



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MONTEREY POLICE OPENS OUTREACH AND NAVIGATION CENTER TO SUPPORT MULTI-DISCIPLINARY OUTREACH TEAM Collaborative Workspace to Address Unhoused Population


Monterey, CA. – Monterey City Council received a presentation at the September 5, 2023, City Council meeting on the new Monterey Police Department (MPD) Outreach and Navigation Center. The new "Navigation Center" is located at 401 Camino El Estero adjacent to Lake El Estero – the First French Consulate Building.

The MPD regularly receives requests to address quality of life issues and provide services for those who are unhoused along the beach waterfront, the downtown area, El Estero Park, El Encinal Cemetery, El Estero Lake Dog Park and adjoining areas. The MPD Navigation Center expands capacity to serve this population, provides an increased presence near the waterfront, and a collaborative workspace for MPD, Multi-Disciplinary Outreach Team (MDOT) and other social service providers.

Police Chief Dave Hober said, "The navigation center will enhance our City's current homeless response efforts, continue our strong partnerships with community-based organizations, and support our focus of proactive field work."

In addition to opening the MPD Outreach and Navigation Center, the MPD is currently in the process of hiring a Homeless Outreach Navigator, a position that the City Council added with the

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approved budget in FY 2023-2024. The Homeless Outreach Navigator will connect, interview, and assess clients' immediate social service needs and make referrals to appropriate resources: food, clothing, shelter, housing, employment, veterans' assistance, legal services, vocational training, mental health and substance abuse treatment assistance, and other services.

The MPD Outreach and Navigation Center and Homeless Outreach Navigator position will broaden and enhance the Monterey Police Department-led MDOT process to collaborate and develop stronger connections. Partner agencies include Montage Health, Adult Protective Services, County of Monterey's Behavioral Health, YWCA (Young Women's Christian Association) Domestic Violence Team, and Interim, Inc. The highly successful MDOT was created in 2018 to provide broad expertise and a collaborative approach to providing solutions for unhoused individuals and to address other prevalent issues affecting the community, including quality of life complaints, domestic violence, substance abuse, and associated chronic health lifestyle issues.

Learn more about MDOT at monterey.org/mdot.

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