

Efforts to Address Homelessness

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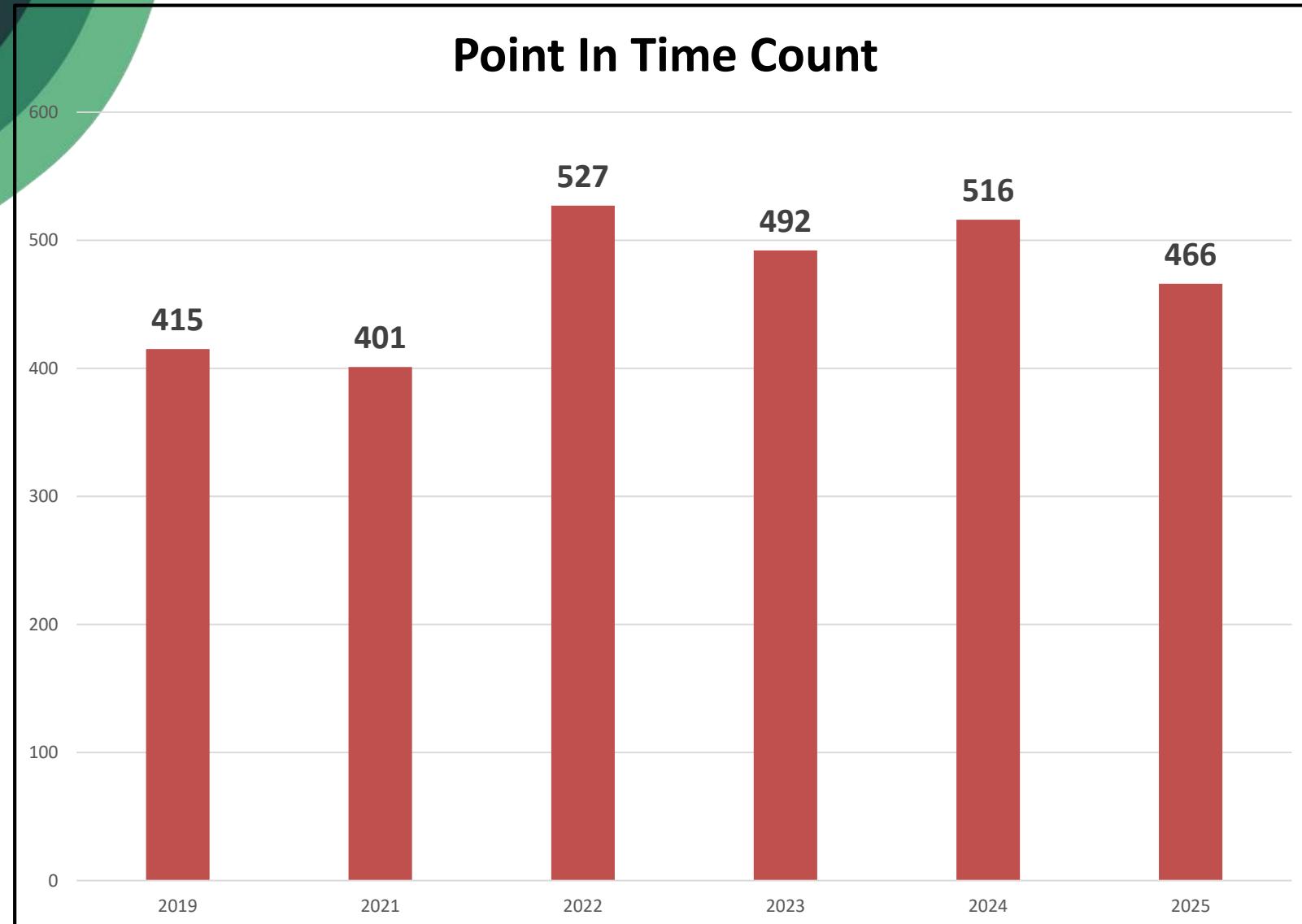
Outline

- Data and Resources
- Grand Jury Follow-up
 - Managed Camping
 - Ordinance/Resolution Options



