Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) Round 5 funding of applicants.</p> <p>Before we present and consider this item, we ask that any Committee member that believes they have a conflict of interest with the HHAP 5 recommendation (s) noted in Item H, to please:</p> <p>Announce they have a conflict; and (one by one)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Describe the conflict (i.e. business entity, real property, source of income gift(s) or a personal financial effect); and • For each financial interest identified, the official must provide: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Name of business entity, general description of the business’ activity, and any position held if applicable. ○ Real property address or identification that the property is the person’s personal residence if applicable. ○ Name of the source of income if applicable. ○ Name of the source of gift if applicable. ○ The nature of the expense, liability, asset, or income affected if applicable: and <p>Recuse themselves, leave the room, and refrain from participating in the discussion and vote. Any Committee member that has a conflict and leaves the room will not be counted toward achieving quorum while the item is discussed. We will then call you back into the room once we reach the next item on the agenda.</p> <p>Committee Member Ramirez announced the following conflict of interest: Committee Member Ramirez was an evaluator for the HHAP 5 grant.</p> <p>Co-Chair Schlosser announced the following conflict of interest: Co-Chair Schlosser was an</p>

evaluator for the HHAP 5 grant and Jewish Family Services named Reach Out Morongo Basin in their proposal as a collaborator. Co-Chair Schlosser is the Executive Director of Reach Out Morongo Basin.

Due to both Ramirez and Schlosser's recusals the quorum was lost. Following the provided script from OHS. The Rule of Necessity will need to be used to achieve quorum for voting on the item.

- Place the names of the individuals who recused themselves in a hat/container. Both names Ramirez and Schlosser were placed in a hat.
- Have a non-committee member pull a name. Janeen Duff, non-committee member pulled Committee Member Ramirez's name from the hat.
- Committee Member Ramirez stayed to discuss and vote on the item.
- Co-Chair Schlosser was recused from the dias, discussion and vote.

The Chair opened the item for public comments.
No Public comments were made.

Committee Member Yakimow made a motion to approve the item H (to provide \$111,371.44 to Jewish Family Services of San Diego) and was seconded by Committee Member Ramirez.

The Co-Chair opened the items for comment by the Committee members.
Discussion ensued:

- Committee Member Yakimow asked for Request for Application (RFA) information on applicant (Jewish Family Services).
- Committee Member Harris asked the size of Jewish Family Services.
- Committee Member Ramirez shared that she was "a little conservative with the ratings" because the agency does not have experience in the high desert although she did acknowledge the agency's good reputation in San Diego and Riverside County. She expressed her support for the agency's mission and believes they would be a "phenomenal addition to the high desert." Lastly it was announced that Jewish Family Services was the only applicant for the HHAP 5 grant.
- Applicant/Director, Becky share background on Jewish Family Services:
 - Both the Director and Program Manager were born and raised in the Morongo Basin and are passionate about the opportunity to serve the area.
 - Jewish Family Services currently services clients in the Morongo Basin through the Cal AZ Grant with IEHP and has housed twenty-nine (29) clients.
 - Jewish Family Services has worked in the Coachella Valle sine 2006 and has expanded to Riverside and San Bernardino Counties. The have a staff of almost 50.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ They have offices in Palm Springs and Moreno Valley, with the main campus in San Diego. ○ They plan to have two full-time staff members for the Morongo Basin. ○ The gran focuses on diversion, helping people find natural supports, and reconnecting with others, rather than long-term rental assistance. <p>Vote was taken: 5 of members were in favor: Yakimao, Harris, Ramirez, James, Johnston 0 members were opposed: None 1 members recused: Schlosser Absent: Belew, Johnson</p> <p>The motion was approved.</p>
<p>Item I. Designate Committee Alternates for each Committee Member</p>	<p>Co-Chair Robin Schlosser</p>	<p>The Co-Chair opened ITEM I.</p> <p>Co-Chair Schlosser provided the following: The charter allows for Committee Members to appoint alternates with the agency or organization. Changes to alternates should be noted at future meetings. The following recommendations for alternates were named:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Committee Member Yakimow - Alternate Debra Breidenbach • Committee Member Ramirez - Alternate Cindy Villescas • Committee Member Harris - Alternate Daniel Harrington • Co-Chair James - Alternate None at this time • Co-Chair Schlosser - Alternate None at this time • Committee Member Johnston - Alternate Steve Bardwell • Committee Member Belew - Not present • Committee Member Johnson - Not present <p>The Chair opened the item for public comments. No Public comments were made.</p> <p>Yakimow made a motion to approve item I (Committee Member Yakimow alternate Debra Breidenbach, Committee Member Ramirez alternate Cindy Villescas, Committee Member Harris alternate Daniel Harrington, Co-Chair James alternate None at this time, Co-Chair Schlosser alternate None at this time, Committee Member Johnston alternate Steve Bardwell, Committee Member Belew Not present, Committee Member Johnson Not present) and was seconded by James.</p> <p>The Chair opened the items for comment by the Committee members. No Discussion ensued:</p>

