



COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

For the meeting of: 11/4/2025

File #: 25-1270

To: Board of Supervisors

From: Supervisor Michelle Bushnell

Agenda Section: Initiated by Board Member

Vote Requirement: Majority

SUBJECT:

Consider the Creation of an Ordinance for Banning Overnight Camping on Humboldt County Owned Properties

RECOMMENDATION(S):

That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Hear the report on the status of camping on county owned properties from Public Works Director Tom Mattson and Humboldt County Sheriff William Honsal; and
2. Direct staff to initial a draft ordinance to return at future date; and
3. Take other action as needed.

STRATEGIC PLAN:

This action supports the following areas of your Board's Strategic Plan.

Area of Focus: Safe & Healthy Communities

Strategic Plan Category: 9999 - Core Services/Other

DISCUSSION:

Supervisor Bushnell has invited Humboldt County Public Works Director Tom Mattson and Sheriff William Honsal to speak about ongoing concerns related to camping on county-owned properties. These concerns include property damage, ongoing maintenance challenges and criminal activity. Currently, there is no ordinance in place to ban camping on county-owned properties, which limits the county's ability to respond effectively. Therefore, Supervisor Bushnell would like to discuss the possibility of developing an ordinance to help address these challenges.

SOURCE OF FUNDING:

General Fund

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

There is minimal financial impact to this item.

STAFFING IMPACT:

There are minimal staffing issues with this consideration. If an ordinance is requested, additional staff time will be required to research and draft the ordinance.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:

None

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ALTERNATIVES TO STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

Board Discretion

ATTACHMENTS:

None

PREVIOUS ACTION/REFERRAL:

Meeting of: N/A

File No.: N/A