

# CITY OF PALM DESERT STAFF REPORT

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MEETING DATE: July 10, 2025

PREPARED BY: Ivan Tenorio, Homeless and Supportive Services Manager

SUBJECT: MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE COACHELLA VALLEY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS FOR THE CV HOUSING FIRST PROGRAM, AND AUTHORIZE PAYMENT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025-2026

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## **RECOMMENDATION:**

1. Approve a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Coachella Valley Association of Governments (CVAG) for the CV Housing First Program not to exceed \$125,000 in FY 2025-2026.
2. Authorize the City Attorney to make any necessary nonmonetary changes to the MOU.
3. Authorize the Director of Finance to appropriate and disburse funds as necessary to implement the MOU.
4. Authorize the City Manager to execute the MOU.

## **BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS:**

The City of Palm Desert has participated in CVAG's CV Housing First program for the last four years as part of its ongoing commitment to regional strategies that address chronic homelessness. The program focuses on housing the "CV 200," a by-name list of the 200 most vulnerable, chronically unsheltered individuals across the Coachella Valley many of whom have high service needs, frequent law enforcement contact, and long-term barriers to housing.

Each year, CVAG works with member jurisdictions, law enforcement, and code enforcement teams to update the CV 200 list. Participating cities are assigned a subset of individuals for whom outreach and housing efforts are prioritized.

When the by-name list was first developed, CVAG worked with cities to allocate the 200 slots based on local need and outreach capacity, rather than dividing them evenly. Some cities were assigned fewer slots, while others such as Palm Desert were assigned more due to higher concentrations of unsheltered individuals. Palm Desert's allotment of 30 slots has remained consistent each year and serves as a baseline for local outreach. As reflected in the table below, "permanently housed" refers to individuals from Palm Desert's CV 200 allotment who have successfully exited homelessness into stable, long-term housing. This may occur through various pathways, including placement with a county-issued housing voucher, reunification with family through rapid resolution efforts, or securing a non-subsidized apartment independently.

Below is a summary of the CV Housing First program accomplishments over the four years.

Calendar Year	CV 200 PD Allotment	Permanently Housed	Percentage Achieved
2021	30	10	33.33%
2022	30	5	16.67%
2023	30	5	16.67%
2024	30	9	30%
2025	30	1*	n/a

*\*2025 YTD Total*

The proposed MOU is a one-year agreement that expires June 30, 2026, unless extended, and includes a 60-day termination clause for either party. The City's \$125,000 contribution is proposed to be funded through the Permanent Local Housing Allocation (PLHA) program. A new five-year PLHA cycle (Round 6) is expected to begin later this year or in early 2026; however, the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) has indicated that local allocations may decrease due to lower revenue projections. Although funding is secured for fiscal year 2025/2026, future contributions to CVAG will depend on annual allocations. Should delays or shortfalls arise, staff may recommend temporarily reallocating resources from other eligible programs to ensure continuity of service.

Participation in the CV Housing First program supports a unified, data-informed model that targets individuals with the most complex housing needs. The program reflects Palm Desert's continued role in regional housing solutions that are coordinated, outcome-driven, and focused on long-term stability.

The \$125,000 contribution represents the City's first increase in over 15 years, rising from its prior \$100,000 commitment. The increase also acknowledges the intensive staff time required to work with chronically homeless individuals, whose complex needs often demand persistent outreach and long-term engagement. Future contributions may be indexed to modest inflationary increases based on the Riverside-San Bernardino-Ontario Consumer Price Index (CPI), subject to review by the CVAG Homelessness Committee.

### **Homelessness Taskforce Recommendation**

This item was presented to the Homelessness Taskforce on July 1, 2025. The Taskforce voted to recommend approval of this item.

### **FINANCIAL IMPACT:**

Approval of the MOU commits the City to paying \$125,000 for FY 2025-2026. Funds for this purpose have been included in the FY 2025-2026 Annual Budget Request in PLHA Account Number: 2254212-4309000. There is no impact to the General Fund.

### **ATTACHMENTS:**

1. Memorandum of Understanding - CVAG
2. CV Housing First FY 24-25 Q3 Report