		<p>Vote was taken: 5 of members were in favor: Yakimow, Ramirez, Harris, Johnston, James, Schlosser. 0 members were opposed: None 0 members recused: None Absent: Belew, Johnson</p> <p>The motion was approved.</p>
Committee Members Ramirez and Yakimow dismissed to next commitment.	Co-Chair Robin Schlosser	10:35 a.m. Committee Members Ramirez and Yakimow dismissed to next commitment.
Item D. Round Table Introductions	Co-Chair Robin Schlosser	7 members of the public attended in-person, they introduced themselves. ***It was announced that attendees do not have to announce their name or organization to be part of the meeting.***
Item E. Individual Committee Member Comments (3 Minutes each)	Co-Chair Robin Schlosser	<p>Co-Chair Robin Schlosser opened the floor for comments from the EDRSC Committee Members.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Committee Member Curtis Yakimow – dismissed from the meeting early. No updates reported for the Town of Yucca Valley. • Committee Member Glen Harris – nothing to report from Dawn Rowe’s office. • Committee Member April Ramirez – dismissed from the meeting early. No updates reported for the City of Twentynine Palms. • Committee Member Lakita Johnson – absent • Committee Member Janet Johnston – provided update during the presentation. • Co-Chair Robin Schlosser – no updates to share. • Committee Member Daniel Belw – absent • Co-Chair Stone James – announced his resignation from the City of Twentynine Palms, his last day as City Manager is June 2, 2026.
Future Agenda Items	Committee Members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nomination for government agency board member • Change board meeting date to the second Thursday of the month. • Discussion Prop 36 Laws and Provisions • Discussion on the Code of Conduct of Committee • HHAP 3, 4, and 5 update. • HMIS and 211 workshop • Lighthouse presentation • Department of Behavioral Health follow-up presentation • Brown Act Presentation

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		ADJOURNMENT
		<p>Motion was made by Co-Chair Schlosser and consensus approved to end the meeting at 11:03 a.m.</p> <p>The next meeting for the East Desert Regional Steering Committee Thursday, May 21, 2026 & 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Old Joshua Tree Elementary School Room #19 6051 Sunburst Street, Johsua Tree, CA 92252</p>

