

RESOLUTION NO. ____-2020

**RESOLUTION OF THE FORT BRAGG CITY COUNCIL
ENDORING THE STRATEGIC PLAN TO ADDRESS HOMELESSNESS IN
MENDOCINO COUNTY ADOPTED BY THE MENDOCINO COUNTY
HOMELESS SERVICES CONTINUUM OF CARE**

WHEREAS, homelessness within Fort Bragg and Mendocino County continues to utilize significant community resources; and

WHEREAS, according to the Mendocino County Office of Education's Foster and Homeless Youth Services, in 2019 in Mendocino County there were 1,058 children and youth who met the McKinney-Vento definition of homelessness; and

WHEREAS, nationally, the number of homeless adults over the age of 50 has increased from 11% of single homeless adults to 37% by 2003 and today over half the single homeless adults are age 50 years or older and of those, approximately half had their first experience with homelessness at age 50 or older; and

WHEREAS, poverty, leading to the inability to pay for housing, is the single greatest risk factor for homelessness according to Dr. Margot Kushel, Professor of Medicine with UCSF; and

WHEREAS, the median household income in Mendocino County is just 69% of the statewide median income and 16% of county families live below the federal poverty level, compared to 11% statewide; and

WHEREAS, according to the Homelessness Needs Assessment and Action Steps for Mendocino County prepared in March 2018 by Dr. Robert Marbut, 61% of homeless in the County were living in Mendocino County when they became homeless; and

WHEREAS, each Homeless Continuum of Care which receives funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) is required to have a community plan for addressing homelessness; and

WHEREAS, the Strategic Plan to Address Homelessness in Mendocino County (Plan) serves as a common community agenda and fulfills the HUD and state requirements; and

WHEREAS, the Plan sets forth a plan of action to make homelessness rare, brief and only one time. Further it seeks to address the fragmentation that exists in homelessness services at the federal, state and local level; and

WHEREAS, the Plan recognizes that changing Mendocino County's homeless service system requires the active participation and cooperation of community members, key stakeholders, elected officials, agency staff, service and housing providers and those living with homelessness; and

WHEREAS, based on all the evidence presented, the City Council finds as follows:

1. Homelessness within the City of Fort Bragg and throughout Mendocino County continues to be a challenge that requires cohesive collaboration from community members, key stakeholders, elected officials, agency staff, service and housing providers and those living with homelessness, in order to create solutions.
2. The Strategic Plan to Address Homelessness in Mendocino County provides goals, strategies and action steps to create solutions to homelessness in Mendocino County consistent with the Homelessness Needs Assessment and Action Steps for Mendocino County by Marbut Reporting, adopted in concept and endorsed by the City Council on July 9, 2018.
3. It is in the best interest of the City of Fort Bragg to continue to participate in coordinated Countywide efforts to better manage and resolve issues surrounding homelessness.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Fort Bragg does hereby endorse the Mendocino County Homeless Services Continuum of Care Strategic Plan to Address Homelessness in Mendocino County.

The above and foregoing Resolution was introduced by Councilmember _____, seconded by Councilmember _____, and passed and adopted at a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Fort Bragg held on the 28th day of September, 2020, by the following vote:

**AYES:
NOES:
ABSENT:
ABSTAIN:
RECUSED:**

**WILLIAM V. LEE
Mayor**

ATTEST:

**June Lemos, CMC
City Clerk**