



CITY OF BANNING STAFF REPORT

TO: CITY COUNCIL

FROM: Robert Fisher, Acting City Manager

PREPARED BY: Robert Fisher, Acting City Manager

MEETING DATE: June 24, 2025

SUBJECT: Consideration of Resolution 2025-96, Approving a Budget Change Request related to Opportunity Village

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt Resolution 2025-96.

BACKGROUND:

Opportunity Village began in 2019 to address supportive housing for people in the City of Banning California. The goal of the program is to provide at least 90 days of transitional housing and client case management for individuals in need. The housing program is funded through a state grant. The Program is administered by the California Interagency Council on Homelessness ("Cal ICH") in the Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency.

JUSTIFICATION:

The City of Banning has subsequently put into place approximately (20) very small portable houses between the Interstate-10 freeway and the Union Pacific Railroad. Although the city had good intentions at the time, we are suffering from unintended consequences. In placing these homes between the freeway and the railroad tracks the occupants are suffering from carcinogens from vehicle exhaust, diesel fumes and fumes from train exhaust. Along with this, the homes are a mere 150 feet away from the railroad track. Trains are required by federal law to activate a horn when approaching an intersection. Train horns can reach decibel levels between 96 and 100. In some cases, these air horns can even reach higher levels, up to 145 decibels. Many residents have complained that it is inhumane to house people in these conditions.

FISCAL IMPACT:

TBD

ALTERNATIVES:

1. City Council to provide direction to staff on whether to move forward with a Budget Change Proposal. This includes authorizing the Acting City Manager to dismantle Opportunity Village and sell at auction selected items purchased with grant funds and/or place these items with city departments as needed. Rent houses or apartments within Riverside County to house Banning's homeless population.
2. Allow Opportunity Village remain at its current location with no budget adjustments.

BUDGETED?:

Yes

CONTRACT/AGREEMENT:

Yes

ATTACHMENTS:

1. [Resolution 2025-96, Opportunity Village Defunding.docx](#)