Homelessness Response

29 Palms to the Morongo Basin

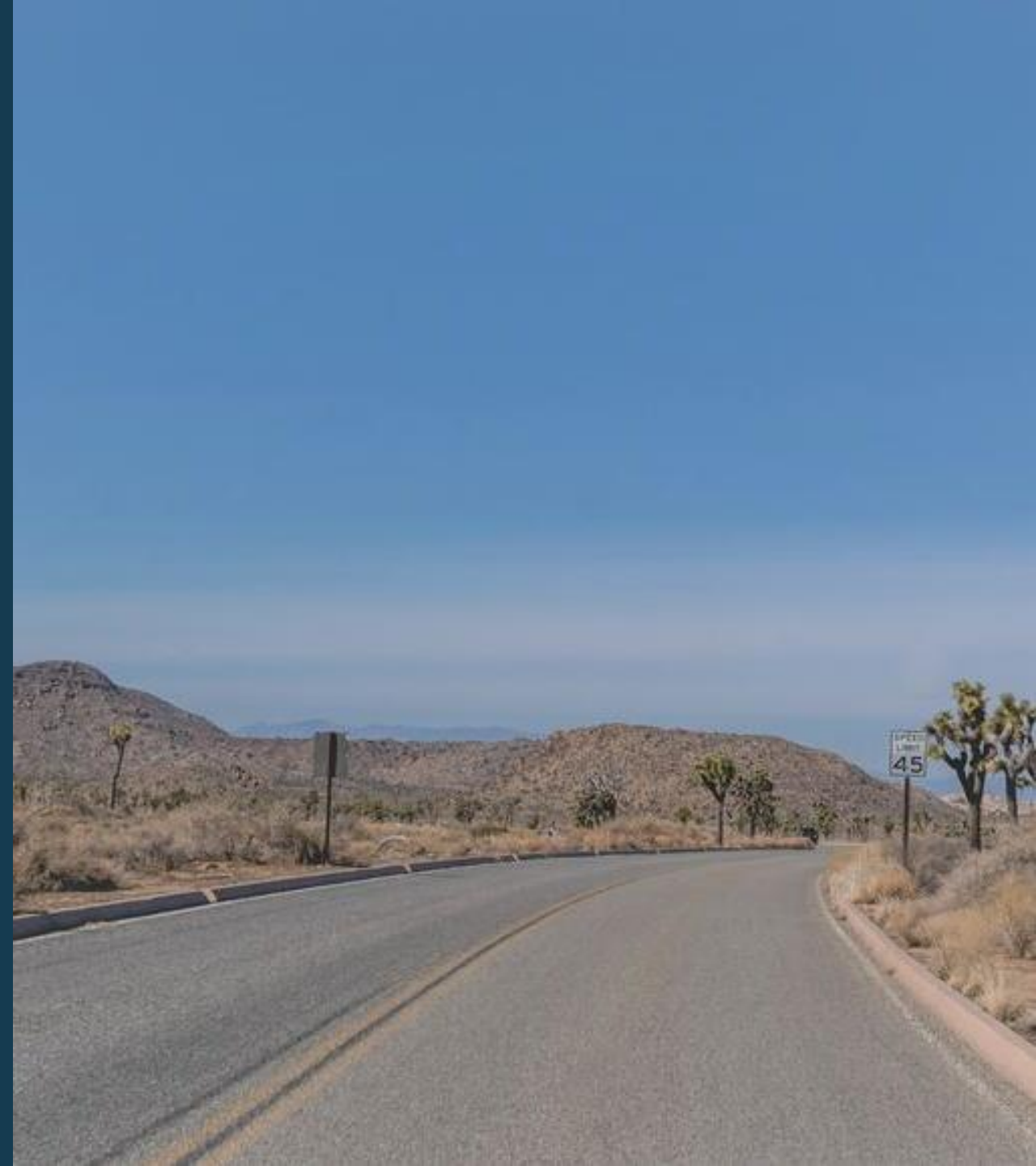
A regional action framework integrating Prop 36, Prop 1, ERF, and the Governor's encampment guidance

FOR DISCUSSION

San Bernardino County Office of Homeless Services
East Valley Regional Steering Committee

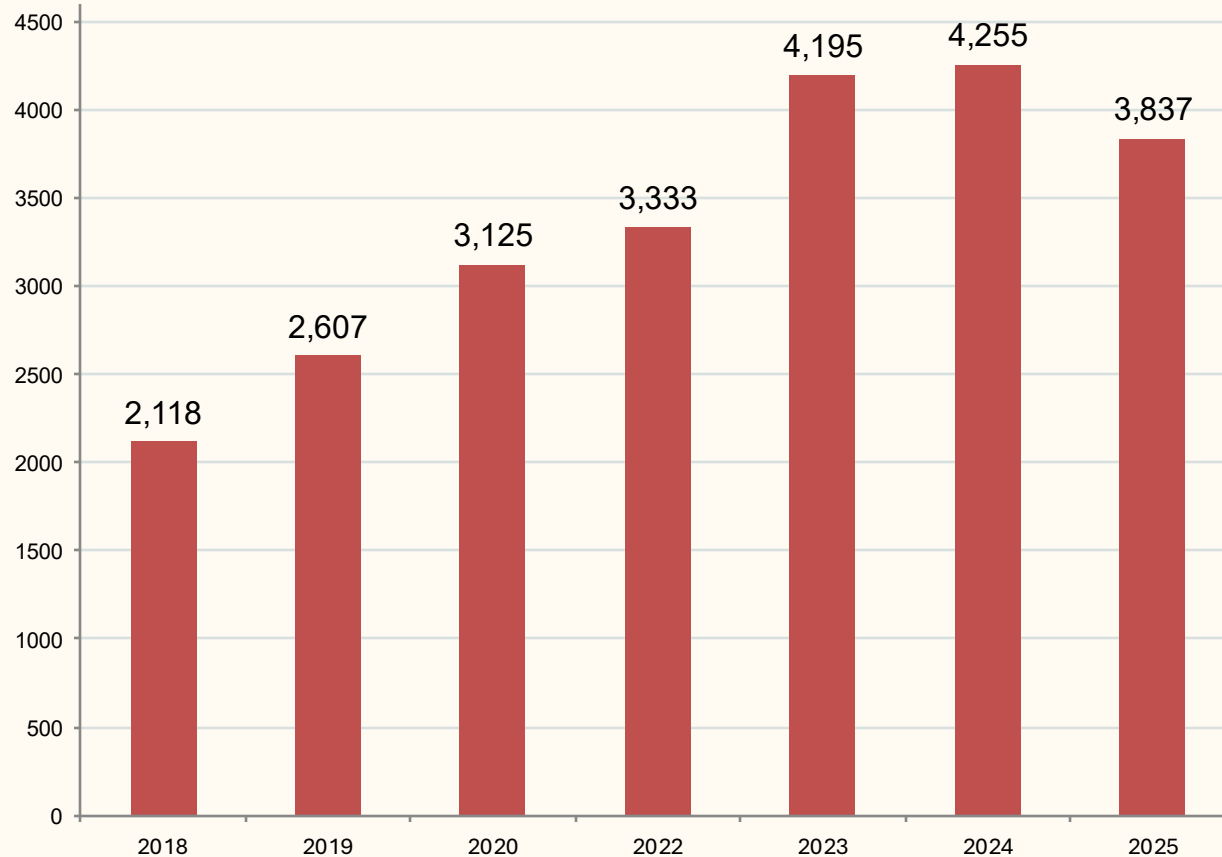
Prepared for regional alignment and coordinated implementation