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Data and Resources



Housing/Shelter Type	17/18 beds	25/26 Beds (projected)
Shelter (motels)	0	4
Interim Housing (e.g. Behavioral Health Bridge Housing)	4	51
Recovery Residences (formerly Transitional Housing)	7	41
Respite	4	5
Permanent Supportive Housing	42	130
Other (Board & Care, etc)	2	6
Odyssey House	10	16
Total	69	253

Financial Resources

- **Homeless Housing Assistance Program**
 - Urban bias - Rurals get $\frac{1}{2}$ of what urbans get
 - Annual appropriation, lack of ongoing guarantee
 - HHAP 6 **\$629K** CoC, **\$589K** County (County pushes $\frac{1}{2}$ back to CoC)
 - HHAP 7 getting more strings, for half the dollars
- **Competitive Grants**
 - Encampment Resolution Fund Budget 25/26: **\$832K**
- **County Specific Funds**
 - ECM Revenue budget 25/26: **\$600K**
 - Behavioral Health Bridge Housing 25/26: **\$1.8M**
 - Permanent Supportive Housing budget 25/26: **\$2.8M**
 - Commons Resource Center Operating Budget 25/26 (starting in October): **\$534K**

Grand Jury Responses – Further Analysis

- **Grand Jury:**
 - Recommendation 1: Local governments (cities, the county and the BoS) should enact comprehensive and coordinated anticamping laws; possibly consulting existing anti-camping laws in other counties and states.
 - Recommendation 2: Local governments should develop one or more designated low-barrier “sanctioned” camping areas for the homeless, with facilities and access to supportive services similar to those established by other municipalities.

Managed Camping Models

- Staff researched models across numerous county and city jurisdictions ranging in size from San Diego to Sutter
- Slides included focus on more comparable models in our region
- Tried to include a good sample of model types from hands-off sanctioned camping all the way to tuff-shed programs with full utilities and climate control

Auburn Mobile Temporary Shelter



Jurisdiction: County of Placer w/ City of Auburn
Model: Low Barrier tents on foundations with navigation building
Capacity: 60
Budget: \$1.7 million per year
Funding Source: General Fund, Opioid Settlement funds

14Forward



Jurisdiction: County of Yuba (ending)

Model: Tuff-Sheds – no utilities

Capacity: 15

Budget: \$300K per year

Funding Source: Homeless Housing Assistance Program

Better Way Shelter

Jurisdiction: County of Sutter
Model: Tuff-Sheds – utilities and heat/AC
Capacity: 40
Budget: \$1.6 M per year
Funding Source: General Fund, Grants, CalAIM



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Pictured: Better Way Shelter 40-Bed Temporary Shelter

2nd Street Camp



Jurisdiction: County of Sutter
Model: Overnight Only Campground
Utilization: 3-5 per night
Budget: \$170K per year
Funding Source: General Fund

Chico Alternative Camping Site

Jurisdiction: City of Chico

Model: Sanctioned Camping

Capacity: 40 (occupancy 18)

Budget: Case Management \$62K

Funding Source: City funds

Quote: “Reality is we’re going to be stuck with this for another 16 months. And at that point, we need to shut it down.”



Pictured: Chico Alternative Camping Site Eaton and Cohasset



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Jurisdiction: City of Santa Rosa

Model: Safe Parking

Capacity: 52 vehicles/RVs

Budget: Operating contract \$2M for 18 months, unknown facility/public works budget

Funding Source: City funds



Santa Rosa Safe Parking



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Pictured: RVs at Santa Rosa's safe parking lot for local homeless people at 55 Stony Point Road

