



**MEMORANDUM
COUNTY EXECUTIVE OFFICE
ADMINISTRATION**
County of Placer

TO: Honorable Board of Supervisors **DATE:** February 28, 2023
FROM: Jane Christenson, County Executive Officer
BY: Bekki Riggan, Deputy County Executive Officer
Marshall Hopper, Chief Probation Officer
Brett Wood, Purchasing Manager
SUBJECT: Update on the Mobile Temporary Shelter

ACTION REQUESTED

1. Receive an update on the Mobile Temporary Shelter located at 11715 F. Avenue.
2. Consider expansion of the Food Services contract with Summit Food Services to include two (2) meals per day in support of the Mobile Temporary Shelter operations.

BACKGROUND

A contract with First Step Communities (FSC) for 24/7, onsite management of the Mobile Temporary Shelter (MTS) at the Placer County Government Center, was approved by your Board on January 24, 2023. Probation and FSC began operations on February 14, 2023, completing a phased transition of campers from the adjacent unmanaged site to the MTS on February 17, 2023. MTS operations are proceeding effectively and continue with support from various county departments and community volunteers from Placer People of Faith Together (PPOFT). Results are already being realized including reunifications with family members, immediate placements for unhoused individuals deemed ineligible for placement at the mid-Placer “dry” shelter, and enrollment in existing county support, educational and vocational programs. Staff have worked with the vendor to identify and track meaningful data to help evaluate this 6-month pilot project and will be sharing this data on a regular basis with your Board.

An issue raised during regular contract oversight meetings is that of meal provision for MTS campers. One of the tenets of sanctioned, managed camps is the expectation that campers adhere to basic health and safety rules to minimize rodent and vermin infestations resulting from accumulation of personal items, debris, and spoiled food. Accordingly, residents are prohibited from having stoves or fires in their tents to prepare meals. There are no existing facilities for food storage, preparation or clean-up on site, thus campers must leave the MTS to obtain meals, often heading to the Highway 49 commercial corridor to obtain fast-food or other already prepared foods. This not only distracts from case management and other staff engagement opportunities, but also drives food-related expenses for individuals living on minimal resources.

Staff have explored several alternatives for Board consideration including reliance on volunteers to coordinate, prepare, deliver, and serve meals; contracts with local commercial vendors; and expanding the current contract with Summit Food Services. Reliance on volunteers for multiple meals daily, seven days a week has proven unreliable and problematic in other shelter settings. It also presents concerns with adherence to food-safety protocols. Contracting with local commercial vendors for regular meal delivery seven days a week has been explored in correctional settings for MOU required staff meals and proved costly and time-consuming for staff to coordinate and manage.

Accordingly, should your Board wish to address the meal provision concern, staff recommends expanding the existing correctional food services contract held with Summit Food Services and managed by CEO/Procurement Division. Summit Food Services has worked from the high-capacity commercial kitchen in the South Placer Jail since 2018 serving approximately 2,000 meals per day to the South Placer/Auburn jails, and to the Juvenile Hall. The existing contractor complies with all food safety requirements, has the staff and resources to meet this request with minimal impact to current operations, can do so at a comparatively reasonable cost to the County.

The Summit Food Services contract operates on a tiered-cost structure, with per unit costs decreasing with increased daily meals prepared. The addition of two meals per day for approximately 50 residents of the MTS to the County’s existing food services program would have a comparatively modest net cost as the following chart demonstrates. Anticipating serving approximately 50 residents two meals per day (100 meals) for a 4-month (120-day period) period (through June 2023), the maximum anticipated cost of \$331.50 per day is just under \$40,000. As noted in the following chart, the adjusted per meal cost is .75 cents.

Figure 1. Food Cost Analysis (all costs are per day)

	Current Meal Cost	Projected Meal Costs	MTS Meal Costs
	\$2,488	\$2,360	\$184.00
Dinner	\$2,488	\$2,360	\$147.50
Daily Total	\$4,976	\$4,720	\$331.50
Cost per meal (before higher tier billing savings)			\$3.32
Savings due to higher tier billing structure		\$256	
Adjusted total cost per day after noted savings			\$75.50
Adjusted cost per meal after noted savings			\$0.755

FISCAL IMPACT

The total cost for a two meals per day, 7 days per week meal service plan for the MTS is estimated at \$40,000 for the duration of the 6-month MTS pilot project. There is no increase to the contract with Summit Food Services or to the contract with FSC. Costs for the meals provided to the MTS will be charged to CC10018 – Community and Agency Support and will result in an impact to the General Fund of approximately \$40,000. No budget amendments are needed for this additional cost.

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ATTACHMENTS

None

