BOS Rcvd 1/27/26 #38

Outlook

Request that the BOS proceed with the planned 30-bed facility while also authorizing pallet home cabins by March 27 to bridge the transition period

From Karen Wells <karenw0417@outlook.com>
Date Tue 1/27/2026 9:18 AM
To BOS-Clerk of the Board <edc.cob@edcgov.us>

LATE DISTRIBUTION
DATE 1/27/26

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To: El Dorado County Board of Supervisors
Re: Preventing a Gap in Homeless Services During Facility Transition

Dear Chair and Members of the Board,

I want to begin by thanking County staff for providing 13 months of advance notice regarding the potential disruption to homeless services. That level of transparency is meaningful and appreciated. It allows the community to engage constructively and responsibly, rather than reactively.

I am concerned that any break in services would be deeply detrimental and would undo hard-won progress. Until recently, El Dorado County was one of only four counties in California without a navigation center or shelter. The conversion of Juvenile Hall into a 60-bed facility marked a turning point and demonstrated leadership in addressing homelessness.

I understand and support the County's plan to develop a future 30-bed, family-oriented facility. However, that facility is not expected to be available until late 2028 and represents a reduction from the current 60-bed capacity. Without an interim solution, this creates a clear and preventable gap in services.

I respectfully urge the Board to proceed with the planned 30-bed facility while also authorizing pallet home cabins by March 27 to bridge the transition period. The State has streamlined approvals for this type of interim housing, making it both feasible and timely.

This approach would maintain continuity of services, protect public safety, and preserve the progress El Dorado County has already made.

Respectfully,

Karen Wells
District 4

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#38 BOS Rcvd 1/27/26 26-0176

Outlook

Comment on agenda item #38

LATE DISTRIBUTION

DATE 1/27/26

From Kirsten Vincent <kirsten.vincent@live.com>
Date Tue 1/27/2026 9:07 AM
To BOS-Clerk of the Board <edc.cob@edcgov.us>

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Good morning Board,

I'm am writing to comment on agenda item #38 regarding the planned closure of the Navigation Center. I am concerned about the apparent lack of a transitional plan for our unhoused neighbors both during the minimum 13 month closure as well as for the reduced beds following reopening. Our homelessness problem is not shrinking, so why is our capacity for care shrinking?

While I am not an expert on these matters, I am a resident here and I want to see our people cared for and off the streets. If you do have a plan in place, it should be advertised and communicated so people can more easily find services.

I am confident you can find alternative ways to address the budget without cutting funding for one of the very few shelters we have.

Thank you for your time,
Kirsten Vincent
(650) 773-9605

BOS Rcvd 1/27/26 #38
26-0176

Outlook

Agenda #38. 1.27.26

From Leo Bennett-Cauchon <leobennettcauchon@gmail.com>
Date Tue 1/27/2026 8:35 AM
To BOS-District I <bosone@edcgov.us>; BOS-District II <bostwo@edcgov.us>; BOS-District III <bosthree@edcgov.us>; BOS-District IV <bosfour@edcgov.us>; BOS-District V <bosfive@edcgov.us>
Cc BOS-Clerk of the Board <edc.cob@edcgov.us>

DRAFT

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Dear El Dorado County Board of Supervisors:

My main points:
1. Current services for our unhoused neighbors can continue without interruption if our BOS so chooses.
2. Pallet tiny house/cabins can be constructed at 300 Forin Road by March 2027. The California State Marketplace has preapproved contracts with Pallet available at https://caleprocure.ca.gov/PSRelay/ZZ_PO.ZZ_CTR_SUP_CMP.GBL?Page=ZZ_CTR_SUP_PG&Action=U&SETID=STATE&CNTRCT_ID=1-23-54-01B
3. These cabins can be part of the permanent Navigation Center housing, in addition to the this housing, or disassembled and stored as emergency shelters.

I appreciate that staff has provided you and the community this early notice for the potential 15 month long interruption of services for our unhoused neighbors with income, physical, and/or mental health needs. I respectfully request that you adopt the proposed alternative recommendation to "... direct that staff to pursue an alternate plan ...". The direction should include continuing without interruption the important services of the current 60 bed capacity EDC Navigation Center.

EDC has the need to continue these services given the shelter crisis declared by our BOS on 4.19.22 through Resolution 061-2022 (file:///C:/Users/User/Downloads/B%20-%20Shelter%20Crisis%20Resolution.pdf)

EDC has the funding to continue to house these services given the staff report on 9.23.25: "... Based upon approved allocated funding there is $5.5 million available for the build ..." https://eldorado.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=7663864&GUID=20D38B8A-8532-4F44-A9CE-1FB432A164C8&FullText=1

EDC has successful models in our neighboring Sacramento County. It opened a 56 bed tiny home community in August of 2023. The cost to erect this Pallet built village was around $3M. https://agendanet.saccounty.gov/BoardofSupervisors/Documents/ViewDocument/BOARD_OF_SUPERVISORS_7615_Agenda_Packet_7_12_2022_9_30_00_AM.pdf?meetingId=7615&documentType=AgendaPacket&itemId=0&publishId=0&isSection=false

In addition to shelter, Sacramento County also provides mental health services similar to EDC's future focus on "... housing with integrated behavioral health treatment ...": "... Sacramento County's second tiny home village, or Safe Stay Community, is set to welcome unhoused residents starting next week. ... With 34 single-occupancy cabins and 11 double-occupancy cabins, the site can house up to 56 people." https://www.capradio.org/articles/2023/12/14/sacramento-county-to-open-second-tiny-home-village-for-unhoused-residents-in-south-sacramento/ The eligible population is "... Adults (including their family members) with severe mental illness and/or substance use disorders, that are experiencing chronic homelessness. ..." https://dhs.saccounty.gov/BHS/Pages/Behavioral-Health-Bridge-Housing.aspx

El Dorado County has the time to provide the necessary facilities: "... It is currently estimated that the Jail Expansion Project will be complete by Fall 2026 or Winter 2027. ..." Legistar #38. 1.27.26
"...Q: (If) we need something tomorrow, how quickly could they get some shelters set up? A: There are a number of factors that play into the answer, and one is what we have available. But typically we have a stock of shelters on hand, and we can respond the next day if that's what a city wants. If we don't have stock on hand, it's usually about a four-week lead time for us to produce what is needed. ..." https://palletshelter.com/blog/interview-with-amy-king/

I am confident that our community, including Housing El Dorado, can suggest additional options to ensure that EDC continues its commitment and compassion for our unhoused neighbors by providing a hand up.

Sincerely,
Leo Bennett-Cauchon
916 307-8525