Cross Jurisdictional Differences

Scale and Shelter Type

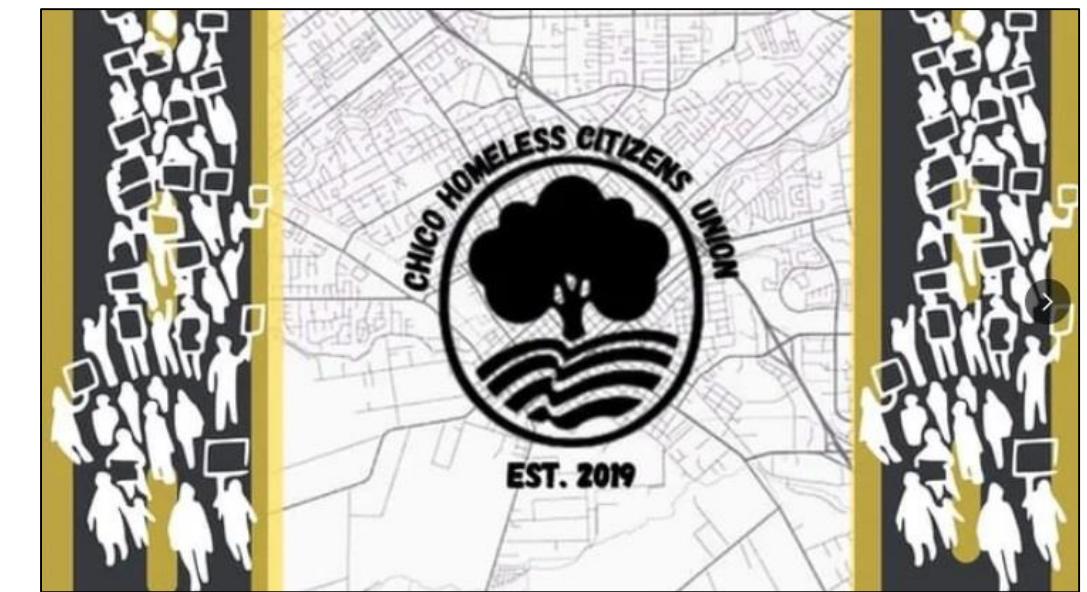
- Sacramento and San Diego operate large-scale facilities with individual tents or pallet shelters serving 100–750 residents.
- Sutter's Better Way Shelter and Auburn's MTS are smaller (20–60 people) with more emphasis on casework intensity.

Governance and Enforcement Models

- Sacramento and San Diego apply managed camping as part of an enforcement-linked continuum. Residents may be offered placement as an alternative to citation.
- Sonoma, Napa, and Yuba rely on collaborative or trauma-informed management, limiting law enforcement presence and focusing on peer-led rules.
- Some sanctioned camping projects like Chico's pilot and Sutter's Second Street Campground are hands-off in regards to case management and oversight.

Outcome Tracking and Evaluation

- Sacramento and San Diego maintain robust data dashboards that include % exits to housing and service engagement rates.
- Smaller jurisdictions like Auburn, Napa, and Yuba track progress less formally, relying on narrative updates and partner reports.
- Sonoma County integrated managed camping into a countywide homelessness strategy with explicit reduction targets while Dillon, CO treats its model as a seasonal, harm-reduction effort.



Cross Jurisdictional Similarities



Temporary, Service-Oriented Models

- All programs were designed as transitional or low-barrier alternatives to unsheltered street encampments, often positioned as temporary bridge housing rather than permanent solutions.
- Sites typically integrate case management, housing navigation, and Behavioral Health outreach delivered by local nonprofits.
- Most jurisdictions emphasize voluntary participation and prioritize people already camping nearby to reduce displacement and tension.
- Many projects/programs were initiated in response to court mandates.