Prepared by
Councilwoman April Ramirez | City of Twentynine Palms



County trend: progress is real, but the crisis remains unsheltered

2025 PITC shows a countywide decrease — yet more than two-thirds remain unsheltered.



3,837

people counted countywide

2,636

unsheltered residents

68.7%

of the count was unsheltered

-9.8%

overall change from 2024

Implication: the region needs both housing capacity and a field response that moves people from encampments into care.

Morongo Basin snapshot: small counts can hide big operational gaps

A one-night PIT count is the floor, not the full picture of rural/hidden homelessness.



2025 PIT Morongo Basin subtotal

79 people counted • 49 unsheltered • 30 sheltered/transitional

Yucca Valley



42 total
14 unsheltered

Joshua Tree



12 total
12 unsheltered

29 Palms



21 total
19 unsheltered

Landers

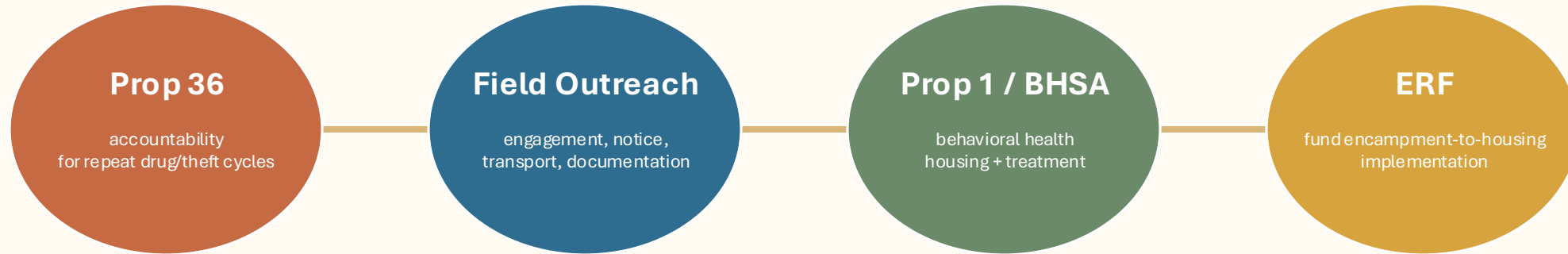


4 total
4 unsheltered

- Rural geography creates long transport times to services and court-based treatment.
- Hidden homelessness includes vehicles, couch-surfing, veterans, families, and people avoiding visibility.
- Local strategy needs data from PIT + HMIS + code enforcement + outreach + law enforcement + schools.

Policy frame: enforcement + treatment + housing must move together

The strategic error is treating these tools as separate lanes. The win is a single coordinated pathway.



