

Sonoma County Community Corrections Partnership
Funding Request/Change

Date: July 27, 2020

Requesting Agency: Probation Department

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Request is: One-time X On-going

Request Amount: Current FY: \$153,306 Annualized: NA

Request Title: Transitional Housing Restoration

I. Description of Funding Request/Change

On Probation's recommendation, the CCP reduced its FY 20-21 transitional housing supply from 26 beds to 13 beds. Although Probation had determined that transitional housing capacity funded through alternative means would be sufficient to meet demand, recent events have impacted that analysis. In particular, the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation's (CDCR) decision to release a host of inmates early, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, has resulted in greater demands on housing resources. Although funds allocated to CDCR by the Board of State and Community Corrections provide short-term, temporary housing to this population, none of the housing resources are in Sonoma County. As of July 16, CDCR expects to release 37 *additional* inmates to Sonoma County, likely before July 31st, under its new early release program. Although the distributions of homeless versus non-homeless and PRCS versus state parole inmates are not yet available, Probation anticipates insufficient transitional housing supply to adequately address any additional demand. Exacerbating the situation is that some releasees will require quarantine, thereby reducing the number of beds available.

While InterFaith Shelter Network, our housing provider, has already relinquished a CCP-funded 10-bed house in Rohnert Park, another house in central Santa Rosa, better situated for most participants, could be available on short notice.

The previous recommendation to cut transitional housing beds was made in response to necessary budget reductions. However, as discussed in a separate budget presentation at today's meeting, subsequent budget developments—Legislative approval of funding to partially backfill 1991 and 2011 realignment allocations and greater than expected underspending by CCP in FY 19-20—have greatly diminished pressure on CCP's projected FY 21-22 budget, such that budget cuts in that year are now expected to be smaller than previously feared.

In light of CCP's more favorable budget position and to respond to CDCR's increased releases and resulting COVID-19 risks to our community, Probation recommends restoration of CCP's previously-approved transitional housing budget, which will support up to 26 beds through FY 20-21. Additional Probation beds, funded by other sources, will continue to be available for realigned offenders.

II. Resource Requirements

None

III. Staffing Requested

None

IV. This request most closely aligns with Tier 1

Tier 1: Specifically for realigned offenders.

Tier 2: Clearly assists with County's criminal justice system overall, but may not directly or exclusively impact AB 109 offenders.

Tier 3: Provides ancillary benefits to criminal justice in Sonoma County.