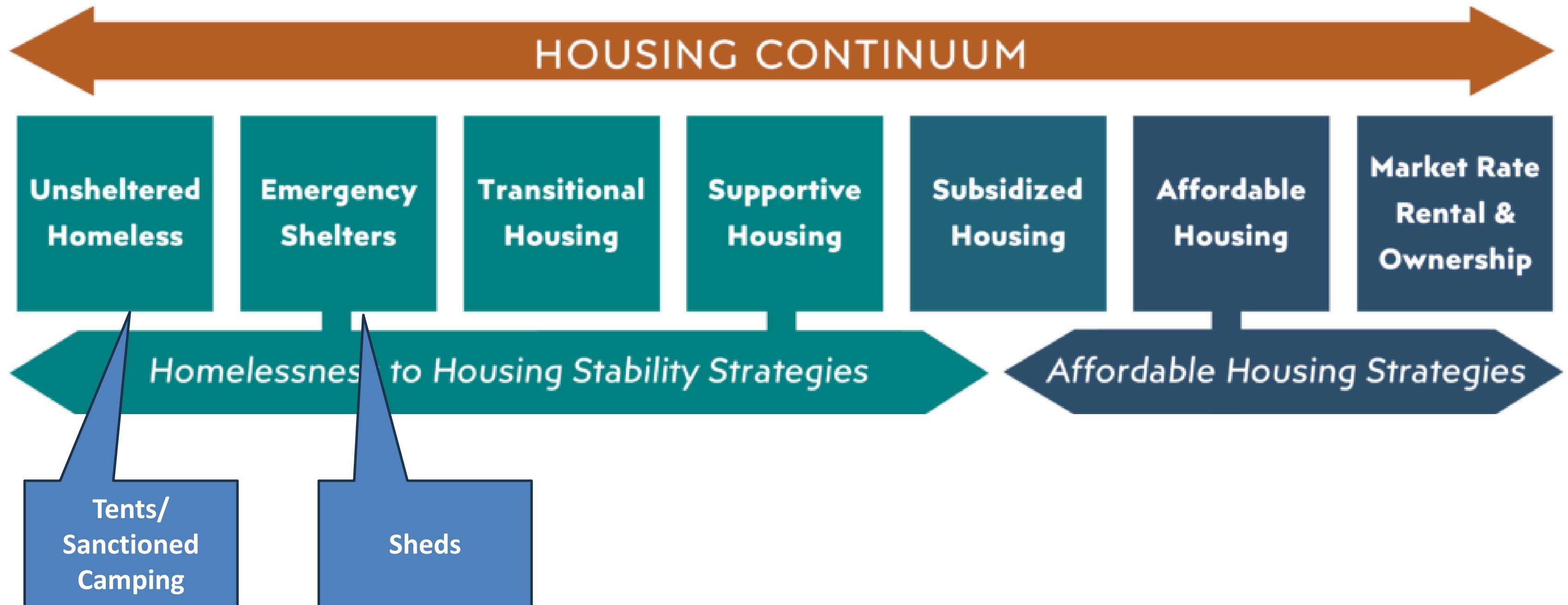
Basic Infrastructure and Health/Safety Focus

- Common features include fencing, sanitation, water, waste disposal, and 24/7 staffing or security presence.
- Programs aim to mitigate public health, wildfire, and environmental hazards by consolidating unsanctioned camping into managed, monitored sites.

Governance and Outcomes

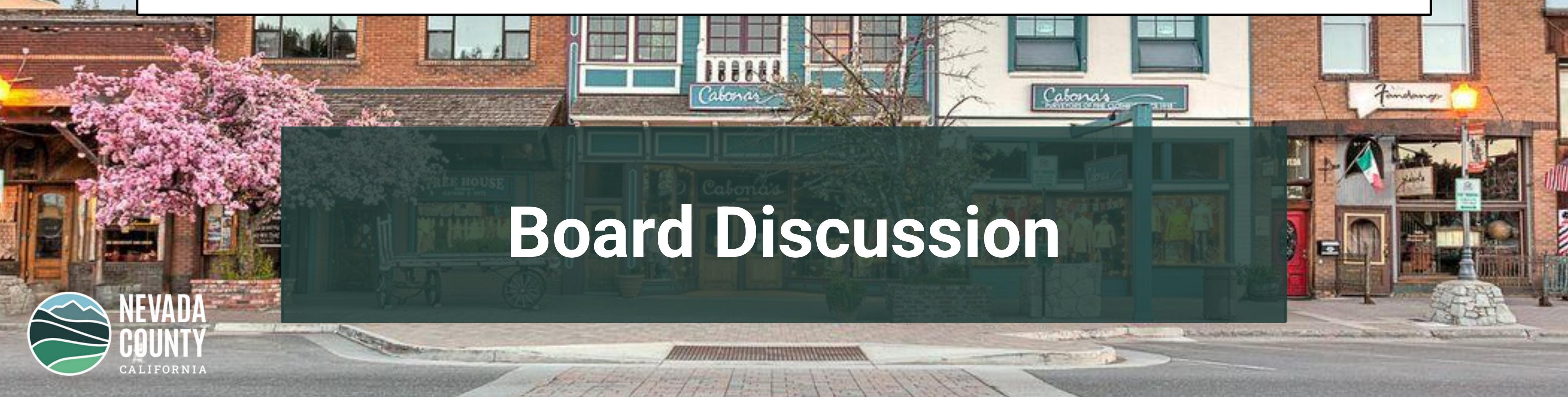
- Most sites are county- or city-owned.
- Most sites are operated by contracted nonprofits, for example, The Gathering Inn, Twin Cities Rescue Mission, and First Step Communities.
- Success depends on integration with housing pipelines, community support, and sustainable operating funds.