Operating principle

Enforcement should be the doorway into treatment and housing — not a revolving door back to the same encampment.

Prop 36: use accountability as a treatment on-ramp

For repeat drug/theft cycles, the goal is a structured pathway into care — not criminalizing homelessness.

What it changes

- New recidivist drug and theft consequences.
- Treatment-mandated felony pathway for qualifying repeat hard-drug possession.
- Successful treatment completion can support dismissal of the §11395 charge.

How the Basin should operationalize it

- Create a field-to-court referral script: offer treatment, document refusal/acceptance, route to provider quickly.
- Coordinate DA, Sheriff, Probation, Behavioral Health, OHS, and cities on the same eligibility criteria.
- Build a treatment bed and transport protocol before enforcement escalates.



Guardrail: do not make “being homeless” the offense. Focus on conduct, public safety, repeat drug/theft cycles, and connection to care.

Prop 1 / BHSA: turn behavioral health dollars into housing stability

Prop 1 can anchor long-term treatment and housing — especially for chronic homelessness and SUD.

30%

of county BHSA allocations
for housing supports

50%

of housing funds prioritized
for chronic homelessness

\$950M

projected annual statewide
housing component

Eligible interventions to target locally

- Rental subsidies, shared/recovery housing, family housing, and operating subsidies.
- Master leasing or project-based housing assistance for units close to services and transit.
- Capital development when paired with behavioral health treatment capacity.

Recommended local target

Prioritize people leaving encampments with severe behavioral health needs, moderate/severe SUD, repeated crisis contacts, and veterans/families with children.



ERF: the fundable implementation lane for encampment resolution

The Encampment Resolution Funding program is designed for meaningful paths from encampments to safe, stable housing.

Round 5 application window: March 27 – June 30, 2026

ELIGIBLE: COUNTIES • CoCs • CITIES

Outreach + assessment

Dedicated mobile team, HMIS, risk triage, storage, multilingual engagement

Bridge options

Motel vouchers, safe parking, crisis respite, transportation, basic needs

Housing navigation

ID documents, landlord engagement, move-in funds, master leasing

Clean-up + prevention

48-hour notice process, debris removal, public health coordination, site restoration

Recommended ERF concept: “High Desert Encampment-to-Housing Response Pilot” anchored in 29 Palms, Yucca Valley, Joshua Tree, and unincorporated zones.

Governor's direction: act with urgency and dignity

The state model emphasizes notice, services, shelter offers, and enforceable public-space rules.

"There are no more excuses."

Governor Gavin Newsom, May 12, 2025

State model ordinance elements

- Prohibit persistent camping in one location.
- Prohibit encampments blocking free passage on sidewalks.
- Provide notice and make every reasonable effort to identify and offer shelter before clearing.
- Use at least 48 hours' notice, provider outreach, and proper storage of belongings.

Consequences to name clearly

Encampments can create public safety and public health risks for both residents and the surrounding community — including violence, criminal activity, property damage, and unsanitary conditions.

Local implementation must balance compassion, due process, and accountability.

Regional protocol: from encampment identification to housing outcome

A consistent protocol prevents confusion, protects dignity, and creates defensible enforcement.



Required partners at the table

OHS • County Behavioral Health • Sheriff/HOPE Team • Probation • DA • Public Health • city teams • tribal liaisons • VA/base partners • service providers • faith/community partners

90-day action plan: make the region grant-ready and response-ready

A time-bound plan turns this from discussion into implementation.

0–30 days

Build the operating picture

- Map known encampment sites and risk factors.
- Inventory shelter, motel, transport, treatment, and outreach capacity.
- Create a shared referral protocol and data fields.

31–60 days

Launch coordinated outreach

- Stand up a weekly case-conference table.
- Pilot a mobile outreach day in 29 Palms/Yucca Valley/Joshua Tree.
- Finalize ERF narrative, budget, and partners.

61–90 days

Move people into stability

- Activate Prop 36 treatment referral pathway.
- Reserve Prop 1/BHSA housing-support pipeline for chronic/SUD cases.
- Track placements, returns to homelessness, and encampment reductions.

Success metrics to report monthly

contacts made • offers accepted/refused • treatment intakes • shelter/motel placements • permanent housing moves • repeat encampment contacts • debris/waste removed • 30/60/90 day stability

Requested direction from the East Valley Regional Steering Committee

Specific asks to align county, city, and provider action.

