



California Interagency Council on Homelessness

Gavin Newsom, Governor
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To: Members of the California Interagency Council on Homelessness
From: Meghan Marshall, Executive Officer, Cal ICH
Subject: Summary of the Update to the Cal ICH Action Plan for Preventing and Ending Homelessness in California
Date: August 25, 2023

Purpose

This memo provides a high-level summary of updates made to the *Action Plan for Preventing and Ending Homelessness in California* for Fiscal Year 2023-24. Included below are background on the update process, key changes to the Action Plan, and a description of the vote being taken by the Council on this updated Plan. This memo is provided in advance of the California Interagency Council on Homelessness (Cal ICH) meeting on September 7, 2023, during which members will consider and take action on a recommendation to adopt the updated Plan.

Background and Update Process

The original [*Action Plan for Preventing and Ending Homelessness in California*](#) was adopted by the Council in March 2021. The Action Plan orients the state's efforts to drive purposeful, meaningful, and measurable progress toward preventing and ending homelessness in California, motivated by a vision of a future in which homelessness in California is rare, brief, and one-time. The Council adopted the Plan with the explicit understanding that it would be updated to reflect additional, more specific Activities for FY 22-23 than could be projected at that time. In September 2022, the Council voted to adopt the updated Action Plan, which reflected activities for departments and agencies newly added to the Council at the beginning of 2022. This update will continue to expand on the activities of Council Member departments for FY 23-24.

Cal ICH staff, supported by consultant Matthew Doherty, began this update process in March 2023, holding conversations with every Council member department and agency, external stakeholder groups, public input sessions with attendance of more

than 150 people, Tribal Input sessions, and discussion at the Council's May 2023 meeting.¹

This update process:

- Sustained the Plan's current structure of Action Areas and extended its timeframe by one year (Fiscal Years 2020-21 to 2023-24).
- Refined language, data, and information within the Plan's opening content.
- Updated Activities included in the original Plan and added 33 new Activities, for a total of 170 Activities, so that the updated Plan now fully reflects the range of Activities being implemented during FY 23-24.

Summary of Plan Updates

The updates to the Action Plan include revisions to the opening content, refinements to descriptions of the Plan's Objectives, updates to existing Activities, and newly added Activities. The fully updated Plan document is included as an attachment to this memo, titled *Updated Action Plan for Preventing and Ending Homelessness in California*.

Refined Opening Content

The opening content of the Plan includes: an Executive Summary; sections on Cal ICH and the history of the Action Plan; identification of the Plan's vision, Action Areas, Objectives, timeframe, and key principles and practices; information regarding advisory structures and working groups; data regarding homelessness in California; and how the State will define and measure progress for the implementation of the Plan. This content was updated primarily to clearly highlight the priority being placed on racial equity and social justice and to incorporate the most current data available regarding homelessness in California.

Noteworthy changes include:

- Refinement of Objective descriptions in order to clarify language and ensure they prioritize racial equity and the importance of including voices with lived expertise.
- Additional Key Principles and Practices to include a focus on recognizing and addressing the unique needs and challenges of Tribal Nations.
- Updated data on homelessness in California, utilizing the Homeless Data Integration System, which documents people being served by homelessness services across the State.

¹ For more detail, refer to the memo "[Update of the Cal ICH Action Plan for Preventing and Ending Homelessness in California](#)" provided for the May 31, 2023 Council meeting.

- Aligned Key Performance Measures with the California System Performance Measures (CA SPMs), pursuant to Health and Safety Code §50220.7, that help the state and local jurisdictions, including HHAP grantees, assess their progress toward preventing and ending homelessness.

Two letters, one from Governor Newsom and one from the Council Co-Chairs, are in development and will be included once the Plan is adopted and ready for public dissemination and promotion.

New and Updated Activities

The updated Plan identifies the Activities planned for implementation in FY 23-24 and reflects the most current information possible about all programs and funding streams related to homelessness across the 18 Council member departments and agencies. Conversations with representatives from these entities began in March 2023 and wrapped up in August in order to reflect any changes from the FY 23-24 budget. The updated Activities provide a comprehensive view of the most significant efforts of Council member departments and agencies in FY 23-24, some of which will continue into future fiscal years.

Noteworthy changes include:

- The updated Plan now identifies 170 Activities to be implemented in alignment with the Plan's five Action Areas and 15 Objectives.
- The Plan includes 33 new Activities as identified by Council member departments and agencies that will be taking place in FY 23-24.
- In response to the Council's discussion at its May 31, 2023 meeting, there is an expansion of identified Activities addressing:
 - Interagency coordination and collaboration;
 - Racial equity and Tribal engagement;
 - Inclusion of people with lived expertise in policy making and program design; and
 - Communications and public awareness.
- Cal ICH staff continue to work with staff across member departments and agencies to look for ways to expand and improve our progress in the above areas.

In sum, this updated Action Plan better reflects the priorities of Cal ICH and the actions its member departments and agencies are taking to prevent and end homelessness in FY 23-24, the final year within the Plan's current timeframe. Discussion at a future Council meeting will focus on determining how the Council wants to approach the updating of this Action Plan for future fiscal years, which could include changes to the

Plan's structure, Action Areas and Objectives, and other changes the Council determines.

Council Member Action

During the Cal ICH meeting on September 7, 2023, Council members will discuss the updated Action Plan and will consider and take action on a recommendation to adopt the updated Action Plan, presented in the attachment titled *Updated Action Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness in California*.

All Council member comments and questions are welcomed, and Cal ICH staff encourage members to reflect on lessons from this update process that can inform future updates to the Action Plan.