



CITY OF FORT BRAGG

Incorporated August 5, 1889

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September 10, 2018

Anne Molgaard
Chief Operations Officer
Mendocino County Health and Human Services
747 South State Street
Ukiah, CA 95482

Re: Fort Bragg Extreme Weather Shelter

Dear Ms. Molgaard:

The City Council of the City of Fort Bragg would like to offer its strong support for the operations of the Extreme Weather Shelter (EWS) on the Coast here in Fort Bragg and encourage the County to continue to fund the EWS for the upcoming 2018-19 season.

Currently, the only homeless shelter on the coast is the Hospitality House (HH) on McPherson Street in Fort Bragg which allows a maximum of 24 individuals nightly at the shelter. Hospitality House remains at near capacity year round while those still without shelter gather at 4:00pm daily at the house in anticipation that a bed will become available. Between January and June of this year, the percentage of monthly bed use at Hospitality House averaged 95.68% and that did not take into account the motel rooms that Mendocino Coast Hospitality Center rented because there were families with children who did not have shelter and could not fit into the configuration of beds available at the Hospitality House.

The Hospitality House does not have the capacity to house more than 24 people. Consequently, during the extremely cold and wet winter nights, those remaining unsheltered are exposed to the elements and are at risk if there is not a coastal EWS. Last year, an EWS Community Partners Committee was formed that included members of City staff and City Council along with local nonprofits and the faith community who worked tirelessly to ensure that there would be an EWS on the coast. With this strong community support and \$60,000 in County funding, last year's 2017-2018 Extreme Weather Shelter season ran smoothly and was most successful.

Your consideration and support for an Extreme Weather Shelter on the coast this winter would be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Lindy Peters
Mayor

Will Lee
Vice Mayor

Michael Cimolino
Councilmember

Bernie Norvell
Councilmember

Dave Turner
Councilmember