

CITY OF SAUSALITO

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May 4, 2022

Supervisor Stephanie Moulton-Peters
3501 Civic Center Drive
Room 329
San Rafael, CA 94903

County Administrator Matthew H. Hymel
3501 Civic Center Drive
Suite 325
San Rafael, CA 94903

Dear Supervisor Moulton-Peters and County Administrator Hymel,

As you know, Sausalito has spent over \$1.5 million maintaining and securing its encampment. This is a significant reason Sausalito is facing a budget deficit this year.

Given the news in the recent Marin IJ article noting that the county expects to immediately see a massive surplus (Marin IJ: "The County expects to end the current fiscal year with a \$51.1 million general fund surplus) we are writing to you to request additional assistance from those funds.

We are also extremely thankful that you recently requested for the State to provide additional funding, and that the County is willing to match. This leadership and proactivity is highly valued and we hope this results in funds to help Sausalito. However, it is not certain these funds will be allocated, and Sausalito has an ongoing need.

Given the size of the County's surplus, we request that the County consider using these funds to grow its Health and Human Services department to support the unhoused in Marin County, and specifically to allocate \$1.5 million to Sausalito immediately to collaborate with us. We stand ready to work with you and your staff to process this request.

These funds could help us cover the costs of three key requests:

1. Hire a dedicated Mental Health Professional or social worker who can act as a housing coordinator and service worker for 12 months - A dedicated housing and services coordinator for the Sausalito encampment, with standard times/days of the week, to assist with connecting those with vouchers to housing and other services such as access to social security, healthcare, and finding family where they may be rehoused.
2. 24/7 security for 12 months - A security service to support the excellent work of the Sausalito police department.


3. Immediate action to add emergency housing vouchers back into the units managed by Marin Housing Authority for high utilizers who are experiencing homelessness.


Beyond the state of emergency and obvious threats to health and safety of those experiencing homelessness in our community, the encampment has stressed the wellbeing of City staff. For example, the encampment has taken a tremendous toll on the police force as they handle mental wellness issues outside of their training. Further, the encampment takes our law enforcement resources away from other parts of town. This is especially critical during the summer months when the weekend population can easily swell to 30,000 visitors or more. This is why we need help now.

Both the County and the State of California have surplus budgets, and the opportunity to better serve their constituents. Governor Newsom has highlighted this issue as a priority for the state, allocating historic levels of support to Counties to address and solve the issue of homelessness. Sausalito has an immediate acute problem, and Marin County has the capacity to address this problem with direct and immediate financial assistance. Working together, we believe we can support Marin County in being a leader in managing the homelessness crisis.

Thank you for your time and consideration on this matter, and please let us know if we can be of further assistance.

Thank you,


Janelle Kellman
Mayor, City of Sausalito


Melissa Blaustein
Vice Mayor, City of Sausalito

CC: Senator, Mike McGuire
Sausalito City Council
City Manager, Chris Zapata
Chief of Police, John Rohrbacher
Public Works Director, Kevin McGowan