COUNTY OF SONOMA

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

575ADMINISTRATION DRIVE, RM. 100A SANTA ROSA, CALIFORNIA 95403

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Dear Neighbor,

In response to the homeless crisis on the Joe Rodota trail, the County of Sonoma is establishing a temporary shelter of tiny huts at a parking lot on the Los Guilicos campus at 171 Pythian Road in Santa Rosa. The shelter is an interim solution before the County establishes two shelters that will operate through the end of the year as a pilot program.

The County is currently working on setting up the shelter, and residents will move in before the end of January. This shelter will operate until the longer-term indoor-outdoor shelters are created, but no later than April 30, 2020 - whichever comes first. The shelter will house up to 60 people at a time.

This shelter will be managed and supported by St. Vincent de Paul, who will provide meals and bedding. The tiny huts are made by Pallet Shelter, and have hardened walls and roofs, and locking windows and doors. Site features will include showers, toilets, trash collection, laundry facilities, parking for residents' vehicles, storage for residents' belongings and other measures to ensure health and safety.

Case management services will include housing navigation, counseling and support to identify needs and referrals to appropriate services as needed. Drugs or alcohol will not be allowed on the shelter site. On-site management and security will be provided. Those staying at the shelter must check in and out, and there is a curfew from 7 p.m. to 7am. The shelter will be surrounded by an 8-foot fence covered by a privacy screen. Residents of the camp must travel on the provided shuttle. There will be set meal times and other activities including games and TV to create a community within the shelter.

You can find more information about this emergency outdoor, along with answers to frequently asked questions online at http://sonomacounty.ca.gov/Homeless-Emergency/.

We recognize that many neighbors and nearby businesses have already been in contact with the County or Saint Vincent de Paul to learn more about the shelter - whether it was with a phone call, email, or attending the Oakmont community meeting. We appreciate your involvement and are working hard to make sure that this new village will be a successful addition to the Sonoma County community. We will stay in communication to answer questions and address concerns.

For questions about the shelter site or the County's other work to address the homeless emergency, please email us at: solvehomelessness@sonoma-county.org. You may also call the County hotline at (707) 565-3856 from Monday - Friday, 9 a.m-5 p.m.

Please reach out to St. Vincent de Paul with questions about shelter operations, or for opportunities to volunteer at the shelter, including leading activities. You can contact St. Vincent de Paul Executive Director Jack Tibbetts by phone at (707) 495-7438 and email at jtibbetts@svdp-sonoma.org.

Sincerely,

The County of Sonoma