

## **AI 6: Withdraw from city participation in the 'Gravenstein Commons' Homekey Project**

At a broader county level it is clear that funding for non profit 'homeless' project organizations are now under greater scrutiny as a result of tightening fiscal issues, past failures and fraud, as evidenced by the recommended Sonoma County Homeless Coalition Board funding figures being discussed by the BoS on June 4th.

<https://sonomacounty.ca.gov/Main%20County%20Site/Health%20and%20Human%20Services/Health%20Services/Documents/Homelessness%20Services/Homeless%20Coalition/Homeless%20Coalition%20Board%20Meeting/2024/March/Addendum-Agenda-It>

## em-9-HC-Board-Meeting-03272024.pdf

The latest St. Vincent de Paul proposal to 'partner' with the City of Sebastopol puts the City at potentially very serious financial risk for 15 years while not creating any housing solutions for unhoused Sebastopol residents, because this will be a county wide initiative for those deemed most in need by the CDC.

The project will require substantial city staff and police hours, exacerbate traffic problems and brings no discernible benefit to our city which is experiencing a serious fiscal emergency hang over as a result of similar previous failed projects.

**I am not in favor of proceeding with this**

**project.**

The City of Sebastopol has already gone over and above at enormous cost to provide care for the destitute, transients and homeless individuals, the results of which have been an entire city that is now 'experiencing homelessness' on multiple levels.

Tax payers have a well run county level homeless services organization headed up by Dave Kiff. Presumably Tina Rivera will move on or be fired from her position above him as a result of the DEMA fraud allegations at the former Sebastopol Inn at Gravenstein Station HomeKey project.

The county should bear all/any risk for county wide projects and they should be

developed in county cities and towns that have not yet provided any homeless facilities to share the load more equitably.

As a city in fiscal emergency we have to stop the bleeding,, limit risk and focus on economic development in order to be able to resume altruistic budgeting decisions based on future budget surpluses.

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