RESOLUTION - ACTION REQUESTED 2015-278

MEETING: June 9, 2015

TO: The Board of Supervisors

FROM: Chevon Kothari, Human Services Director

RE: Receive a Presentation and Adopt the Homeless Strategic Plan

RECOMMENDATION AND JUSTIFICATION:
Adopt the Mariposa County Strategic Plan to Address Homelessness; and authorize the Human Services Department to guide the community in the implementation of the Plan. Any requests for the development of new programs or the applications for new funding under the governance of the County will be brought to the Board of Supervisors for review and approval as the Plan unfolds.

Homelessness is a problem we can no longer ignore in Mariposa County. This strategic plan was borne of a belief that doing nothing solves nothing and that a plan to end homelessness will benefit the entire community. Solving a community-wide problem requires a community-wide solution, a unified and strategic response to address the complex challenge of homelessness in a way that makes sense for Mariposa County and is grounded in strategies that are cost-effective and proven to work in other communities.

Following a growing recognition of the impact of homelessness on our community, Mariposa stakeholders held an initial strategic planning session in November 2014, seeking to identify sustainable ways to support our neighbors in overcoming or avoiding homelessness.

This Plan was developed based on best practices that have successfully addressed homelessness in communities like Mariposa and on substantial feedback from diverse Mariposa community stakeholders, including local service providers, the Mariposa business community, law enforcement, and County agencies. Over the course of three in-person strategic planning sessions facilitated by technical assistance provider HomeBase, participants identified the key priority areas and an action plan to respond to the challenge of homelessness in our community.

A draft strategic plan was further developed during subsequent planning meetings on February 23 and March 16, 2015. The draft plan was presented and discussed in various community settings and meetings throughout April and May (Rotary Club, Mariposa Abuse Prevention Council, Mental Health Board, Community Corrections Partnership, Alcohol and Drug Advisory Board, In-Home Support Services Committee, etc.). This culminated in a community town hall meeting on May 7, 2015, to gather input into the plan. This final draft is being presented to the Mariposa County Board of Supervisors for adoption on June 9, 2015.
BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS:

ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION:
Should the Board of Supervisors choose not to adopt the Plan, the County will not participate in the strategies to end homelessness. This does not mean community based organizations will not continue to address the issues, however, homelessness is a complex issue that will require a comprehensive plan to ensure successful outcomes.

ATTACHMENTS:
Mariposa Homeless Strategic Plan Draft 5.28.15 (PDF)

CAO RECOMMENDATION
Requested Action Recommended

Mary Hodson, CAO 6/2/2015

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Marshall Long, District III Supervisor
SECONDER: Rosemarie Smallcombe, District I Supervisor
AYES: Smallcombe, Jones, Long, Cann, Carrier