Managed Camping Conclusions



Recommendation & Discussion:

- There are various models, and varying levels of success across jurisdictions
- The place on the spectrum these models occupy is unsheltered, and emergency shelter
- Nevada County has significantly expanded housing and “shelter” programs
- While managed camping/tuff-shed models can be successful, they are resource intensive and would involve cutting from existing programs
- Keep these models in mind if there are future, sustainable grants, but do not shift current focus



Board Discussion



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Camping Ordinance/Reso Options

- Research
- Who is recommending/requiring an ordinance and why
- Private Property
 - Trespass
 - Vacant land owners
 - Existing tools
- Public Property
 - Limited jurisdiction
 - TK/GV/NC
- Considerations in determining approach
- Options and Recommendation

Ordinance Research

- State Model Ordinance
- Placer County – bans encampments where posted on county property
- Cities
 - Grass Valley - Misdemeanor
 - Nevada City - Infraction
 - Truckee - Misdemeanor
- Nevada County Encampment Protocol

Why Consider an Ordinance or Resolution?

- **Outside Entity Recommendation/Requirement:**
 - Nevada County Grand Jury:
 - Local governments (cities, the county, and the Board of Supervisors) should enact comprehensive and coordinated anticamping laws; possibly consulting existing anti-camping laws in other counties and states.
 - Homeless Housing Assistance Program Round 7.
 - Improving tools to address encampments and the issues they present.

Private Property

- The Grand Jury's focus on anti-camping ordinances is related to wildfire safety.
- Ordinances are a tool if property owners are condoning or neglecting camping on their property.
 - Camping for long-term habitation is already effectively banned on private property based on existing codes/standards.
 - Not as explicit as in some jurisdiction ordinances, but enforceable by Code.
- Trespass is the tool if the property owner have unauthorized campers on their property.
 - The jury also recommended shortening the notice to enforce trespass, but we are already at the limits of state law.
- In practice, most encampments on private property are either unauthorized or on vacant land. As discussed above, there are existing tools for this.

Public Property

The State's model ordinances, and other county jurisdictions such as Placer, focus on public property:

- The now overturned Boise decision focused on public land.
 - Lawsuits have resulted in managed/sanctioned camping programs throughout western states.
- The Grant's Pass decision prompted the state to create their model ordinance, and to urge cities and counties to do the same.
- Nevada County has an unadopted protocol with similarities to the State model and other county ordinances.

Jurisdictional Limits:

- We do not have authority over federal or state land, which is where encampments often occur.
- Most of our facilities are in City/Town and subject to their ordinances.

Considerations in Determining an Approach

BOS Priority Impacts:

- **Housing** – Fundamental lack of housing and shelter is still real despite Grant's Pass.
- **Wildfire Risk** – Enforcing in visible/urbanized areas may exacerbate by forcing people deeper into the woods.
- **Fiscal Stability** – the jail is not cost effective as a housing solution.
- **Homelessness** – We risk alienating and making people harder to reach.

Other Considerations:

- Jurisdictional ping-pong.
- Scope of authority limited – coordination is more important than the tool.
- We have existing tools and resources that can be updated and employed more consistently.

Recommendation: Update the encampment protocol, bring to the Board of Supervisors for formal adoption by March, and include:

- Alignment with State model ordinance and other county ordinances.
- Coordination with Jurisdictional Partners.
- Grant's Pass Updates.
- Not limited to our properties in unincorporated.

Alternative: Work with CDA to develop an ordinance modeled on State and other county ordinances (timeframe TBD).

Board Discussion



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