1

Authorize a Morongo Basin encampment-response workgroup

Include OHS, cities, County Behavioral Health, Sheriff/HOPE, Probation, DA, Public Health, providers, tribal liaisons, and community partners.

2

Support a regional ERF application

Use a 29 Palms-to-Morongo Basin pilot that funds outreach, bridge options, navigation, transport, storage, cleanup, and HMIS.

3

Align Prop 1/BHSA planning with rural need

Reserve a pathway for chronically homeless and SUD-involved individuals in encampments to access housing supports.

4

Create a Prop 36 treatment referral protocol

Ensure accountability leads to treatment, not churn — with clear handoffs from field contact to court/provider/housing.

Proposed motion: Direct staff/committee leadership to convene the workgroup and return with ERF application options, Prop 1 alignment recommendations, and a draft encampment-response protocol.

Key sources

1. San Bernardino County Homeless Partnership, 2025 Continuum of Care Homeless Count & Survey Report.
2. California Department of Justice Information Bulletin 2024-DLE-19: Proposition 36.
3. California DHCS, Proposition 1 Behavioral Health Services Act Housing Supports Primer.
4. California HCD, Encampment Resolution Funding Program page, Round 5 Rolling NOFA information.
5. Governor of California press release, May 12, 2025: state model ordinance for encampments.

Note: This deck is a policy and implementation framework for discussion and should be reviewed by County Counsel/City Attorney before adoption of any ordinance, enforcement protocol, or formal grant submission.

Current RSC's Meeting Schedule

The meeting date of the other RSC's should be kept in mind, just so that the EDRSC does not choose a time when another RSC is already meeting.

1st Wednesday of the month (1-3 pm) – Central Valley

2nd Monday of the month (1:30-3pm) – Mountains

2nd Tuesday of the month (2-4 pm) – High Desert

2nd Wednesday of the month (9-11 am) – West Valley

4th Wednesday of the month (9-11 am) always the CoC Board or the CoC Full Membership (alternating months)

The EDRSC currently meets too late to make decisions in time to get onto the next CoC Board (or CoC Membership) meeting agenda. The decisions have to wait either a month, or even two months, to make it onto the CoC Board agenda.

Current meeting schedules for the Regional Steering Committees and the CoC Board and CoC Membership meetings

Central Valley RSC	1 st Wednesday of the month	March 4 th
Mountain RSC	2 nd Monday of the month	March 9 th
<i>Agenda items due for East Desert RSC</i>		<i>(10 days ahead) on 9th</i>
High Desert RSC	2 nd Tuesday of the month	March 10 th
West Valley RSC	2 nd Wednesday of the month	March 11 th
<i>Agenda items due for CoC</i>		<i>(10 days ahead) on 19th</i>
East Desert RSC	3 rd Thursday of the month	March 19 th
CoC Membership	4 th Wednesday of the month	March 25 th
CoC Board	4 th Wednesday of following month	April 22 nd (*Normal date)

Current Meeting Dates in black

Proposed change of EDRSC meeting date options in red.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1 st			4 th Central Valley RSC	5 th Option 1: EDRSC ?	6 th
2 nd	9 th Mountain RSC <i>East Desert</i>	10 th High Desert RSC <i>agenda items due</i>	11 th West Valley RSC	12 th Option 2: EDRSC ?	13 th
3 rd	16 th <i>CoC agenda</i>	17 th <i>items due</i>	18 th	19 th East Desert RSC	20 th
4 th	23 rd	24 th Option 1 items due	25 th CoC Members	26 th	27 th
5 th / 1 st	30 th	31 st Option 2 items due	1 st Central Valley RSC	2 nd Option 1: EDRSC ?	3 rd
1 st / 2 nd	6 th Mountain RSC <i>East Desert</i>	7 th High Desert RSC <i>agenda items due</i>	8 th West Valley RSC	9 th Option 2: EDRSC ?	10 th
2 nd / 3 rd	13 th <i>CoC agenda</i>	14 th <i>items due</i>	15 th	16 th East Desert RSC	17 th
3 rd / 4 th	20 th	21 st	22 nd CoC Board (normally)	23 rd	24 th
4 th / 5 th	27 th	28 th Option 1 items due	29 th	30 th	1 st
1 st	4 th	5 th Option 2 items due	6 th Central Valley RSC	7 th Option 1: EDRSC?	8 th