



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

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June 23, 2026

Gustavo Velasquez, Director
California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD)
651 Bannon Street,
Suite 400 Sacramento, CA

RE: Local Jurisdiction Letter of Support Regarding SoHum Housing Opportunities Application for Funding Made Available through Round 5 of the Encampment Resolution Funding Program

Dear Encampment Resolution Funding Program Administrators,

The County of Humboldt is pleased to provide this Local Jurisdiction Letter of Support for SoHum Housing Opportunities (SHO), which is applying as the Continuum of Care (CoC) designated applicant for Round 5 of the Encampment Resolution Funding (ERF-5) program.

The County recognizes the critical need for this \$4.3 million investment to resolve encampments and create stable housing pathways in Southern Humboldt. We understand that SHO is the sole applicant and fiduciary entity for this proposal, and that the County of Humboldt assumes no administrative, legal, or financial liability for the implementation of this grant.

To satisfy the cross-jurisdictional collaboration requirements of the ERF-5 NOFA, the County of Humboldt commits to coordinating with SHO on this project. Specifically, the County agrees to continue the successful coordination protocols already established during the ERF-3 grant cycle, which require no new county financial commitments or mandates.

The roles and responsibilities of the participating County departments will be as follows:

Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) & System Alignment:

The County agrees to continue supporting SHO's utilization of the local Coordinated Entry System (CES) and Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) to ensure compliant tracking of the target population. Furthermore, DHHS will collaborate with SHO on the coordination of care and services through standard, existing referral pathways to assist eligible individuals in accessing county-administered programs.

Building & Planning Department:

The County Building and Planning Department agrees to continue collaborating with SHO on necessary permitting, inspections, and occupancy reviews for the interim shelter and permanent housing expansions associated with this project. While SHO will utilize ERF-5 funds to pay standard permit fees, the County will leverage its existing Shelter Crisis Declaration to maximize

allowable flexibility, fast-track approvals, and issue necessary occupancy waivers to bring these critical shelter beds online safely and rapidly.

Abatement Coordination & Law Enforcement:

To satisfy HCD's requirement for cross-jurisdictional collaboration, the County of Humboldt commits to coordinating on potential encampment abatement activities in the targeted Southern Humboldt zones. This coordination requires no new operational mandates. The County will simply maintain its existing communication practices, wherein relevant departments, including the Humboldt County Sheriff's Office, notify SHO's outreach team ahead of scheduled site clearances. This ongoing communication allows SHO the opportunity to engage individuals in the ERF-5 zone with trauma-informed pathways to shelter or housing prior to enforcement.

State Encampment Policy Compliance:

The County of Humboldt confirms that its local encampment policies governing the specific encampment zones targeted by this proposal are fully compliant with the State's published Cal ICH Guidance on Addressing Encampments. Specifically, the Humboldt County Sheriff's Office (HCSO) Policy 429 "Homeless Persons" was recently deemed fully compliant by HCD during the County's HHAP-6 application process. The County will continue to utilize these compliant policies and procedures for any abatement activities in the project area.

We strongly support SoHum Housing Opportunities in this endeavor and urge HCD to fully fund their proposal.

Sincerely,



Natalie Arroyo,
Humboldt County Board of Supervisors, Vice Chair